

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XIV, §1459C, as added Pub. L. 115-270, title II, §2003, Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3841.)

§ 300j-19d. Review of technologies

(a) Review

The Administrator, after consultation with appropriate departments and agencies of the Federal Government and with State and local governments, shall review (or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements to provide for a review of) existing and potential methods, means, equipment, and technologies (including review of cost, availability, and efficacy of such methods, means, equipment, and technologies) that—

- (1) ensure the physical integrity of community water systems;
- (2) prevent, detect, and respond to any contaminant for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated in community water systems and source water for community water systems;
- (3) allow for use of alternate drinking water supplies from nontraditional sources; and
- (4) facilitate source water assessment and protection.

(b) Inclusions

The review under subsection (a) shall include review of methods, means, equipment, and technologies—

- (1) that are used for corrosion protection, metering, leak detection, or protection against water loss;
- (2) that are intelligent systems, including hardware, software, or other technology, used to assist in protection and detection described in paragraph (1);
- (3) that are point-of-use devices or point-of-entry devices;
- (4) that are physical or electronic systems that monitor, or assist in monitoring, contaminants in drinking water in real-time; and
- (5) that allow for the use of nontraditional sources for drinking water, including physical separation and chemical and biological transformation technologies.

(c) Availability

The Administrator shall make the results of the review under subsection (a) available to the public.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2019, which shall remain available until expended.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XIV, §1459D, as added Pub. L. 115-270, title II, §2017, Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3856.)

§ 300j-19e. Water infrastructure and workforce investment

(a) Definition of public works department or agency

In this section, the term “public works department or agency” means a political subdivision of a local, county, or regional government that

designs, builds, operates, and maintains water infrastructure, sewage and refuse disposal systems, and other public water systems and facilities.

(b) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) water and wastewater utilities provide a unique opportunity for access to stable, high-quality careers;

(2) as water and wastewater utilities make critical investments in infrastructure, water and wastewater utilities can invest in the development of local workers and local small businesses to strengthen communities and ensure a strong pipeline of skilled and diverse workers for today and tomorrow; and

(3) to further the goal of ensuring a strong pipeline of skilled and diverse workers in the water and wastewater utilities sector, Congress urges—

(A) increased collaboration among Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments; and

(B) institutions of higher education, apprentice programs, high schools, and other community-based organizations and public works departments or agencies to align water and wastewater utility workforce recruitment efforts, training programs, retention efforts, and community resources with water and wastewater utilities—

- (i) to accelerate career pipelines;
- (ii) to ensure the sustainability of the water and wastewater utility workforce; and
- (iii) to provide access to workforce opportunities.

(c) Innovative water infrastructure workforce development program

(1) Grants authorized

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (referred to in this section as the “Administrator”), in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall establish a competitive grant program to assist the development and utilization of innovative activities relating to workforce development and career opportunities in the water utility sector, which may include—

(A) expanding the use and availability of activities and resources that relate to the recruitment, including the promotion of diversity within that recruitment, of individuals to careers in the water and wastewater utility sector;

(B) expanding the availability of training opportunities for—

- (i) individuals entering into the water and wastewater utility sector; and
- (ii) individuals seeking to advance careers within the water and wastewater utility sector; and

(C) expanding the use and availability of activities and strategies, including the development of innovative activities and strategies, that relate to the maintenance and retention of a sustainable workforce in the water and wastewater utility sector.

(2) Selection of grant recipients

In awarding grants under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable,