



**American Water Works  
Association**

## Utility Member Benefit

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## Regulatory Alert

**TO: AWWA Member Utilities**  
**FROM: AWWA Government Affairs**  
**DATE: June 28, 2010**

<b>Who:</b> Water Utility Managers
<b>What:</b> Survey on nitrate
<b>When:</b> Please complete ASAP (Deadline July 23)

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) is conducting an electronic survey on nitrate as part of its effort to develop a national compliance cost for a potential lower nitrate maximum contaminant level (MCL).

Your participation in this survey is critical. The information you provide will help produce an accurate cost estimate and will inform future actions related to nitrate regulation. To participate, click on the link below. The survey takes between five and 15 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/nitratesurvey>

The existing nitrate and nitrite standards were established in 1991 as part of the Phase II Regulation. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed its second six-year review of existing drinking water regulations and published the results of that review in the March 29 *Federal Register* (59:75:15549). Several new health effects studies on nitrate and nitrite have been published since the 1991 regulation. As part of this notice, EPA is considering whether to start new health assessments for nitrate and nitrite, but has decided not to revise these standards at this time.

However, EPA could complete these new health assessments in the future, which could ultimately lead (or not lead) to revised nitrate and nitrite standards.

The electronic survey will remain open until Friday, July 23, 2010.

Questions? Contact Lauren Weir in the AWWA Washington Office at (202) 326-6126 or [lweir@awwa.org](mailto:lweir@awwa.org).