



UTAH DEPARTMENT of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**DRINKING
WATER**

DRINKING WATER BUILDING BLOCK REQUEST 2020



Sandy City Fluoride Event 2019

- Fluoride event lasted 44 hours
- Consistent exposure for 24 hours
- Peak delivered: 100 times maximum allowed
- Homes exposed to elevated fluoride levels: 270
- Illnesses reported: 350
- Secondary event triggered
 - Lead: 394 $\mu\text{g/L}$
(Action level: 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$)
 - Copper: 28,800 $\mu\text{g/L}$
(Action level: 1,300 $\mu\text{g/L}$)



A Salt Lake County Health Department employee takes water samples from homes in the affected area in Sandy on February 18, 2019

Near-Miss Utah Events

- 30 cases of *Legionella*, preventable, waterborne pneumonia
- 65 boil orders
- 16 chemical spills
- 30 severe operational failures
- 30 documented contamination events
- Security events, consumer complaints, natural disasters, *Giardia* case

**Statistically 1 event
every other day**



Price River Oil Spill, July 2018

We don't take it for granted



What Does DDW Do?

Safeguard the quality and quantity of Utah's drinking water through balanced regulation.

Provide consistent protection against drinking water risks to every resident throughout the state.



How Do We Do It?

- Implement and Enforce the Safe Drinking Water Act
- Inspections and Sampling
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Engineering Reviews
- Public Information

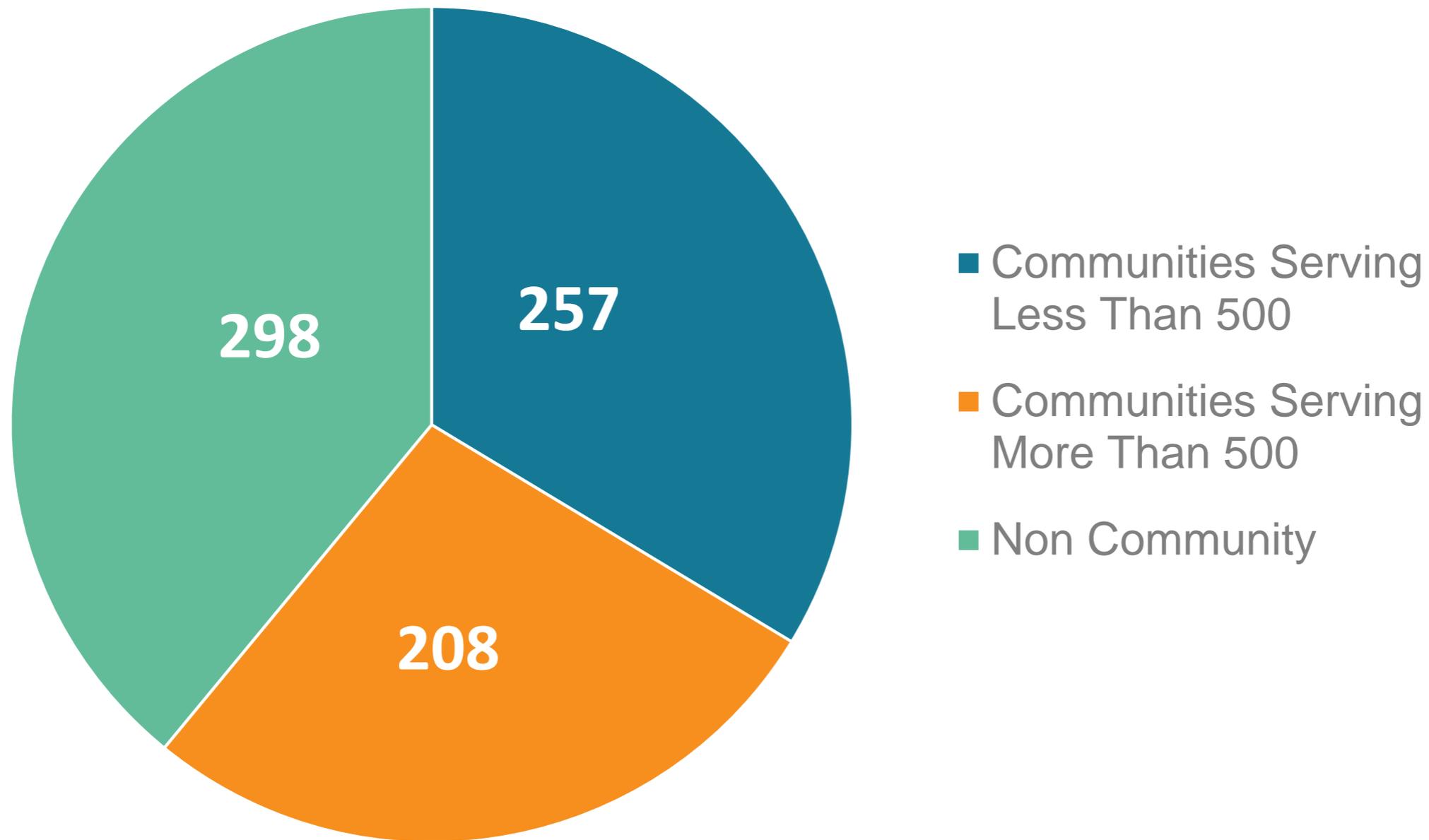


Jordan Valley Water Treatment Plant

What Are We Facing?



Known Infrastructure Risks



350,000 Utahns receive drinking water with a known, fixable risk

Examples

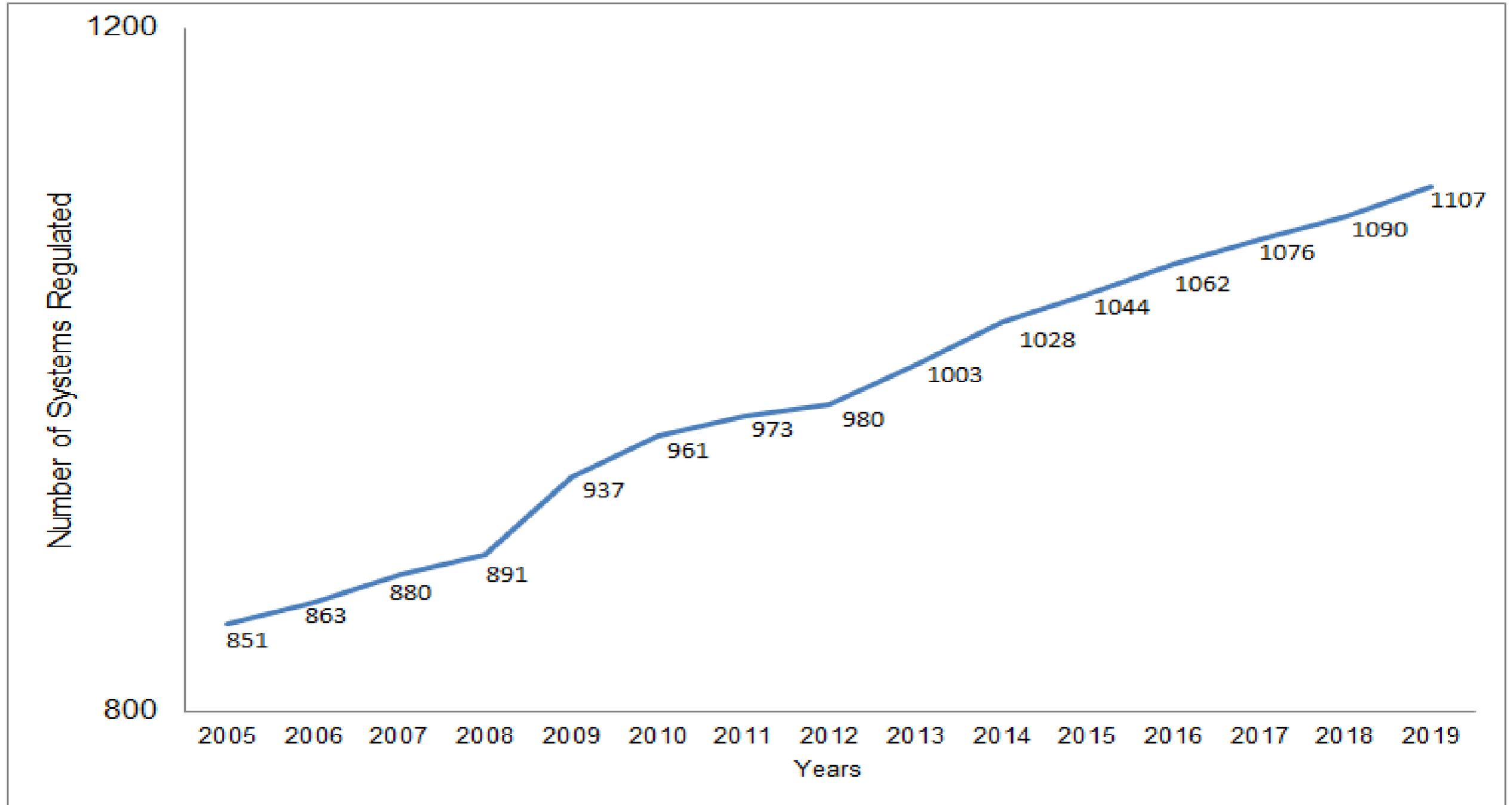


Cedar City, Iron County

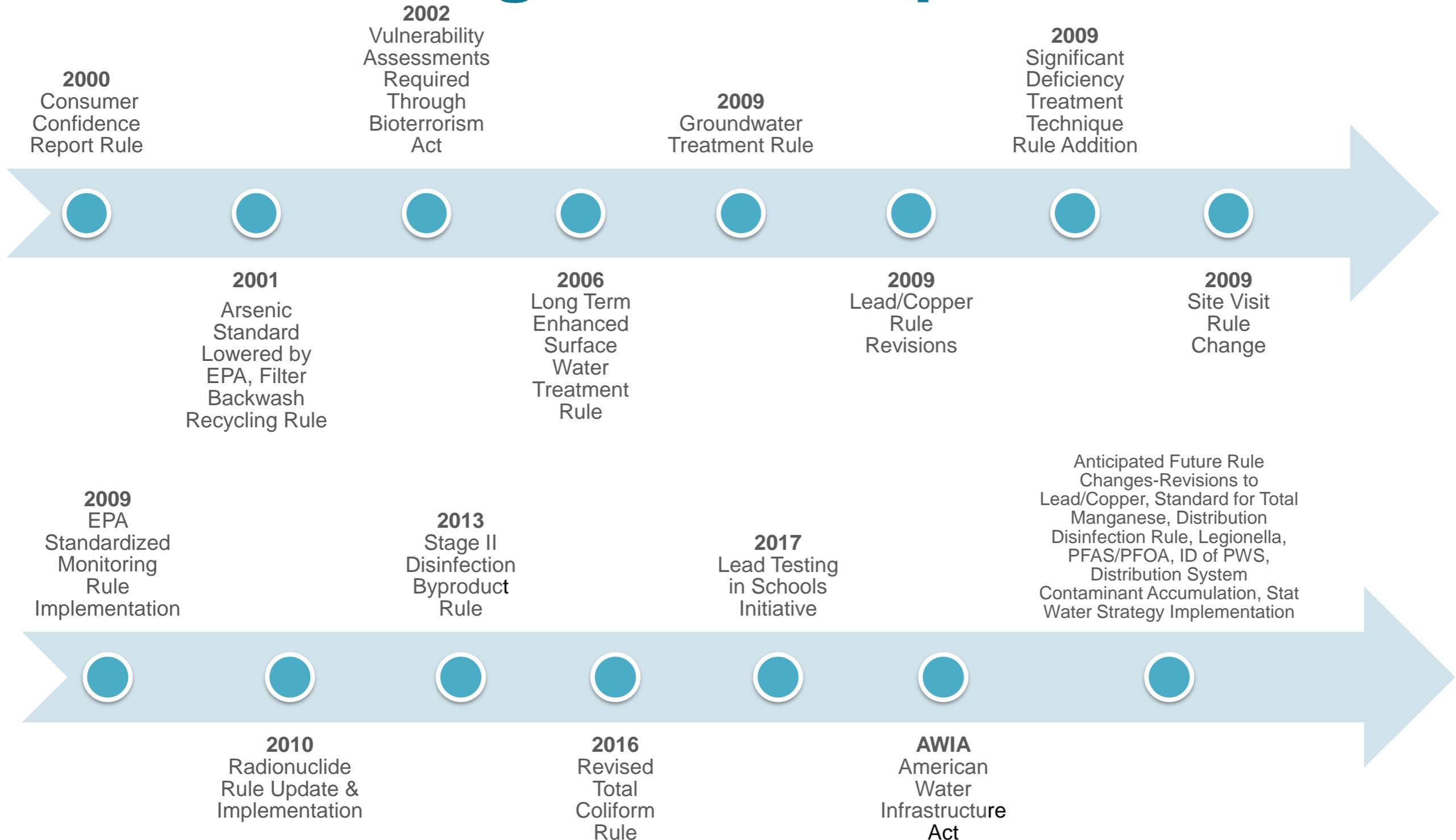


Gunlock, Washington County

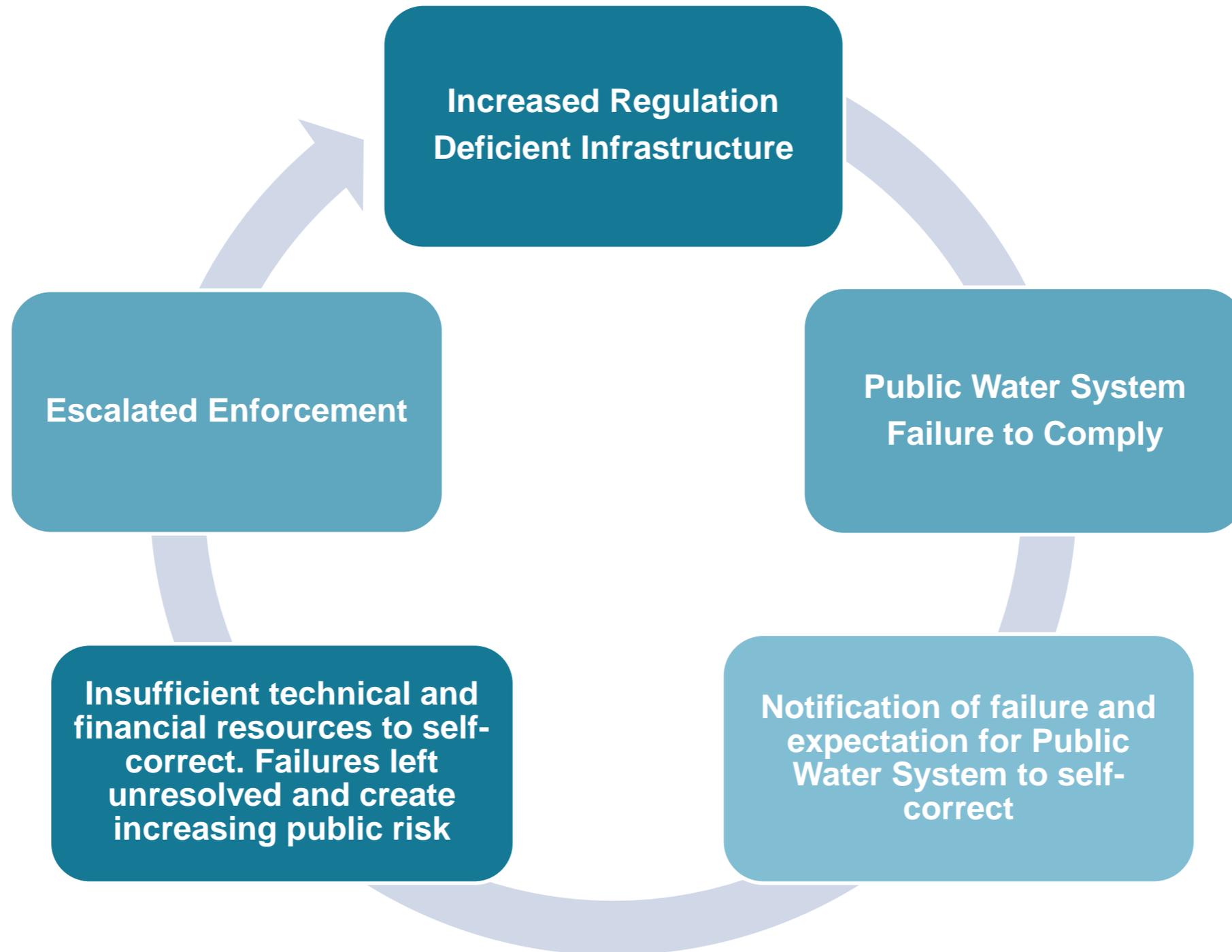
Regulated Public Water Systems



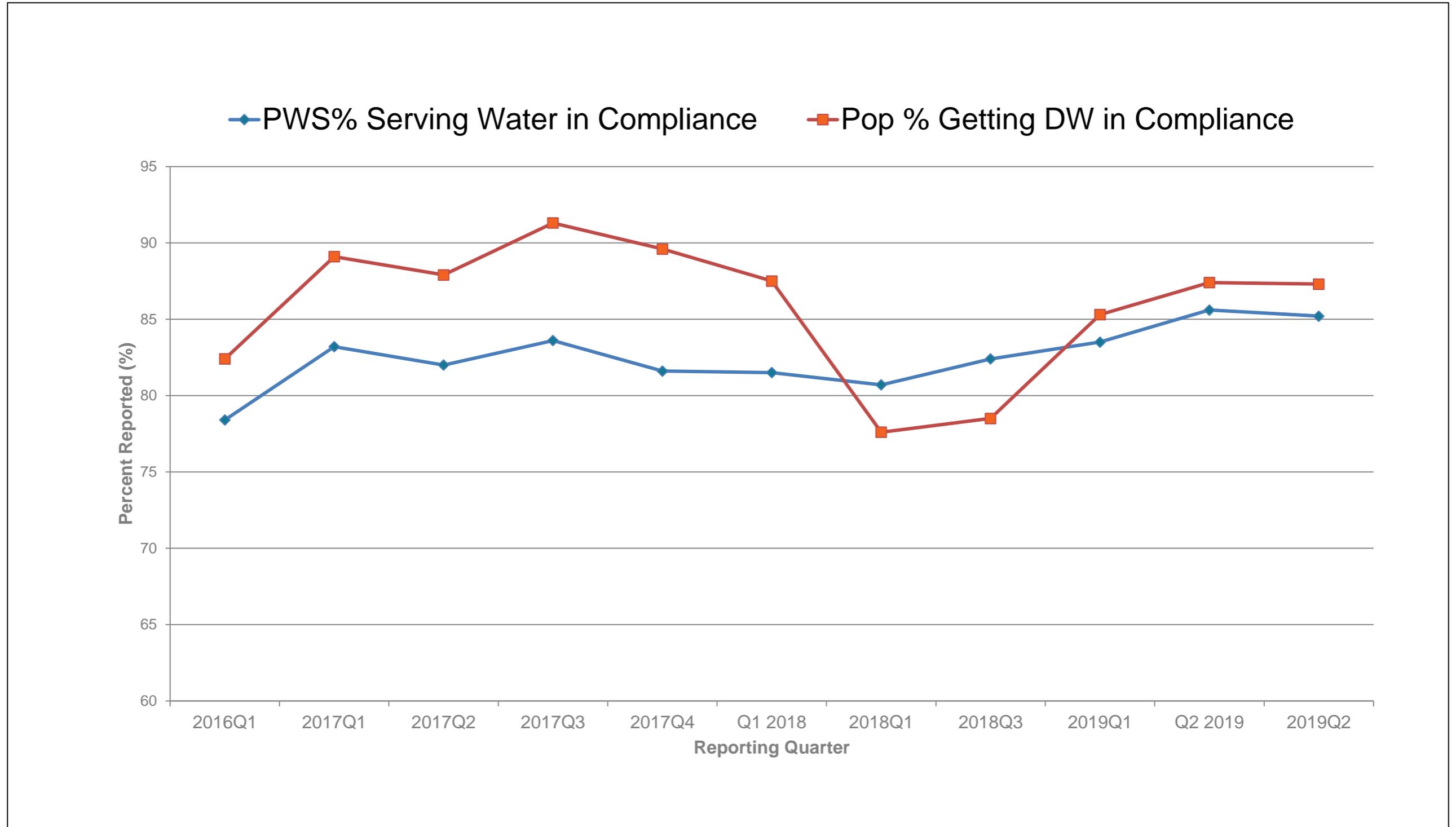
New Drinking Water Requirements



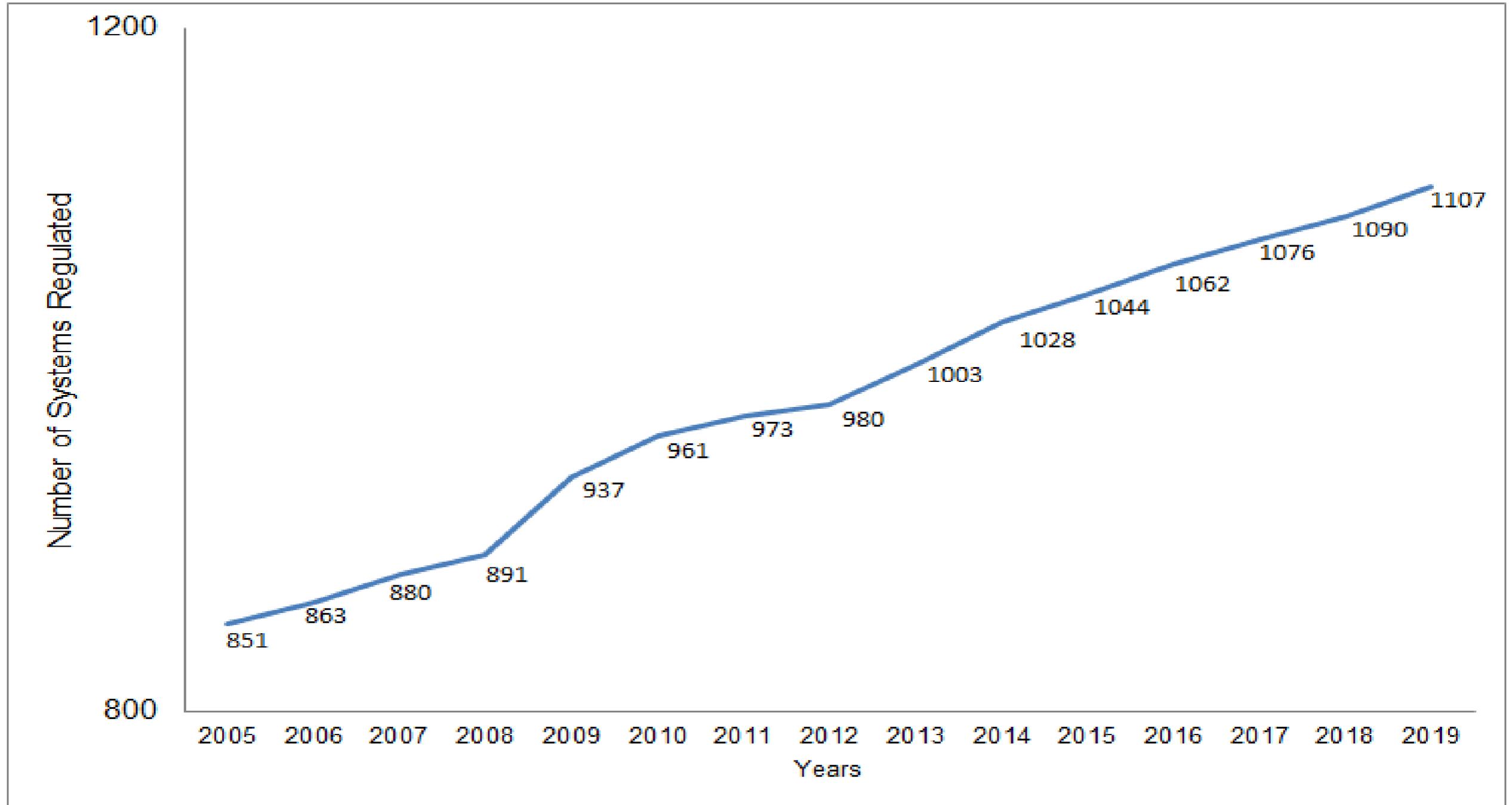
The Vicious Cycle of Noncompliance



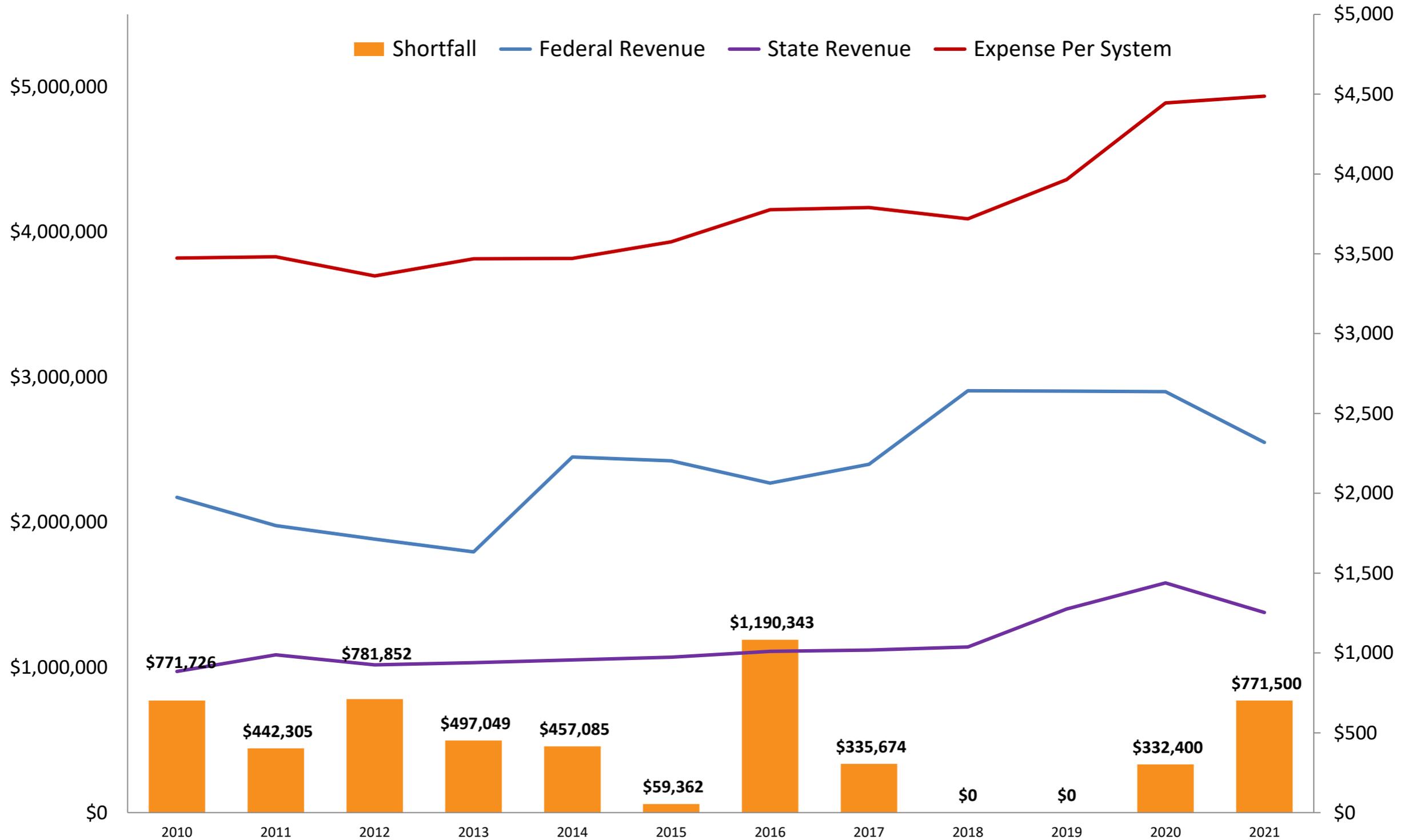
Performance Measures



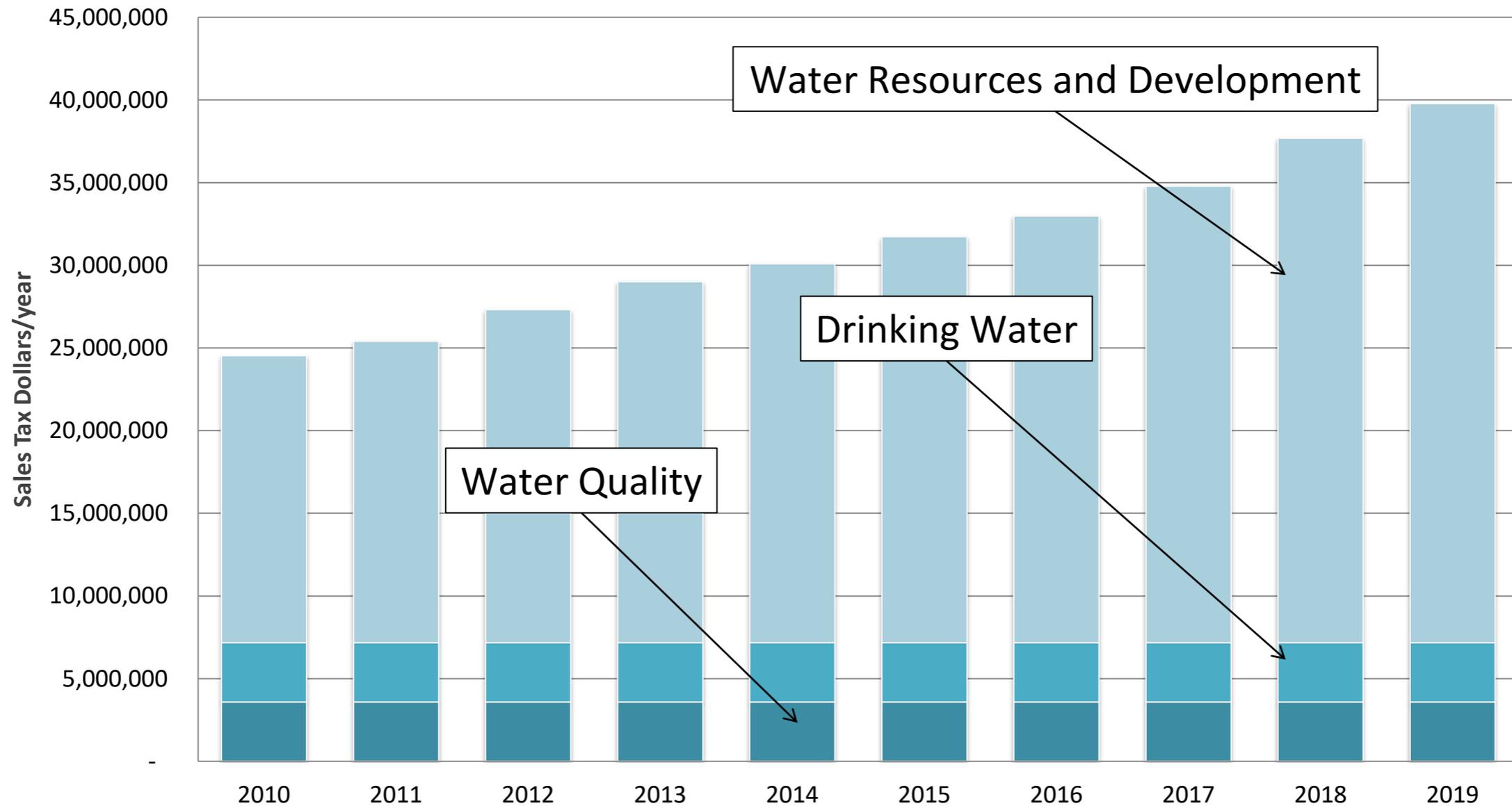
Regulated Public Water Systems



Funding Sources and Shortfall



State Water Infrastructure Investment

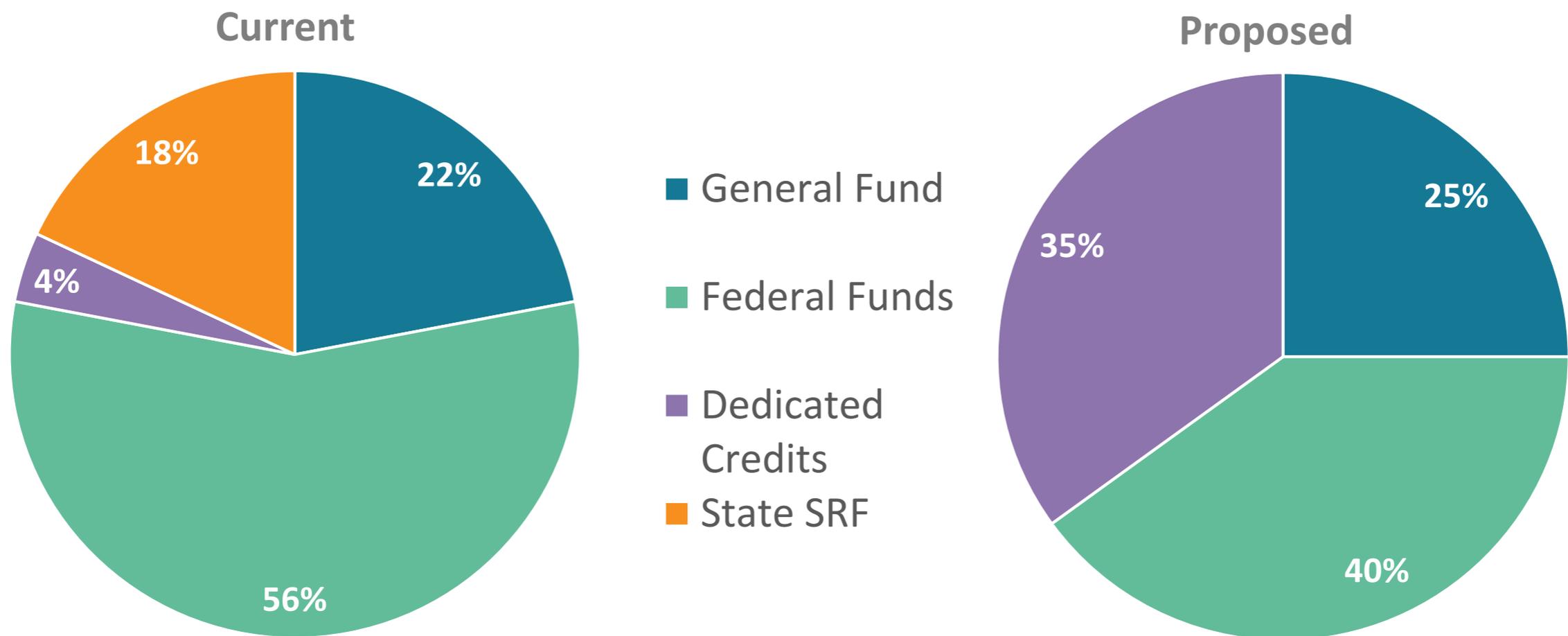


Legislative request: Consider all water infrastructure needs in planning for growth.

Opportunity to Rebalance Revenue

Requesting \$2,500,000 Annually for 5 years

- Temporary influx of resources to incorporate fee-based revenue.



- Benefits: Creates revenue stability tie to Utah's growth incorporates user-pay strategy

Bridge to Fee-Based Model

Modernize Permitting Process: \$800,000



- Total permit need: 5,000
- Permits currently not re-evaluated
- Institute Permit Renewal Fee: \$500 to \$3000

Benefits

- Ability to implement fee on permits once set up to make program self-funded



Additional Benefits

Increased Technical Assistance: \$700,000

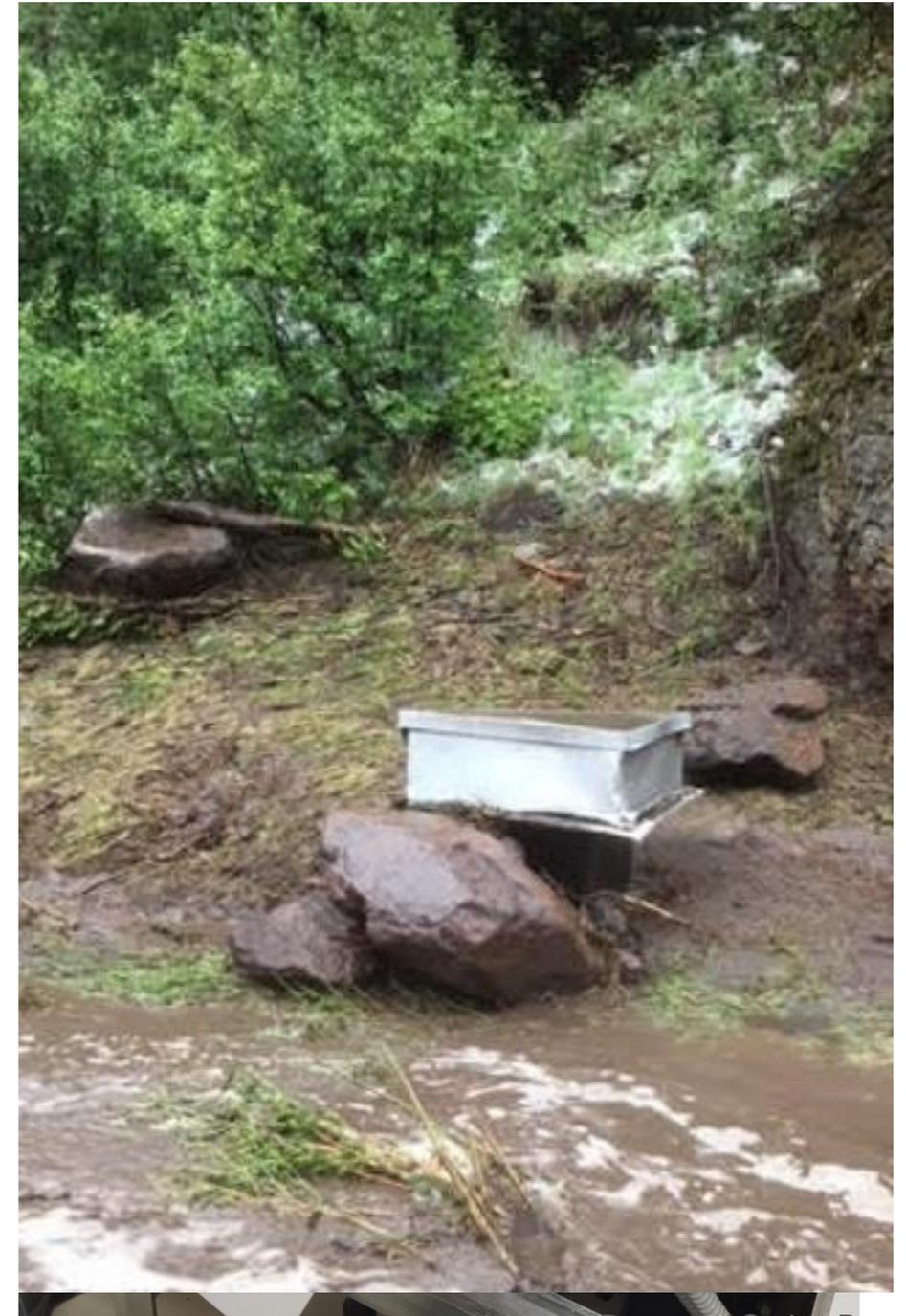
- Over 70 samples triggered assessments
- 100 response events per year
- Need: staff, equipment, sampling fund

Compliance Inspection Upgrades: \$500,000

- Address 20% backlog
- Provide consistency
- Need: staff, training, inspector validation

Partnering Incentive Program: \$700,000

- Encourage and assist the formation of local partnerships
- Increase resource sharing in rural Utah
- Increase system sustainability and competency
- Need: stakeholder development, assistance fund



Price River Damaged Spring Box
Panguitch City, Garfield County

*Your constituents expect safe drinking water
at all taps at all times*

