

2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Drinking Water Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Environmental Protection Agency	2026
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
National Drinking Water Advisory Council	163

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	10/01/2024	10/01/2026	

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No		

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Yes	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
42 U.S.C. 300 j5	12/16/1974	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

**Current Next
FY FY**

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) is a federal advisory committee that supports EPA in performing the Agency's duties and responsibilities related to the national drinking water program. The NDWAC was created on December 16, 1974, through a provision in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) of 1974. The NDWAC meets to discuss current issues in EPA's drinking water program and also advises, consults

with, and makes recommendations to EPA. This includes consultations as required by the SDWA on certain rulemakings.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The NDWAC is authorized under the SDWA, which includes a provision on the composition of the membership of the council. The NDWAC is to have five (5) members from the general public, five (5) members from water interest groups and organizations and five (5) members from state and local agencies. Included in the statute is a requirement that two (2) of the 15 members must be associated with small, rural drinking water systems. EPA seeks to ensure geographic diversity.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Since the enactment of the 1996 SDWA Amendments, the NDWAC has provided indispensable input into EPA's standard setting, regulatory development, and program implementation activities mandated by the SDWA, as amended. As EPA carries out these statutory mandates, the agency works with the NDWAC to develop and shape future efforts that will ensure the nation's public health protection through safe drinking water. The NDWAC met twice in FY25. Committee meetings were held January 10 and July 25, 2025.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Early involvement of the NDWAC provides an excellent forum for EPA to discuss and receive stakeholder input on policy, regulatory development, and program implementation

issues/concerns. Moreover, the NDWAC offers an opportunity for fostering consensus advice and recommendations from a balanced and diverse group of experts in the drinking water community who may not reach agreement without working together within the structure of the NDWAC. To reach an appropriate position on difficult and controversial issues, the NDWAC organizes meetings so that all sides of an issue/concern are taken into consideration and recommendations reflect consensus to the extent possible.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

No meetings were closed or partially closed.

21. Remarks

All members are Tier 1 (parent committee members). There are no Tier 2 (subcommittee) members serving.

Designated Federal Officer

Tracey M. Ward Designated Federal Officer,
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Barney, Yolanda	02/28/2021	12/15/2025	Tier 1, State/Local Government, Environmental Program Manager, Navajo PWSS Program, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection , Window Rock, AZ	Special Government Employee (SGE)
			Tier 1, General Public, Founder and Principal, Safe Water Engineering, LLC, Detroit, MI	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Betanzo, Elin	02/28/2022	12/15/2027		

Chard, Shellie	02/28/2021	12/15/2025	Tier 1, State/Local Government, Director, Water Quality Division, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Elmore, Steven	02/28/2022	12/15/2026	Tier 1, State/Local Government, Program Director, Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jones, Anthony (Eagle)	03/14/2022	12/15/2027	Tier 1, State/Local Government, Director of Water Operations, Pechanga Tribal Government, Temecula, CA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jones, Kyle	12/16/2024	12/16/2027	Policy and Legal Director, Community Water Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
LaBelle, Eric	12/16/2024	12/15/2027	Tier 1, Water Interest, Deputy Public Water Director and Principal Engineer, Town of Kennebunkport, Kennebunkport, ME	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Littlewood, Jana	02/28/2021	12/15/2025	Tier 1, Water Interest-Small Rural Systems, Alaska Representative to the Board of Directors, National Rural Water Association, Wasilla, AK	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lucero, Ramon	12/16/2024	12/15/2025	Tier 1, Water Interest Group, Small Systems (Rural Community Assistance Program Support), Regional Field Manager- Intermountain, Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Santa Fe, NM	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Phillips, Jeffrey	12/16/2024	12/15/2027	Tier 1, State/Local Government, Chief Operations Officer, Greenville, SC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pickering, William	12/16/2024	12/15/2027	Pittsburg Water & Sewer Authority	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rodriguez, Alejandro (Alex)	02/28/2022	12/15/2027	Tier 1, General Public, President and CEO, DCG Public Affairs, Diversity Consulting Group, LLC, Santa Barbara, CA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Szabo, Jeffrey	02/28/2021	12/15/2025	Tier 1, Water Interest, Chief Executive Officer, Suffolk County Water Authority, Oakdale, NY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Waechter, Julie	12/16/2024	12/15/2027	CO-CEO-DigDeep Right to Water Project	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 14

Narrative Description

The National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC or Council) is a federal advisory committee that supports the EPA in performing its duties and responsibilities related to the national drinking water program. The Council was created on December 16, 1974, through a provision in the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. NDWAC provides advice, information, and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on matters related to activities, functions, policies, and regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety



Trust in government



- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

N/A

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

128

Number of Recommendations Comments

NDWAC provided input and recommendations to EPA on the implementation of the national drinking water program. EPA staff consulted with NDWAC on key issues, including most recently the PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR), the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule Revisions, the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), and the Microbial and Disinfection Byproduct (MDBP) Rule Revisions. The meeting was focused on discussing the proposed perchlorate regulation.

EPA is currently in the proposal stage of the regulation with a requirement to propose the rule by November 2025. The agency is seeking input from the council to inform the development of the proposed rule.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Realistically, we are unable to provide a real number over the 35-year history of the Council. EPA considers all recommendations made and implements them as possible. However, in some cases the administration may disagree with the council and/or the regulatory process guides the final action. Additionally, EPA may not be able to respond due to resource constraints.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

N/A

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

EPA provides a written response to the NDWAC's recommendations. The committee reviews all feedback and all official committee documents are posted to the website for public to access.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments

Other

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO

Online Agency Web Site

Online Committee Web Site

Online GSA FACA Web Site

Publications

Other

Access Comments

N/A