



COUNCIL OF INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING AUTHORITIES

2020 CIFA SRF Workshop Online Edition

Lead Service Lines: Monday, November 16: 3:00 – 4:30 pm (ET)

Lead: Replacing Lead Service Lines to Protect the Health for Our Most Vulnerable

Learn how the Water Infrastructure Fund Transfer Act (WIFTA), a law sponsored by New Jersey Senator Cory Booker, was used by Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Wisconsin to accelerate replacement of service lines made from lead, which causes serious health problems, especially with pregnant women and children. Hear about why each SRF made the decision to transfer the funds, how each program is structured, what each SRF hopes to achieve and the challenges ahead. Plus, learn about [Massachusetts' School Water Improvement Grant \(SWIG\)](#), which provided grants to test and replace fixtures that exceed remediation action levels.

Moderator: Brion Johnson, Executive Director, PENNVEST

Panelists:

- Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Massachusetts Clean Water Trust
- Patricia Gardner, Director, Water Supply and Geoscience, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- Gary Bingenheimer, Manager, Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section, Bureau of Water, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Greg Farmer, Coordinator, Wisconsin's Safe Drinking Water Loan Program

Meet the Panelists:

Gary Bingenheimer, P.E., Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Gary Bingenheimer is Manager of the Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section, Bureau of Water, for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency where he has worked for nearly 25 years. Before his current position, he served as Manager of the Pre-Construction Unit in the Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section where he oversaw ten Project Managers working to secure funding for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. He began his public service in the Wastewater Permitting Section. Prior to joining the Agency, he worked five years in the electric utility industry performing electric rate analysis and cost of service studies. Gary earned a degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Illinois.

Greg Farmer, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Greg Farmer is the coordinator of Wisconsin's Safe Drinking Water Loan Program which provides loans through the State Revolving Fund to municipalities addressing water infrastructure concerns. He has been with Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources for six years, four of them with the State Revolving Fund.

Patricia Gardner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Pat Gardner serves as the Assistant Commissioner of Water Resource Management, overseeing the divisions of Water Monitoring and Standards, Water Quality and Water Supply and Geoscience, at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. She has worked in the field of environmental protection for more than 30 years, starting her career with the DEP in the Radiation Programs before joining the Water Resource Management program 6 years ago. In Water Resource Management, she served as the Director of the Division of Water Supply & Geoscience for 4.5 years and the Director of the Division of Water Monitoring & Standards for 1.5 years. Since her time in Water Resource Management, Pat has focused on the revision of the long-term monitoring strategy, restoration grant program, assessment of the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water regulations with an emphasis on the Lead and Copper Rule, emergency response, water supply planning, water infrastructure and the development of maximum contaminant levels. She has served on a variety of councils and boards, including the Delaware River Basin Commission, the New Jersey Water Supply Authority the Drinking Water Quality Institute. As a career DEP employee, Pat has a strong belief in public service and the protection of public health, safety and the environment.

Brion Johnson, PENNVEST

Brion Johnson is Executive Director of PENNVEST. He joined Pennsylvania's State Revolving Loan Fund [PENNVEST] as a Project Specialist soon after the program began in 1988 and focused on projects in the north central and northwestern areas of the state comprising 26 counties. He was appointed as Deputy Executive Director for Project Management in 1992 where he coordinated the identification, evaluation and recommendation of all capital improvement funding candidates and the nutrient credit trading program. He was also responsible for resolving issues that arose during, settlement, construction related to payment, and at final closeout and any ongoing covenants that may relate to the borrower throughout the loan process.

Nathan Keenan, Massachusetts Clean Water Trust

Nate Keenan is Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust where he has worked since 2011. During that time, he has worked to execute over \$1 billion in bond issuances, drafted the Trust's first Green Bond disclosure language, and developed a lead and copper pipe testing program for schools in Massachusetts. Nate graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Saint Michael's College and a Master's Degree from Suffolk University.