



# LCRI Proposal

## From a Water System Perspective

---

Presentation to SBA Environmental Roundtable  
Jan 9, 2024



American Water Works  
Association

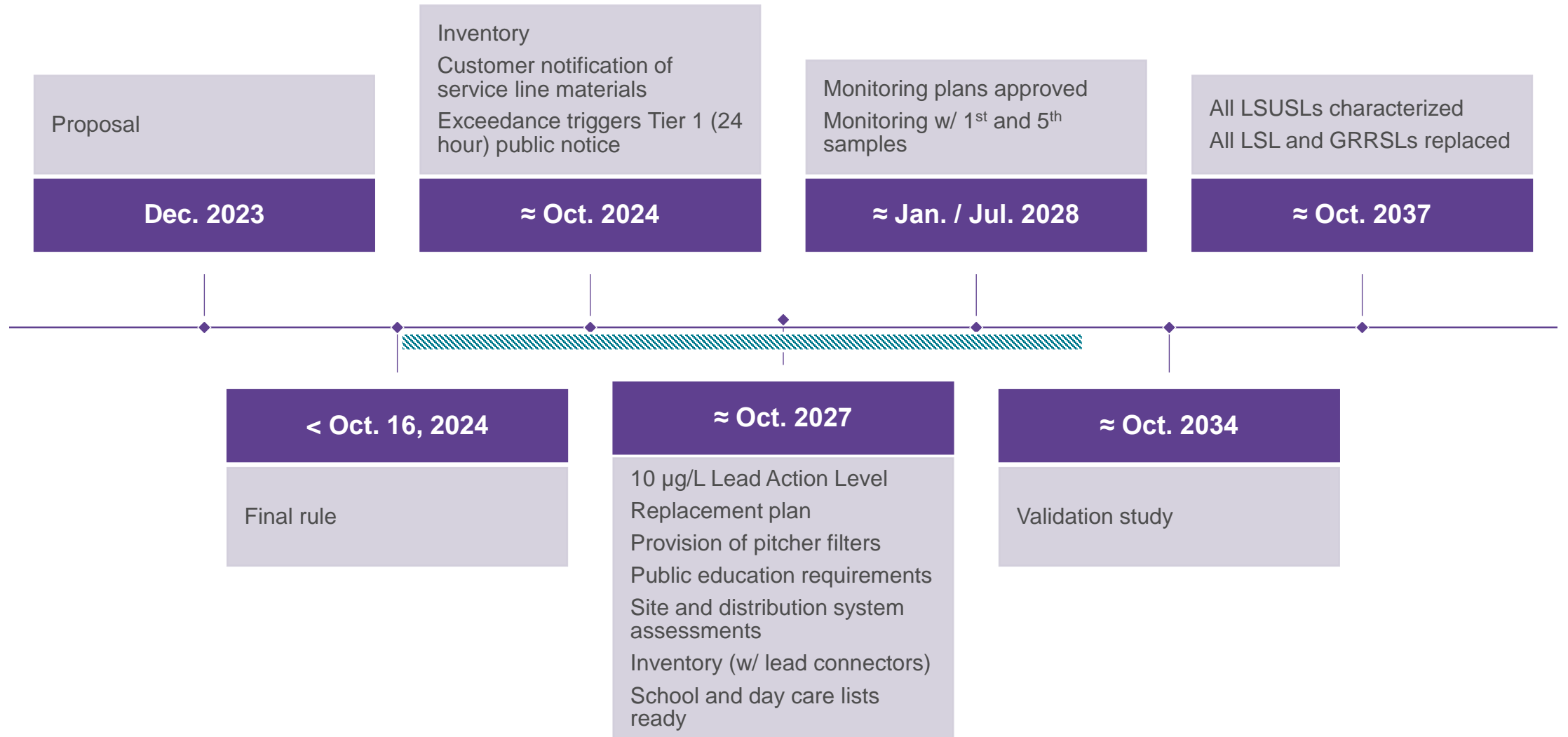
# Important Positive Developments

- 💧 Final LCRI will almost wholly replace LCRR and complying with both will not be required
- 💧 Separates service line replacement from trigger for evaluation of corrosion control practice
- 💧 Comports with SDWA expectation for compliance beginning 3 years after promulgation
- 💧 EPA retains treatment technique



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-ND](#)

# Schedule (assuming rulemaking proceeds on schedule)



# Compliance Challenge

## Challenge

- ▶ Systems **must** comply with LCRR until LCRI is effective. LCRR deadlines begin in Oct. 2024
- ▶ Systems do not have any surety the agency will make transition to LCRI

## Situation

- ▶ EPA has not postponed LCRR compliance dates
  - ▶ Comment period ends Feb 5
  - ▶ OMB 90 days review period
  - ▶ Final rule effective after 60 days (subject to challenge)
  - ▶ LCRR compliance begins Oct 16
- ▶ EPA has  $\approx$  100 workdays to take comment into account
- ▶ EPA has  $\approx$  6½ months to promulgate rule

# Universe of Regulated Systems

System Size (Population Served)	CWSs		
	Ground Water	Surface Water	Total
	A	B	C = A + B
≤100	10,809	923	11,732
101–500	13,028	2,056	15,084
501–1,000	4,168	1,162	5,330
1,001–3,300	5,502	2,465	7,967
3,301–10,000	2,795	2,231	5,026
10,001–50,000	1,365	2,009	3,374
50,001–100,000	161	410	571
100,001–1M	74	347	421
> 1M	2	22	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,904</b>	<b>11,625</b>	<b>49,529</b>

System Size (Population Served)	NTNCWSs		
	Ground Water	Surface Water	Total
	A	B	C = A + B
≤100	8,138	250	8,388
101–500	6,133	247	6,380
501–1,000	1,489	89	1,578
1,001–3,300	752	119	871
3,301–10,000	103	59	162
10,001–50,000	18	19	37
50,001–100,000	0	1	1
100,001–1M	0	1	1
> 1M	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,633</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>17,418</b>

# Treatment Technique

- ▶ Expanded corrosion control

- ▶ **10 µg/L** 90<sup>th</sup> percentile
- ▶ Revised sampling protocol for lead - 1<sup>st</sup> **and** 5<sup>th</sup> L (at LSL sites)
- ▶ Revised Sampling Pool Tiers
  - ▶ Addition of **galvanized** pipes (Tier 3)

- ▶ Addition of Service line replacement

- ▶ Inventory expanded to include **lead connectors**
  - ▶ All lead and galvanized requiring replacement service lines **replaced in 10 years**
  - ▶ **Annual replacement rate (10%)**
  - ▶ Provision of pitcher filters (expanded)
- ▶ Expanded public education

# Key Issue for Service Line Replacement

**“Control” equals “Access”**



**Service line replacement**

**All systems  
remove all LSLs  
and GRRSLs  
CWS controls  
completely**

**10-year window**

**10% per year with  
3-year rolling  
average  
replacement rate**

# Logistics of Implementation

## Service Line Replacement

- ▶ Number of “unknown” service lines significantly affects ability to comply
- ▶ PWSs that serve small communities require property owner collaboration
- ▶ Staff to handle logistics and required documentation as well as actual field crews to replace service lines
- ▶ Total cost per service line removed is substantial

## Public Education

- ▶ Correct and current addresses of property owners and customers is essential
- ▶ Adequate stocks of pitcher filters to meet timeframes
- ▶ Access to postal services to meet timeframes



# Small Entity Challenges

- ▶ Proposed LCRI LSL and GRRSL replacement provisions apply to small entities
- ▶ All regulated systems are on the same compliance schedule
- ▶ No clear sideboards for primacy agency oversight of corrosion control
- ▶ Lack of clear technical documentation leaves standard of care uncertain
- ▶ Remaining small system flexibility is very hard to utilize
- ▶ *Larger* small community and noncommunity systems are treated differently in Proposed LCRI
- ▶ Paperwork burden will lead to high violation rates

Economic Analysis does not account for corrosion control decisions by primacy agencies; assumes minimal economic consequences

# LCRI Comment Period

- Released Nov 30, 2023
- Published Dec 6, 2023
- Public hearing Jan 16, 2024
- Comments due Feb 5, 2024

**Submit comments to  
[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)**

**Docket  
EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0801**



# Questions?

Steve Via

Director, Federal Relations

American Water Works Association

Direct +1 202.326.6130

[svia@awwa.org](mailto:svia@awwa.org) | [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

