

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

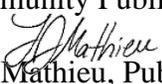
Jewel Mullen, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A.
Commissioner



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
Nancy Wyman
Lt. Governor

Circular Letter #: 2015-15

TO: Community Public Water Systems; Local Health Departments

FROM:  Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section

DATE: November 3, 2015

RE: Comment Period on EPA Draft *Technologies for Legionella Control*

The Environmental Protection Agency has released the draft document *Technologies for Legionella Control: Scientific Literature Review* for public comment. Comments must be provided by November 23, 2015. Additionally, a webinar is being held on November 9, 2015 at 1:00-5:30 pm. The draft document discusses factors that contribute to the growth of legionella both within distribution systems and within the drinking water plumbing of individual facilities, as well as the effectiveness of available treatment techniques. The Department of Public Health is currently reviewing the draft, and I encourage you to review and comment on it as well. You can find the draft document and notice to the public on the EPA website here: <http://www2.epa.gov/dwsixyearreview/documents-public-meeting-and-webinar-technologies-legionella-control-scientific> Those wishing to attend the webinar can register at: <https://us-epa-legionella-drinking-water.eventbrite.com> by November 3, 2015 at 5:00 pm or see EPAs notice to the public for other contact information.

According to the CDC, Legionella is the most prevalent cause of waterborne disease outbreaks in the US and is estimated to cause 8,000-18,000 hospitalizations each year, with a mortality rate that can be as high as 30%. Outbreaks can result from drinking water systems as well as non-potable water, such as cooling towers and air conditioners. The unique attributes of legionella require observation and management of the conditions in the distribution system that go beyond the standard up-front treatment methods used to prevent other waterborne illnesses. DPH encourages community public water systems and local health directors to attend the EPA webinar as well as review and provide comment on the draft document noted above. If you have any questions please call me at (860) 509-7333.

cc: Ellen Blaschinski, Branch Chief – Regulatory Services Branch, DPH
Matthew Cartter, State Epidemiologist and Director of Infectious Diseases, DPH
Certified Operators



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