



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVY INSTALLATIONS COMMAND
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CNICINST 5090.7A
N4
24 Sep 2025

CNIC INSTRUCTION 5090.7A

From: Commander, Navy Installations Command

Subj: NAVY DRINKING WATER PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ASHORE

Ref: (a) OPNAV M-5090.1
(b) DoDINST 6055.20 of 10 Jun 2019
(c) SECNAV M-5210.1
(d) BUMEDINST 6240.10D

1. Purpose

a. To establish criteria and requirements that Navy installations within the United States and its Territories will implement to meet drinking water quality standards and perform proper operations and maintenance at regulated and non-regulated Navy drinking water systems. Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), as the Navy Executive Agent for Drinking Water Ashore, directs adherence with reference (a), and the requirements outlined in this instruction, as the standards for Navy installations to adopt and implement.

b. This instruction cancels CNIC Instruction 5090.7 and is a substantial revision that should be read in its entirety. Significant changes were made to clarify implementation of Emergency Response Plans (ERP) and tabletop exercise (TTX) requirements, and update data management and reporting requirements to include effective health risk and reporting requirements. Specifically, this instruction revision:

(1) Clarifies applicability of ERPs and the annual TTX requirement and requires updating ERPs when a TTX identifies any issue or weakness with the current ERP.

(2) Adds requirement for effective health risk communications for Region Drinking Water Committees (RDWC) and Installation Drinking Water Committees (IDWC).

(3) Requires CNIC to centrally manage a Navy SharePoint Plan of Actions & Milestones (POAM) webpage for all findings identified during Navy sanitary surveys led by CNIC headquarters (HQ) staff.

(4) Requires regions to utilize the Navy SharePoint POAM webpage to document and track sanitary survey findings and update the status at least quarterly.

2. Cancellation. CNICINST 5090.7.

3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction applies to all Navy installations within the U.S. and its Territories, including installation-managed special areas, non-contiguous properties that are part of or assigned to an installation, non-CNIC Facility Maintenance Unit Identification Code (MUIC) holders operating/maintaining drinking water system within an installation, privatized systems, and utility privatization purveyors operating on an installation. An inventory list titled, "U.S. Navy Drinking Water System Inventory," of all applicable Navy drinking water systems, per region, is located at <https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/mcas-gov.us/sites/CNICHQ/ODW/> and will be distributed via an annual tasker for the system self-assessment requirement described in paragraph 4c(3). This inventory will be updated annually.

4. Policy

a. All Navy regions and installations will comply with the requirements of this instruction, as applicable, for the overall management of drinking water delivery and to ensure drinking water quality meets reference (a) requirements at Navy installations within the U.S. and its Territories.

b. CNIC HQ will act as the entity responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance with this instruction.

c. All Navy regions and installations within the U.S. and its Territories will comply with the requirements of this instruction to:

(1) Establish an RDWC and IDWC to ensure a consistent quality of potable water is provided and to improve overall drinking water system management and stakeholder communication.

(2) Provide immediate and effective consultation, guidance, and notification to CNIC HQ, RDWC, and IDWC members of any drinking water issues with the potential to impact public health.

(3) Conduct self-assessments of all drinking water systems on an annual basis, due by 31 March each year, using the U.S. Navy Drinking Water System Self-Assessment Checklist located at <https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/mcas-gov.us/sites/CNICHQ/ODW/>. Systems identified as elevated-risk by CNIC HQ based on analysis of self-assessments may undergo formal Navy sanitary surveys led by CNIC HQ staff. Installation and region staff will participate in these surveys and will receive a notification from CNIC HQ of the planned sanitary survey at

least three months in advance. Drinking water systems exempted from the self-assessment requirement will be evaluated on an annual basis by CNIC HQ.

(4) Regions report to CNIC HQ on the status of all drinking water systems via virtually distributed briefs on a semi-annual basis. Briefs will include status of current Notices of Violation (NOVs), funding status, consent orders (e.g., Federal Facility Compliance Agreements (FFCAs)), corrective action status, progress on closure of open sanitary survey findings, Environmental Management System (EMS) audit findings, public notifications and public education outreach, Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs), and any other relevant drinking water issues and updates. Regions with elevated-risk systems will provide detailed briefs of system status and actions during individually scheduled meetings with CNIC HQ, in coordination with IDWCs.

(5) Installation and Region Environmental water program managers must complete the Air Force Institute of Technology Drinking Water Quality Management Course (WENV 542) (https://www.afit.edu/CE/course_desc.cfm?p=WENV%20542). All new and existing Installation and Region Environmental Water Program Managers are required to complete these trainings on a one-time basis within six-months of filling one of these required positions. In addition to these training requirements, it is recommended that any installation or region water program stakeholder also participate in the Navy and Marine Corps Force Health Protection Command (NMCFHPC) Drinking Water Training Course which is offered in-person at various Navy installations at least four times each fiscal year and the NMCFHPC Risk Communication Course. NMCFHPC circulates the training schedule with the applicable regions on an annual basis to coordinate course participation.

5. Responsibilities

a. CNIC will:

(1) Enforce and oversee implementation of this instruction, providing additional guidance and interpretation to Navy regions and installations, as needed.

(2) Maintain and update this instruction as needed.

(3) Program and budget for implementation of this instruction.

(4) Perform management, policy, and oversight duties of the Navy Drinking Water Program to enable the Navy's mission and ensure protection of public health.

(5) Develop and issue an annual drinking water system self-assessment tasker by 1 November with a response deadline of 31 March to instruct installations to perform self-assessments of all drinking water systems to evaluate compliance with this instruction, reference (a) and all applicable Federal, State, and local drinking water regulations.

(6) Develop and issue an annual Navy drinking water system inventory update tasker to all regions, in coordination with Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) HQ, by the first quarter of the fiscal year.

(7) Develop and issue a semi-annual tasker to instruct all regions to submit briefs summarizing the status of all drinking water systems as described in paragraph 4c(4).

(8) Identify elevated-risk water systems through evaluation of annual installation self-assessments.

(9) Identify resourcing for and execute Navy-led sanitary surveys, in coordination with NAVFAC and RDWCs, at identified elevated-risk water systems.

(10) Centrally manages a Navy SharePoint POAM webpage to maintain a record of all sanitary survey findings identified by CNIC during Navy-led sanitary surveys. This includes uploading sanitary survey findings for region and installation use after the sanitary survey final report is issued.

(11) Support individual meetings with RDWCs and IDWCs for in-depth briefs on identified elevated-risk systems as needed.

b. Region Commanders (REGCOMs) will:

(1) Establish and Chair the RDWC (non-delegable) and conduct routine business to ensure program compliance, communication to stakeholders, and reporting to CNIC HQ. Each U.S. Navy Region will establish a Navy RDWC. Standing membership will include, at a minimum:

(a) Region Engineer (N4)

(b) Region Environmental (N45)

(c) NAVFAC Facilities Engineering Command Public Works (PW) (Utilities and Facilities) and Environmental (EV) Directorates

(d) Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) designated regional Preventive Medicine Subject Matter Expert (SME).

(e) Region Public Affairs Officers (PAOs)

(f) Region Counsel

(g) Region Fleet and Family Readiness (N9)

(2) Meet with the RDWC members at least semi-annually to discuss drinking water quality matters, which may include, but is not limited to, any water quality issues or exceedances, operational issues, status of addressing current system findings, or resourcing needs, and document with official meeting minutes.

c. RDWC, with lead action by Region N4 will:

(1) Implement and comply with this instruction with the support of NAVFAC Facility Engineering Command PW and EV staff, BUMED, other Navy Commands, Echelons, and business lines as needed.

(2) Plan, program, and budget for requirements to comply with this instruction.

(3) Communicate routine, as well as critical drinking water matters to CNIC HQ in a timely manner.

(4) Provide consultation on policy, technical, budgetary and other drinking water matters to the IDWC.

(5) Compile installation compliance data, as part of the annual Environmental Management Reviews (EMR) data call, for CNIC HQ to review and include in higher headquarters reporting as required.

(6) Review installation drinking water inventories and submit updates to CNIC HQ annually.

(7) Provide immediate (no later than 24 hours from discovery), effective consultation and guidance to IDWCs, and other stakeholders for matters that have the potential to threaten public health. This includes violations of primary drinking water standards, or matters with the potential to significantly impact the delivery of safe, fully compliant drinking water or other matters that negatively impact the military mission including contamination events that do not necessarily fall under normal required sampling and Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) exceedances (e.g., fuel contamination, saltwater intrusion).

(8) Report and document compliance with this instruction and reference (a) and all applicable Federal, State, and local drinking water regulations through annual self-assessments of drinking water systems.

(9) Ensure compliance with the training requirements outlined in this instruction.

(10) Track all open sanitary survey findings, EMS audit findings, and applicable findings from utilities inspections (i.e., utilities system assessments) specific to drinking water and ensure installations are implementing required corrective action plans.

(a) Update corrective action status of all sanitary survey findings identified by CNIC during Navy-led sanitary surveys on the CNIC-maintained Navy SharePoint POAM webpage on at least a quarterly basis and in coordination with IDWCs.

(b) Utilize the Navy SharePoint POAM webpage to upload and maintain all non-CNIC sanitary survey findings in coordination with CNIC HQ, and review and update the corrective action status of these sanitary survey findings on the POAM webpage in coordination with IDWCs on at least a quarterly basis to ensure all information is up to date. While not required, EMS audit findings may be tracked within the POAM webpage in addition to EMSWeb if desired.

(11) Submit Regional Update briefs summarizing current NOV's, funding status, consent orders (e.g., FFCAs), corrective action status, progress on closure of open sanitary survey findings, EMS audit findings, public notifications and public education outreach, CCRs, and any other relevant drinking water issues and updates to CNIC HQ virtually on a semi-annual basis.

(12) Ensure installation completion of annual ERP TTXs and submit all After Action Reports (AARs) and Improvement Plans (IPs) for each TTX to CNIC HQ by the end of the fiscal year.

(13) Ensure all records created as a result of this instruction, including RDWC meeting minutes, are managed in accordance with paragraph 6 and reference (c) and retained in an accessible location for current and future personnel, and can be provided to CNIC HQ upon request.

d. Installation Commanding Officers (ICOs) will:

(1) Establish and Chair the IDWC (non-delegable) and conduct routine business to ensure program compliance, communication to stakeholders, and reporting to the RDWC and CNIC HQ. Each U.S. Navy installation will establish a Navy IDWC. Standing membership will include, at a minimum:

(a) Installation Public Works Officer (PWO)

(b) Installation Environmental Division Director

(c) Installation Production Division Director (Facilities Sustainment and Utilities Services)

- (d) BUMED designated Preventive Medicine SME to support the installation
 - (e) Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) for Treatment and Distribution
 - (f) Installation PAO
 - (g) Installation N9/N93 (if applicable)
 - (h) Drinking Water system operations/maintenance MUIC holders and other drinking water stakeholders (if applicable)
- (2) Convene meetings with all IDWC members at least quarterly to discuss drinking water quality matters and document with official meeting minutes. For consecutive water systems, owners and operators from the local utility provider must be invited to participate in the IDWC but cannot be required to do so. As applicable Other ad hoc members may be invited to participate in IDWC meetings when needed.
- (3) Assess, on at least an annual basis, IDWC membership to determine whether additional stakeholders should participate on the committee, including (but not limited to) commands and organizations operating industrial facilities that utilize hazardous substances with the potential to impact drinking water quality.
- (4) Conduct semi-annual visits to applicable water treatment plants, distribution systems, pump stations, well houses, or other water system components in coordination with the PWO and discuss observations with the IDWC.
- (5) Assign the installation PWO as the lead for the IDWC and overall responsible authority for the Installation's drinking water program/systems.
- e. IDWC, with primary oversight responsibility by PWO, will:
- (1) Implement and comply with this instruction.
 - (2) Program and budget for requirements to comply with this instruction and other Navy drinking water requirements. Execute and track execution of drinking water requirements to meet prescribed timelines.
 - (3) Communicate and report routine drinking water issues to the RDWC and critical drinking water matters, such as violations of primary drinking water standards or matters that may significantly impact public health or mission, to CNIC HQ via the RDWC.
 - (4) Ensure consistent and frequent communications between the IDWC and the non-Navy water purveyor for systems where the Navy is not the purveyor.

(5) Support the RDWC in developing semi-annual briefs summarizing current NOV's, funding status, consent orders (e.g., FFCAs), corrective action status, progress on closure of open sanitary survey findings, EMS audit findings, public notifications and public education outreach, CCRs, and any other relevant drinking water issues.

(6) Determine when drinking water systems are out of compliance with any applicable Federal, State, and local drinking water standards and conduct any required public notification in consultation with CNIC HQ, the RDWC and NMCFHPC.

(7) Submit end of fiscal year compliance data, as part of the annual EMR data call, to the RDWC for reporting to higher HQ as needed.

(8) Provide annual updates to the installation drinking water inventory for region review and submission to CNIC HQ.

(9) Plan, conduct, and assess an annual TTX of an installation water system (at least one or more) as outlined in the installation's ERP(s) in coordination with installation Emergency Management staff, similar to how Black Start exercises are conducted. For each exercise, submit an AAR and IP upon completion to CNIC HQ via the RDWC by the end of the fiscal year. Installation ERPs must account for all water systems and must be updated every five years at a minimum. If any issues or weaknesses in the ERP are identified during the annual TTX (e.g., procedures, roles and responsibilities, training), the IDWC must include a corrective action plan within the IP to update the ERP to address these issues within three months of the TTX. Installations must use the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Tabletop Exercise Tool for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities (TTX Tool) (<https://www.epa.gov/waterresiliencetraining/develop-and-conduct-water-resilience-tabletop-exercise-water-utilities>), which provides users with the resources to plan, conduct and evaluate tabletop exercises that focus on water sector-related incidents and challenges.

(10) Track all open sanitary survey and EMS audit findings specific to drinking water and implement corrective action plans in coordination with the RDWC.

(a) Update corrective action status of all sanitary survey findings identified by CNIC during Navy-led sanitary surveys on the CNIC-maintained Navy SharePoint POAM webpage on at least a quarterly basis and in coordination with the RDWC.

(b) Review and update the corrective action status of non-CNIC sanitary survey findings on the Navy SharePoint POAM webpage in coordination with the RDWC on at least a quarterly basis to ensure all information is up to date. EMS audit findings may be tracked within the POAM webpage in addition to EMSWeb.

(11) Provide alternative drinking water supplies in consultation with NMCFHPC when required (i.e., in the event of an exceedance of an MCL, action level, health advisory level, or other drinking water standard) per reference (a).

(12) Upon discovering a violation of primary drinking water requirements, or of a drinking water issue that has the potential to threaten public health, including contamination events that do not necessarily fall under normal required sampling and MCL exceedances ((e.g., fuel contamination, saltwater intrusion), IDWC members will notify the ICO immediately, and other key IDWC members including the BUMED designated Preventive Medicine SME. The RDWC must also immediately be notified thereafter (no later than 24 hours from discovery), along with notifications to applicable Federal, State, and local regulators as required.

(13) In coordination with NMCFHPC and the RDWC, provide targeted and effective health risk communications early and continuously to consumers as new and credible information becomes available for any drinking water quality matters that may pose a significant long-term health risk as defined by reference (b).

(14) Ensure compliance with the training requirements outlined in this instruction.

(15) Evaluate compliance with this instruction, reference (a) and all applicable Federal, State, and local drinking water regulations by conducting annual self-assessments of all drinking water systems using the criteria using the U.S. Navy Drinking Water System Self-Assessment Checklist located at <https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/mcas-gov.us/sites/CNICHQ/ODW/>.

(16) Ensure all water systems, including consecutive systems with distribution only, maintain qualified ORCs.

(17) Support individual meetings with the RDWC and CNIC N4 regarding identified elevated-risk systems, as needed.

(18) Ensure all records created as a result of this instruction, including IDWC meeting minutes, are managed in accordance with paragraph 6 and reference (c) and retained in an accessible location for current and future personnel, public and can be provided to CNIC HQ upon request.

f. NAVFAC will:

(1) Provide all required PW and EV technical systems command support in order to ensure safe and fully compliant drinking water as per this instruction and reference (a).

(2) Coordinate Drinking Water actions with CNIC and BUMED technical staffs.

g. BUMED. Provide public health drinking water support and consultation to CNIC HQ, REGCOMs, and ICOs as required by references (a) and (d).

h. ORCs for Treatment and Distribution will:

(1) Directly operate, maintain, repair, manage, and oversee the drinking water treatment plant and distribution system (including cross connection and backflow prevention equipment under the jurisdiction of the utilities management business line) to ensure that water is safe, aesthetically pleasing, and meets operational and mission needs and requirements at all times.

(2) Achieve and maintain appropriate operator certification via state certification programs or equivalent.

(3) Maintain operator logs and site logbooks.

(4) Notify the IDWC of exceedance(s) and outages as soon as they are discovered.

(5) Review, understand, and comply with all drinking water standard operating procedures.

6. Records Management

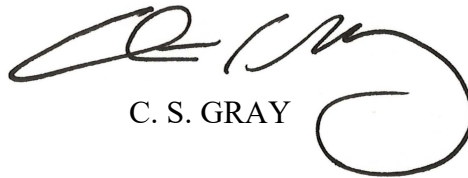
a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnave.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

7. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, CNIC (NX) will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40, Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years unless revised or cancelled in the interim and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9.

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Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via CNIC SharePoint, <https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/CNICGlobalHub/directives/>.