

The United States Conference of Mayors

Mayors Water Council

Livermore, California

October 23-24, 2025

Authorizing Statute

- **Safe Drinking Water Act Sec. 1433**
- **Amended by Sec. 2013 of Americas Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA)**
- **Community Water Systems serving a population of 3,300 or more are required to:**
 - ❑ **Conduct a risk and resilience assessment (RRA)**
 - ❑ **Prepare or revise an emergency response plan (ERP) based on the findings of the RRA**
 - ❑ **Certify to EPA that the RRA and ERP have been completed**

All hazards approach

- Balance consideration of malevolent and natural hazard threats
- Protect utility operations, including cybersecurity threats to business and process control systems.

| Community Water System (pop. served)*‡ | Certify Risk & Resilience Assessment (RRA) by: | Certify ERP within 6 months of RRA, but not later than: |
|---|---|--|
| $\geq 100,000$ | March 31, 2025 | September 30, 2025 |
| 50,000 – 99,999 | December 31, 2025 | June 30, 2026 |
| 3,300 – 49,999 | June 30, 2026 | December 30, 2026 |

* Wholesalers use population of all systems served

‡ Population as of March 31, 2024

Compliance Enforcement

- **Targeted inspection program**
- **Verify certification of RRA and ERP on time**
- **Produce copy of plans on demand**
- **Status of 15 Cyber practices (not mandated)**

15 Best Practices

Compliance Status

160 Inspections from July 2024-July 2025

55% of systems found insufficient - unable to produce RRA and/or ERP, or other factor

97% of large systems had certified RRAs

82% had certified ERPs

Drones, Critical Infrastructure and Restricted Airspace

Authorizing Statute

**FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 gave the FAA a
deadline for implementing Section 2209
(Federal Aviation Administration Extension, Safety, and
Security Act)**

**Sec. 2209 DOT shall establish procedures for applicants
to petition the FAA to prohibit or restrict the operation
of drones in close proximity to a fixed site facility
(an affirmative designation).**

FAA and Drones

The FAA is tasked with defining the precise sites where drones are prohibited from operating. It is likely that the FAA would have to work with state and local governments to make these determinations

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Includes many types of “sites” from oil refineries to amusement parks as well as “other locations that warrant such restrictions

FAA and Drones

The FAA has not completed work on Section 2209

This has led to a patchwork of state and local policies

Local governments may have to apply to FAA/FBI to get approval to fly drones over critical infrastructure

Environmental Protection Agency

WEB RESOURCES

EPA Cybersecurity for the Water Sector

- Cybersecurity Guidance for Drinking Water and Wastewater
- Cybersecurity Risk Self-Assessment Resources
- Cybersecurity Risk Third-Party Assessment Resources
- Cybersecurity Vulnerability Assessment Resources
- Addressing Cybersecurity in your America's Water Infrastructure Act Risk and Resilience Assessment
- Technical Assistance