8/11/2015	Drinking Water Essential Function Priorities			Function (R)equired or (A)uthorized By		
Essential Function Priority	Drinking Water Program Essential Function	Workload Driver	Risk of not performing essential function	USEPA Primacy	USEPA SRF or other	State ORS 448
1	Investigate reports of contamination of public drinking water systems received directly from labs and reports of waterborne disease. Assure that follow up actions are taken and the public is protected as needed.	2,000 contaminant occurrences per year	Instances of reported contamination are not verified and investigated, and timely follow-up to protect the public and prevent illness is not done, causing more illness	R	A	R
2	Conduct on-site inspections of public water systems, identify deficiencies, and assure correction	600 inspections of EPA water systems per year	Inspections not done, deficiencies are not identified or corrected, leading to more instances of preventable drinking water contamination and illness	R	A	R
3	Adopt and implement safe drinking water standards and regulations	As new EPA rules are issued	New EPA rules are not adopted within the 2-year EPA requirement, jeopardizing Primacy. Public health protections of new EPA standards and rules are not implemented	R	A	R
4	Maintain and implement a statewide emergency response system and respond to drinking water emergencies	As needed and ongoing	Water suppliers do not get needed assistance to react and respond during water supply emergencies such as floods, storms, damage, putting public health at risk	R	A	R
5	Review and approve water system construction plans	250 plans per year	New water systems or major modifications are not reviewed to assure compliance with health-based construction standards, leading to improperly designed or constructed facilities and more preventable drinking water contamination and illness	R	A	R
6	Assess compliance status of public water systems including receiving and entering water quality test results, assuring data quality, determining compliance with standards and monitoring requirements, and reporting violation data to EPA	125,000 test results per year from 2600 water systems	Water system test results are not entered and processed to determine when and where safe drinking water problems occur so that they can be corrected to prevent or minimize contamination and illness	R	A	R
7	Certify operators of public water systems	1,800 certifications and renewals per year	Skills and qualifications and continuing education of operators of water systems statewide are not required or verified, leading to more unskilled operators and more instances of drinking water contamination and illness		R	R
8	Investigate public water systems with priority regulatory violations and act to return them to compliance. Conduct formal enforcement as needed to assure compliance with safe drinking water standards and requirements, Investigate and enforce compliance by individuals with certification requirements	50 priority public water systems including 30 formal enforcement cases per year	Water systems that violate water quality, testing and reporting requirements, and operator certification continue to do so, risking illness	R	A	R
9	Identify public water systems and maintain current inventory and information	2,500 EPA systems, serving 4M people	Unknown water systems are not identified and registered for oversight, so drinking water safety is undetermined. Basic information on known water systems is not maintained, resulting in contamination and illness. Lack of current water system identification can impact federal calculation of state grant funding.	R	A	R

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10	Consult with and educate water suppliers on safe drinking water regulations, contaminant standards, source water treatment options, and best operational practices in order to prevent drinking water contamination	2500 EPA systems	Water suppliers do not get consultation help on how to resolve safe drinking water problems, left on their own to solve problems that lead to contamination and illness	A	A	A
11	Train operators of public water systems	20 training sessions per year	Operators of small water systems will not receive training they need to provide safe drinking water, more instances of unsafe water occur		A	A
12	Conduct outreach to public water suppliers and the public on safe drinking water issues through newsletters, website, and other means. Coordinate drinking water program work with stakeholder associations and federal, state, and local agencies	2-4 newsletters per year, 50 coordination meetings per year	Public water suppliers are less informed about issues and developments about safe drinking water. Program work not efficiently coordinated with or supportive of other federal, state, and local initiatives that relate to drinking water	A	A	R
13	Provide financial assistance to communities for safe drinking water construction projects through the drinking water revolving loan fund (under IGA with OBDD)*	10-25 loans per year	Communities do not have access to the primary source of financial assistance, so fewer facilities needed for safe drinking water are built, more water contamination and illness		A	A
14	Certify backflow testers and specialists and assure community systems conduct and report on their local programs to control cross connections and prevent backflow**	1200 testers and specialists per year, 900 community reports per year	Fewer communities carry out backflow programs and proper testing of backflow devices is not assured, leading to more episodes of preventable water contamination and illness due to backflow of water from customer premises into the water system			R
15	Analyze drinking water compliance data to identify priority workload and compliance trends. Develop web-based analysis tools and reports to assist program management, program staff, and partner contract agencies to direct their work and to develop and use performance measures to improve regulatory and workload processes.	2600 EPA systems	Data analysis, trending, and development and tracking of performance metrics is not done. Opportunities for program focus and rapid process improvement are not taken, leading to a reactionary rather than preventive state oversight of water systems, with more water contamination and illness.	R	A	R
16	Maintain and manage the safe drinking water database system, including system upgrades, enhancements, and trouble-shooting	As needed and as new SDWIS versions are released	State can not implement new versions of the EPA database, or keep current system reliably running to assure that data support effective oversight of water systems and required state reporting to EPA	R	A	R
17	Provide technical assistance to operators of smaller public water systems with short term operational problems (under contract)	Assist 150 EPA water systems per year	Small water systems lose access to timely assistance/expertise, so operational problems leading to unsafe water and illness are not corrected		A	A
18	Certify labs to conduct analytical measurements of regulated drinking water contaminants. Maintain a state principal reference laboratory.	100 certified labs	Safe water is based in large part on reliable and accurate lab analysis for contaminants. If labs are not effectively certified, drinking water test results can be in error and contamination can be falsely identified or not identified	R	A	R

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19	Update assessments of the groundwater source areas used by public water systems. In partnership with DEQ, assist public water systems to develop and implement local plans to protect drinking water source areas, Integrate drinking water into statewide pollution prevention efforts.	275 assessment updates, 40 plan development assists per year	Fewer communities would implement local protection of drinking water sources, so future drinking water contamination is not prevented		A	R
20	Regulate and oversee non-EPA public water systems	900 known non-EPA systems serving 20,000 people	The very small water systems (4-14 connections, 10-24 people) covered by state but not federal requirements have no regulatory oversight. Total number of existing systems is unknown. Drinking water quality is unknown, leading to contamination and illness			R
21	Assure that new and existing public drinking water systems have technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water now and in the future	35 capacity assessments per year, conduct treatment optimization assistance to local water suppliers	Water system would not improve their capabilities to assure safe drinking water in the future, so more instances of preventable drinking water contamination and illness occur		R	A
22	Conduct oversight of domestic well testing requirements for real estate transactions	Receive 200-300 sample results per year and input data (700,000 people in Oregon use home wells for drinking water)	Individual home well owners who test their water do not get advice of protecting their health or solving contamination problems. Well owners that do not test their water as required receive no follow-up notification or outreach.			R