

Water Security Coordination Grant Support

Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection

The Horsley Witten Group, Inc. (HW) supported the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as they implemented various outreach and training activities funded by the Security Coordination and Assessment Grant Program. This support included developing training modules and conducting workshops in each of the state's six DEP regions for the purposes of contingency planning, networking and information exchange among participants.

As a part of this effort, HW staff developed a one-and-a-half day training workshop series for DEP staff that focused on the interaction of DEP staff and water utility officials during an emergency. HW developed training materials in regards to emergency response planning, the use of EPA's *Response Protocol Toolbox*, the Incident Command System (ICS), and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). HW also developed six different tabletop exercise scenarios to assist DEP staff to practice their emergency response procedures as contained in their *Emergency Operations Plan*. The exercises were based on various incidents that occurred in Pennsylvania involving drinking water systems and on discussions with DEP staff. HW conducted the same tabletop exercise scenario (hoax/intentional contamination) in each of the six DEP Regions as a part of the day-and-a-half workshop series.

DEP training staff attended the workshops so that they would be prepared to conduct the other five tabletop exercise scenarios on their own in future years. To facilitate the state's ability to conduct the exercises, HW provided all the tabletop exercise scenarios on an interactive CD to DEP staff and ensured that staff received all necessary supporting materials (colored vests, table signs, etc.).

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