

National Rural Water Association and WaterISAC Collaborate to Benefit Small Water Utilities Nationwide

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Washington, D.C. – Today, the <u>National Rural Water Association</u> (NRWA) and <u>Water</u> <u>Information Sharing and Analysis Center</u> (WaterISAC) announced a formal cybersecurity collaboration. With this partnership, WaterISAC and NRWA will work to educate rural utilities across the country about cyber and physical security issues and how they can become more resilient.

"NRWA is dedicated to fully supporting our members in all aspects of providing safe and clean water to their communities. This partnership will bring even more resources to our smallest members, who often have the fewest resources to combat cyber and physical security threats," said NRWA Chief Executive Officer Matt Holmes.

"WaterISAC is honored to work with an association the caliber of the NRWA to help its members enhance their cyber and physical security. As we have seen in recent months, threat actors are attacking physically and especially via the internet, the operations of utilities of all kinds around the country," added Tom Dobbins, Executive Director of WaterISAC.

The agreement covers approximately 25,000 members of NRWA who service populations of 3,300 or fewer. "While NRWA currently provides cyber and physical security training to

small water utilities, this collaboration will bring even more resources and expertise to our members," said NRWA President John O'Connell.

John Sullivan, Chairman of the WaterISAC Board of Managers, added, "WaterISAC is pleased to be able to bring its wealth of information and resources to our nation's smallest water utilities, as it has done for over 20 years for our largest utilities."

Eligible NRWA members will receive WaterISAC's Security Resilience Update (SRU). This twice-weekly newsletter is the water sector's most comprehensive information source on cyber and physical threats to its utilities. In addition, those members will also have access to WaterISAC's monthly Threat Briefing webinars and its extensive Resource Center, in addition to access to WaterISAC's H2OSecCon conferences at the member rate.

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The National Rural Water Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to training, supporting, and promoting the water and wastewater professionals that serve small and rural communities across the country.

NRWA provides nationwide training and technical assistance through its affiliated State Rural Water Associations that currently have over 30.000 utility system members. Rural Water training and technical assistance covers every aspect of operating, managing, and financing water and wastewater utilities.

WaterISAC is the most comprehensive and targeted single-point source for data, facts, case studies, and analysis on water security and threats from intentional contamination, terrorism, and cyber crime. WaterISAC also provides analysis and resources to support response, mitigation, and resilience initiatives.

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