

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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June 9, 2017

Ms. Lisa Daniels
Director
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Ms. Daniels:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Environment on Friday, May 19, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "H.R. __, Drinking Water System Improvement Act and Related Issues of Funding, Management, and Compliance Assistance under the Safe Drinking Water Act."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Friday, June 23. Your responses should be mailed to Elena Brennan, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Elena.Brennan@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



John Shimkus
Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment

cc: The Honorable Paul Tonko, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Environment

Attachment

Attachment – Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable John Shimkus

1. There has been some discussion about the role of using asset management as a criteria when disbursing SRF loans. In section 1452(a)(3)(A), there is a requirement prohibiting funding for a public water system which does not have the “technical, managerial, and financial capacity to ensure compliance.”
 - a. What role does asset management play in compliance with this requirement of law and of SDWA section 1420?
 - b. What role does review of a utility’s rates play?
2. As you mentioned in your testimony, from 1996 to 2013, the national compliance percentage with health-based standards for water systems has increased from 85% to 93%. A lot of times in Congress we only hear about the nation’s problems, so it is nice to hear this positive statistic and we of course want to see that compliance percentage continue to rise.
 - a. What other positive trends or success stories are happening with our nation’s drinking water infrastructure?
 - b. This statistic on improved water quality compliance seems to be contrary to the fact that our nation’s water infrastructure is in dire need of repair and investment. How do you explain this discrepancy?

The Honorable Debbie Dingell

1. Ms. Daniels, in Pennsylvania, how is your department working to improve communication and notification of water quality with the public?