

SMA Program Review Update

Drinking Water Advisory Group Meeting

November 3, 2014

The Office of Drinking Water's leadership team recently decided on the recommendations brought forward by our satellite management agency (SMA) program review team. The program review began in June 2013 as part of our strategic plan.

SMA's are valuable partners to us and to water systems, and we are committed to having a successful SMA program. The feedback shared by SMA's and other stakeholders helped shape the team's recommendations and influenced our decision to make changes in order to implement the program more effectively. So, thank you.

We decided that we will not seek legislative changes, but we will boost program implementation efforts and will update the SMA rule.

- **SMA's told us they want:**
 - Stricter enforcement of the SMA requirement.
 - Incentives for taking on Group B or troubled water systems.
 - Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for contract operators versus SMA's.

- **We listened, and here's what we intend to do:**
 - Check for compliance with SMA requirement when we receive notice from a purveyor of a change in certified operator.
 - Explore additional incentives for SMA's that actively partner with us on restructuring and consolidations.
 - Update the SMA rule to define SMA responsibilities for non-ownership SMA's.

Stakeholder input will continue to be important as we work to make these changes happen. We will engage work with you throughout the process and remain open to your suggestions.