

**National Drinking Water Advisory Council
Consumer Confidence Report Rule Revision Charge to the Council
and
Working Group Formation
August 2021**

BACKGROUND

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) rule is considered the centerpiece of public right-to-know for the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). CCRs provide valuable information about local drinking water quality to customers of community water systems. The original CCR rule was promulgated in 1998 following a mandate in the 1996 amendments to the SDWA. The type of information in the report includes:

- The lake, river, aquifer, or other source of the drinking water.
- A brief summary of the risk of contamination of the local drinking water source.
- The regulated contaminant found in local drinking water.
- The potential health effects of any contaminant detected in violation of an EPA health standard.
- An accounting of the system's actions to restore safe drinking water.
- An educational statement for vulnerable populations about avoiding *Cryptosporidium*.
- Educational information on nitrate, arsenic, or lead in areas where these contaminants may be a concern.

Section 2008 of the America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 mandates that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue revised CCR regulations to improve readability, understandability, clarity, and accuracy of CCRs; require biannual delivery of CCRs for large systems; and allow electronic delivery of CCRs. AWIA also amended SDWA section 1414(c)(4)(B) to require that community water systems include information on their corrosion control efforts and identify any corrective actions for lead action level exceedances in their CCRs.

Information about CCRs can be found on EPA's website at: <https://www.epa.gov/ccr/ccr-information-consumers>.

MISSION STATEMENT

EPA's Charge to the NDWAC

EPA is seeking advice and recommendations from the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) on targeted issues related to revisions to the CCR rule, as required by the AWIA of 2018. In particular, EPA seeks advice and recommendations on:

- Addressing accessibility challenges, including translating CCRs and meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.
- Advancing environmental justice and supporting underserved communities.
- Improving readability, understandability, clarity, and accuracy of information and risk communication of CCRs.
- CCR delivery manner and methods, including electronic delivery.

Formation of the CCR Rule Revision Working Group

The NDWAC will receive support from a working group—the Consumer Confidence Report Rule Revision Working Group or CCR Rule Revision WG—that will meet virtually to develop recommendations for the Council’s consideration. Within the general topics noted in the charge to the NDWAC above, the CCR Rule Revision WG will explore specific issues concerning how to implement the goals for CCR revisions, provide information, suggest options for EPA to consider, and provide group advice to the NDWAC where consensus is reached and alternatives where consensus is not reached in the time available.

The CCR Rule Revision WG will make its report to the NDWAC, which in turn will provide advice on these issues to EPA. EPA will consider the NDWAC’s advice in developing a proposed rule for public comment and will report back to the NDWAC on its response to the recommendations. The proposed rule may include elements not discussed by the CCR Rule Revision WG and NDWAC.

Working group members are selected based on the expertise and experience needed to provide balanced advice to the NDWAC on issues related to CCR rule revisions. Selected members of the NDWAC will be included in the working group to facilitate the flow of information between the working group and the NDWAC. The CCR Rule Revision WG will also include select members from the Children’s Health Protection Advisory Committee and the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee. Representatives of public interest groups, risk communication experts, the States, public water systems, environmental groups, and other interested parties are included in the CCR Rule Revision WG in line with SDWA section 1414(c)(4)(A).