

**South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority**  
**90 Sargent Drive**  
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or  
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Phone conference ID: 876 172 806#

**AGENDA**

**Regular Meeting of Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.**

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1. Call to order
  - 1.1 Safety Moment
2. Public Comment: The time limit granted to each speaker shall be three (3) minutes. Residents and customers may address the Board.
3. Meet as Environmental, Health & Safety Committee: M. Ricozzi
  - 3.1 Approve Minutes – November 21, 2024 meeting
  - 3.2 Business Continuity – Environmental hazards, 2024 AWIA and Cyber Risk Update, Staffing retirements Memorandum - *Upon 2/3 vote, convene in possible executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(A), pertaining to employment.*
  - 3.3 Recreation Activity Memorandum
  - 3.4 Remote Water Monitoring Buoys – Data Collection and Use Memorandum
  - 3.5 Physical Security Memorandum – *Upon 2/3 vote, convene in possible executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(C), pertaining to security strategy and 1-200(6)(E) for matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(19)(i)(ii), pertaining to security risk.*
4. Consent Agenda
  - 4.1 Approve Minutes – February 27, 2025 meeting
  - 4.2 Capital Budget Authorization – April 2025
  - 4.3 Capital Budget Transfer Notifications (no action required) – April 2025
  - 4.4 Accounts Receivable Update – February 2025
  - 4.5 Key Performance Indicators
  - 4.6 RPB Quarterly Dashboard Report
5. Finance: R. Kowalski
  - 5.1 Quarterly Financial Update
6. RPB committee assignments and reports on RPB committee meetings
7. Business Updates: S. Lakshminarayanan
  - 7.1 RWAY/CIS Update: P. Singh
  - 7.2 Monthly Business Highlights
  - 7.3 \*Blue Drop Update: S. Lakshminarayanan and R. Kowalski - *Upon 2/3 vote, convene in executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(5)(A)(B), pertaining to trade secrets and commercial and financial information.*
  - 7.4 Consider and act on the General Bond Resolution for the Aquarion Water Authority
8. Meet as Commercial Business Committee: K. Curseaden
  - 8.1 Approve Minutes – December 19, 2024 meeting
  - 8.2 Adopt FY 2026 Work Plan
9. Act on matters arising from Committee meetings

<p>** Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or by conference call. To view meeting documents please visit <a href="https://tinyurl.com/3uywxm36">https://tinyurl.com/3uywxm36</a>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or by email at <a href="mailto:jslubowski@rwater.com">jslubowski@rwater.com</a>.</p>
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\*RPB Member (Tim Slocum) will be excused at Item 7.3.

**South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority  
Environmental, Health & Safety Committee**

**Minutes of the November 21, 2024 Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee (“Committee”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA”) took place on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chair Ricozzi presided.

Present: **Committee** – Messrs. Ricozzi, Borowy, Curseaden, and Mss. LaMarr and Sack  
**Management** – Mss. Kowalski and Calo(R), and Messrs. Barger, Hill(R), Lakshminarayanan, and Singh  
**RPB** – Mr. Oslander  
**Staff** – Mrs. Slubowski

**D. MEET AS ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

**D.1 APPROVE MINUTES – AUGUST 22, 2024**

On motion made by Ms. Sack and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of its meeting held on August 22, 2024.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

**D.2 HAZWASTE CENTRAL SEASON END UPDATE**

Mr. Lakshminarayanan, the RWA’s Vice President of Engineering & Environmental Services, provided an update on HazWaste and the season that recently closed. He reported that the 2024 HazWaste season commenced on May 18, 2024 and concluded on October 26, 2024. During that time there was a 7.66% increase from the previous year in the number of households participating, with a rise in satellite collections of 28.01%, which were conducted in Guilford, Orange, Fairfield, Woodbridge, Milford, and Meriden.

He also reported on the results of the environmental compliance audit, required as part of our operating permit. In 2025, the RWA will consult with its vendor, Clean Harbors, to explore ways to diversifying the types of materials collected while also assessing the feasibility of establishing additional satellite collection sites.

**D.3 LAKE WHITNEY DAM DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Mr. Lakshminarayanan provided an update on the Lake Whitney Dam Design project, which is currently at 90% completion. The design team is focused on finalizing the plans for regulatory submission. Concurrently, the RWA is revising contract documents to streamline contractor selection. Permit discussions with multiple agencies have begun.

To improve safety during the proposed construction, a temporary traffic signal is planned for the Whitney Avenue and Armory Street intersection, with initial designs under review by the Town of Hamden and CT DOT. The RWA is also coordinating with utility companies to address conflicts with existing infrastructure and manage the relocation of gas and power lines as required. Communications with officials is underway to discuss the implications of these actions.

**D.4. REGULATORY UPDATES – PFAS AND LSL**

At 12:46 p.m., Mr. Barger, the RWA’s Water Quality Manager, entered the meeting. He provided an update on the RWA’s Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), which included:

- LCR Improvements
- Primary Focus Areas
- Lead Connectors (formerly goosenecks)
- Machine Learning – Predictive Analysis, including for converting service lines of unknown material to the appropriate material categorization
- Challenges
- Next Steps

He also provided a PFAS update which included:

- Sampling Completed
- Monitoring
- Piloting of Treatment Options and Sources
- Manufacture Class Actions
- PFAS Testing Certifications

At 1:39 p.m., on motion made by Ms. LaMarr and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

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Mario Ricozzi, Chair

(R) = Attended remotely.

**South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority**

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<http://www.rwater.com>

To: Authority Environmental, Health & Safety Committee  
David J. Borowy  
Kevin J. Curseaden  
Catherine E. LaMarr  
Mario Ricozzi  
Suzanne C. Sack

Cc Sunny Lakshminarayanan

From: Amy Velasquez, Environmental Compliance & Sustainability Lead  
William Henley, Sr. Aquatic Resource Scientist

Date: March 27, 2025

Subject: Environmental Hazards Update

**Former Dawson Rental House and Treatment Building**

In 2014, RWA started disposition of old buildings that were unsafe and harmful to the environment, including rental houses. These buildings were dilapidated and often had issues like collapsed roofs, unstable floors, animal waste, and dangerous materials like asbestos and lead paint. Some houses were sold, but others had to be torn down, including several barns and cabins. Before demolition, each building was audited for hazardous materials. The last structures demolished were south of the Dawson Dam, leaving only a few buildings remaining. These buildings were kept for potential future use. After five years with no use found, the remaining buildings are deteriorating. Environmental Planning is now considering demolition. Hazardous materials like lead paint, asbestos, and PCBs have been found.

The buildings were assessed for salvage due to neighbors' concerns. In one case, a salvage contractor found that most of a barn could be salvaged, except the lead-painted door. Unpainted parts of a former rental house and attic flooring of the Dawson Treatment Building may also be salvageable. Final costs for demolition and disposal are being confirmed, and budgeting and timing needs to be determined.

**Aquatic Invasive Plant Overview – Hydrilla:**

The introduction of invasive species, both terrestrial and aquatic, pose several risks to RWA's natural resources. The aquatic invasive species *Hydrilla verticillate* (Hydrilla) is uniquely hazardous to water supplies. This invasive plant has been described as "The Perfect Aquatic Weed" and can have numerous economic and ecological impacts. Hydrilla can degrade aquatic ecosystem health, impede the flow of water/clog infrastructure, reduce overall storage capacity of reservoirs, and modify source water chemistry.

In 2016, the invasive plant *Hydrilla verticillata* was found in the Connecticut River near Glastonbury. It has since spread to over 350 hectares in the river and is now classified as a new subspecies. While initially contained to the Connecticut River, this new subspecies has been found in numerous recreational lakes across the state. While invasion is likely linked to heavy recreational

use, waterbodies without such recreation (i.e. water supply reservoirs) are also at high risk of infestation via migratory waterfowl.

Hydrilla is costly and hard to control. As an example, not under RWA, Lake Wangumbaug in Coventry has had hydrilla since 2015. From our initial observations, it has costed the local administration about \$50,000 to \$100,000 yearly from 2016 to 2024. Roughly \$600,000 has been spent on management efforts to date. Despite this large financial investment and continued management, hydrilla is still widespread in Lake Wangumbaug.

Environmental Planning is creating a detailed reservoir inspection and rapid response plan to address the growing threat of hydrilla, which includes evaluating mechanical management (suction harvesting), biological control (grass carp stocking), and safe aquatic herbicides (like fluridone). These options are being assessed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as well as other regulators and stakeholders.

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Kevin J. Curseaden  
Catherine E. LaMarr  
Suzanne C. Sack  
Mario Ricozzi

Cc: Sunny Lakshminarayanan

From: Amanda Schenkle, Safety & Risk Manager

Date: March 27, 2025

Subject: AWIA 2025 Risk and Resiliency Update

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The Regional Water Authority completed the **AWIA 2025 Risk and Resiliency Assessment** as required by the American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018. The act states all community water systems serving more than 3,300 people must develop or update their risk and resiliency assessments and emergency response plans every 5 years from the act's original compliance date of March 31, 2020. For FY25, the Regional Water Authority engaged subject matter experts from all divisions of the utility to complete an update to our 2020 Risk and Resiliency Assessment. The assessment updates were led by Victor Benni, Director of Engineering, Amanda Schenkle, Safety & Risk Manager and Kate Novick of Gradient Planning LLC.

#### *Assessment Guidance*

The Regional Water Authority has been a leader in Business Continuity Planning (BCP), including being one of the first water utilities in the country to have a documented BCP plan. RWA's business continuity planning process has included voluntary risk and resiliency assessments dating back to 2003. Each risk assessment to date has been driven by guidance from the Risk Analysis and Management for Critical Asset Protection Standard also called the ANSI/AWWA J100-10 Standard or RAMCAP Standard.

#### Key Areas of the Assessment:

- The risk to the system from malevolent acts and natural hazards;
- The resilience of the pipes and constructed conveyances, physical barriers, source water, water collection and intake, pretreatment, treatment, storage and distribution facilities, electronic, computer, or other automated systems (including the security of such systems) which are utilized by the system;
- The monitoring practices of the system;
- The financial infrastructure of the system;
- The use, storage, or handling of various chemicals by the system; and
- The operation and maintenance of the system.

### *Risk and Resiliency Analysis*

The risk and resiliency analysis incorporated in the assessment utilizes critical asset characterization, threat characterization, consequence analysis, vulnerability analysis and threat analysis to calculate the risk for threat-asset pairs identified by the subject matter expert team. The 2025 Risk and Resiliency Assessment identified and evaluated 292 asset threat pairs to determine the risk value of each pairing. The asset threat pairs total increased by 31 pairs for this year's assessment. The analysis focused on the consequences of the impact to each asset, the vulnerability and countermeasures in place for each asset as well as the threat likelihood for each pairing category.

#### Asset Threat Pairing:

- Malevolent Acts:
  - Process Sabotage-Physical Insider/Outsider
  - Cyber Sabotage Cyber- Insider/Outsider
  - Intentional Contamination
  - Diversion/Theft- Physical Insider/Outsider
  - Active Aggressor/Shooter
  - Dependency Employees, Pandemic, 40% Staff Unavailable
- Natural Hazards:
  - Earthquake PGA 0.2 - 0.4
  - Hurricane Category 3
  - 500-year Flood
  - Tornado Fujita 1
  - Ice storm, Widespread Outages
- Combined Hazards:
  - Proximity/ Hazmat Spill
  - Dependency Electrical Power
  - Dam Breach

### *Updates to Threat Likelihood Guidance*

The Regional Water Authority utilizes many sources to determine threat likelihoods for each asset threat category. Sources of data collection are driven by local and national events, updates from local emergency managers and EPA's AWIA guidance documents. For the 2025 assessment 4 threat categories (see below) had changes to the likelihood for water systems in the Northeast.

#### **Threat**

- Earthquake, PGA 0.2- 0.4
- Sabotage, Physical
- Sabotage, Cyber
- Active Aggressor/Shooter

Based on these changes to the likelihood values, we have seen a shift in the risk analysis ranking by asset threat pairs. Using the primary analysis calculation of Risk= Consequences x Vulnerability x Threat Likelihood, the threat likelihood has a direct impact on risk rankings. As observed during the exercises which were incorporated into the risk calculations, Cyber Threat risk has increased significantly from the 2020 analysis figures.

### *Summary of Risk and Resiliency Assessment*

The AWIA Risk and Resiliency Assessment is a value-added exercise for water systems like the Regional Water Authority to provide analytical data points regarding the resiliency of our critical infrastructure and aiding us in improving our continuity planning. The 2025 Risk and Resiliency Assessment showed a fundamental shift in the top 10 asset threat pairing by risk rank from the 2020 assessment data. The shift in risk rankings involved all our water treatment assets being included in the top 10 risks including Cyber which had shifted to one of the top risks. The assessment data shows that water treatment assets must remain a top priority for the water system and proactive and innovative solutions are required to remain ahead of cyber threat actors.

Additional Countermeasures for consideration include:

- Resilient water supply
  - Increase water capacity and transport
  - Ensure alternate supplies and distribution are identified and viable; or viable and ready
  - Prioritize utility resilience
- Critical staff redundancy
- Cybersecurity
  - RWA Enterprise Security Roadmap implementation
  - SCADA and IT Asset Management
- Physical security
  - Continue situational awareness training and drills
  - “See something say something” customers communications
  - Physical security upgrades to treatment plants and wellfields
- Staff Training
  - Continue to provide ICS 300 and 400 FEMA training to key staff
  - Continue to provide Business Continuity Planning and Incident Management training to key staff

### **FORWARD PLANNING**

For FY2026, the Regional Water Authority, through its Business Continuity Planning team, will focus on updating the RWA’s family of emergency response plans to include the notable outcomes of the 2025 Risk and Resiliency Assessment. Additionally, the top 10 ranked asset threat pairs will be used to inform future training and exercise opportunities for the RWA.



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Catherine E. LaMarr  
Mario Ricozzi  
Suzanne C. Sack

Cc: Sunny Lakshminarayanan  
Jeff Yale

From: John Triana

Date: March 27, 2025

Subject: Planned summer 2025 recreation activities

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For the summer of 2025, we will continue our boating program at Lake Saltonstall, with staff available to rent boats to anglers on Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Daily trail inspections will be conducted at all recreation areas as required by our DPH recreation activity permits.

For special events, we plan to hold 3-4 trips focused on water and environmental topics, including a walk on Trails Day during the first weekend of June. Previous years featured walks by the Connecticut Butterfly Association and Connecticut Botanical Society.

We have also partnered with local organizations to bring young participants to Lake Saltonstall or the Maltby Lakes for fishing and hiking. In 2024, nearly 200 kids from the New Haven Police Activity League, Milford Boys & Girls Club, and Hamden Hall joined us, and we plan to invite them back this summer.

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Cc Sunny Lakshminarayanan, Interim CEO

From: William Henley, Sr. Aquatic Resource Scientist

Date: March 27, 2025

Subject: Remote Water Monitoring Buoys – Data Collection and Use Update

In 2024, Environmental Planning tested remote monitoring buoys at terminal reservoir sources. Remote buoy systems provide real-time data every 30 minutes, accessible via a web interface for report generation and data download to RWA servers.

The remote monitoring systems were customized for specific water quality needs and operational conditions, including reservoir depth and intake numbers. They were also equipped with sensors for timely detection of algae/cyanobacteria and turbidity events as well as advance notification of critical internal processes such as measuring oxygen depletion and temperature.

The buoys were deployed at Lake Gaillard (North Branford System) and Lake Watrous (West River System) from April to December 2024 to monitor seasonal changes.

Temperature data obtained from Lake Gaillard demonstrated enhanced understanding of the reservoir's dynamics, including water temperature, turbidity and the timing of stratification. Previously, data was collected bi-weekly, limiting awareness of daily changes and preventing timely responses to issues like algae growth or turbidity due to precipitation. This continuous data flow aids in better operational decisions regarding window horizons and offers early warnings for internal processes such as oxygen depletion, ultimately improving reservoir management.

At Lake Watrous, the oxygen data proved instrumental in monitoring the aeration systems managing the water source. This data will support Environmental and Capital Planning efforts for an improvement project, facilitating comparisons with baseline data. Furthermore, Treatment and Environmental teams utilized buoy data to track algae and turbidity trends in the West River system, frequently accessing it to gauge reservoir raw water quality and determine optimal raw water blends from the Watrous Reservoir.

The operational decision-making process has benefited greatly from the use of these systems, as Treatment and Environmental Planning staff effectively utilized site data to address gaps in reservoir sampling. This enabled improved management of reservoir operations like aeration systems and facilitated consistent monitoring of water quality. However, while several key water quality parameters were successfully captured, critical data regarding manganese levels and algae composition remained unavailable, which are essential for source selection and management at Lakes Gaillard and Watrous.

The pilot program has revealed that remote monitoring systems coupled with manual sampling efforts lead to greater efficiency, particularly given the diverse needs of the reservoirs managed by RWA, such as West River, Whitney, Saltonstall and North Branford. Each reservoir presents unique challenges requiring tailored approaches. While these advanced technologies can generate valuable data and facilitate multi-user tracking, they are dependent on manual efforts for both maintenance and data analysis.