# EPA 2020 COVID-19 WATER SECTOR SURVEY

**Appendix B: Questionnaire** 

June 2021



810-R-21-001

## **EPA COVID-19 Water Sector Survey**

# Transcription of questionnaire fielded electronically October-December 2020

#### A. DEMOGRAPHICS

A. Please start by providing some basic demographic information.

Organization name and (if applicable) identifier: [Organization Name]
Organization type: [ORG TYPE: either community water system, wastewater system, or American Indian or Alaska Native Village utility]

- A1. Please select the primary location of your operations. [drop-down menu of states and territories]
- A2. Please tell us the approximate number of customers your [Organization Type] serves (the number of people, not the number of connections). [The next sentence to be inserted only for surveys going to community water systems (not wastewater facilities or AI/ANV utilities)] Include both those you serve directly and (if applicable) those who receive treated drinking water produced by you and resold by other systems. (Enter a number) [FIELD FOR NUMERICAL ANSWER]

#### B. SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

B. In this section of the survey, we'd like to know about your experiences and concerns involving COVID-19-related shortages and supply chain disruptions.

B1. What kinds of shortages or supply chain disruptions did your [Organization Type] experience from January 2020 through present day? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Treatment chemicals (e.g., sodium hypochlorite, lime)   |
|---|---|
| 0 | Personal protective equipment (e.g., masks, gloves)   |
| 0 | Durable goods, other critical equipment and supplies (e.g., pipes, fuel, filter media), and other items |
| 0 | None  |

B1.1.1 [If "Treatment chemicals" was selected in B1] How severe were the <u>treatment chemical</u> shortages or supply chain disruptions that you experienced from January 2020 through present day?

| Item                       | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID-<br>19 | Slight (did<br>not<br>compromise<br>operations) | Moderate<br>(required<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe<br>(affected<br>service<br>delivery) |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Carbon dioxide             | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Ferric chloride            | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Fluoride                   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Gaseous chlorine           | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Liquid oxygen              | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Lime                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Orthophosphate             | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Polymers                   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Potassium permanganate     | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Sodium hydroxide           | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Sodium hypochlorite        | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |

B1.1.2. [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.1.1] What contributed to each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Unavailable<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation /<br>distribution<br>difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.1.1] | 0                                  | 0   | 0  | 0     | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

B1.1.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.1.1] How did you address each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Found<br>alternative<br>supplier | Drew<br>down<br>existing<br>inventory | Switched chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Sought help<br>from<br>neighboring<br>utilities or<br>mutual aid<br>network<br>(e.g., WARN) | Coordinated with local or state emergency management agency | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.1.1] | 0                                | 0                                     | 0   | 0   | 0   | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

B1.1.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B1.1.3] What did you switch to?

|  | Switched to:     |
|--|------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.1.3] | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

B1.2.1 [If "Personal protective equipment" was selected in B1] How severe were the <u>personal</u> <u>protective equipment</u> shortages or supply chain disruptions that you experienced from January 2020 through present day?

| ltem   | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID-<br>19 | Slight (did not compromise operations) | Moderate<br>(required<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe<br>(affected<br>service<br>delivery) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| N95 masks and/or elastomeric respirators         | 0                                    | 0                                      | 0  | 0   |
| Alternative mask options (surgical, cloth, etc.) | 0                                    | 0                                      | 0  | 0   |
| Face shield and/or protective eye wear           | 0                                    | 0                                      | 0  | 0   |
| Nitrile and/or latex gloves                      | 0                                    | 0                                      | 0  | 0   |
| Tyvek suite and/or disposable coveralls          | 0                                    | 0                                      | 0  | 0   |

| Sanitizing wipes, sprays for cleaning work offices, or | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| gels for hand sanitizing                               |   |   |   |   |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# B1.2.2 [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.2.1] What contributed to each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Unavailable<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation /<br>distribution<br>difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.2.1] | 0                                  | 0   | 0  | 0     | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

# B1.2.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.2.1] How did you address each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Found<br>alternative<br>supplier | Drew<br>down<br>existing<br>inventory | Switched chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Sought help<br>from<br>neighboring<br>utilities or<br>mutual aid<br>network<br>(e.g., WARN) | Coordinated with local or state emergency management agency | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.2.1] | 0                                | 0                                     | 0   | 0   | 0   | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

# B1.2.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B1.1.3] What did you switch to?

|                           | Switched to:     |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| [options based on answers |                  |
| given to B1.2.3]          | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

B1.3.1 [If "Durable goods..." was selected in B1] How severe were the shortages or supply chain disruptions involving <u>durable goods and other critical equipment and supplies, etc.</u> that you experienced from January 2020 through present day?

| Item   | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID-<br>19 | Slight (did<br>not<br>compromise<br>operations) | Moderate<br>(required<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe<br>(affected<br>service<br>delivery) |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Filter media                                     | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Granular / Powdered Activated Carbon (GAC / PAC) | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Membrane modules                                 | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Pumps  | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Motors   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Pipes  | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Valves   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Fuel   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Vehicles   | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                       | 0                                    | 0   | 0  | 0   |

B1.3.2 [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.3.1] What contributed to each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Unavailable<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation /<br>distribution<br>difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.3.1] | 0                                  | 0   | 0  | 0     | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

B1.3.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B1.3.1] How did you address each shortage or supply chain disruption? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Found<br>alternative<br>supplier | Drew<br>down<br>existing<br>inventory | Switched chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Sought help<br>from<br>neighboring<br>utilities or<br>mutual aid<br>network<br>(e.g., WARN) | Coordinated with local or state emergency management agency | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.3.1] | 0                                | 0                                     | 0   | 0   | 0   | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]       |

B1.3.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B1.3.3] What did you switch to?

|  | Switched to:     |
|--|------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B1.3.3] | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

B2. What kinds of potential shortages or supply chain disruptions is your [Organization Type] most concerned about from **present day through December 2020**? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Treatment chemical shortages (e.g., sodium hypochlorite, lime)  |
|---|---|
| 0 | Personal protective equipment shortages (e.g., masks, gloves)   |
| 0 | Durable goods, other critical equipment and supplies (e.g., pipes, fuel, filter media), and other items |
| 0 | None  |

B2.1.1. [If "Treatment chemicals" was selected in B2] How severe are your concerns about <a href="treatment chemical">treatment chemical</a> shortages or supply chain disruptions from **present day to December 2020?** 

| Item                       | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID-<br>19 | Slight (not likely to compromise operations) | Moderate<br>(could<br>require<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe (could affect service delivery) |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Carbon dioxide             | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Ferric chloride            | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Fluoride                   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Gaseous chlorine           | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Liquid oxygen              | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Lime                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Orthophosphate             | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Polymers                   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Potassium permanganate     | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Sodium hydroxide           | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Sodium hypochlorite        | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |

B2.1.2. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.1.1] For each item, what are you most concerned about from **present day to December 2020?** (select all that apply)

| Item             | Unavailable<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation / distribution difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based   |                                    |   |  |       | [TEXT                        |
| on answers       | 0                                  | 0   | 0  | 0     | ENTRY                        |
| given to B2.1.1] |                                    |   |  |       | BOX]                         |

B2.1.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.1.1] What steps <u>have you taken or are you taking</u> to prepare for potential shortages and supply chain disruptions? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Seek<br>alternative<br>suppliers | Increase purchasing / maintain a larger than typical inventory | Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Make arrangements with neighboring utilities or mutual aid networks (e.g., WARN) | Other<br>(please<br>specify |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|--|-----------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.1.1] | 0                                | 0  | 0   | 0  | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]      |

B2.1.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B2.1.3] What are you switching to?

|  | Switching to:    |
|--|------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.1.3] | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

B2.2.1. [If "Personal protective equipment" was selected in B2] How severe are your concerns about <u>personal protective equipment</u> shortages or supply chain disruptions from **present day to December 2020?** 

|  | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID- | Slight (not likely to compromise | Moderate<br>(could<br>require<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of | Severe (could affect service |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| N95 masks and/or                                 | <b>19</b>                      | operations)                      | service)   | delivery)                    |
| elastomeric respirators                          |                                | 0                                | 0  | 0                            |
| Alternative mask options (surgical, cloth, etc.) | 0                              | 0                                | 0  | 0                            |
| Face shield and/or protective eye wear           | 0                              | 0                                | 0  | 0                            |
| Nitrile and/or latex gloves                      | 0                              | 0                                | 0  | 0                            |

| Tyvek suite and/or             | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| disposable coveralls           |   |   |   |   |
| Sanitizing wipes, sprays for   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| cleaning work offices, or gels |   |   |   |   |
| for hand sanitizing            |   |   |   |   |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]     | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]     | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]     | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]     | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]     | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

B2.2.2. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.2.1] For each item, what are you most concerned about from **present day to December 2020?** (select all that apply)

| Item                      | Unavailable<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation / distribution difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based on answers | 0                                  | 0   | 0  | 0     | [TEXT<br>ENTRY               |
| given to B2.2.1]          |                                    |   |  |       | BOX]                         |

B2.2.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.2.1] What steps <u>have you taken or are you taking</u> to prepare for potential shortages and supply chain disruptions? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Seek<br>alternative<br>suppliers | Increase purchasing / maintain a larger than typical inventory | Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Make arrangements with neighboring utilities or mutual aid networks (e.g., WARN) | Other<br>(please<br>specify<br>) |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.2.1] | 0                                | 0  | 0   | 0  | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]           |

# B2.2.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B2.1.3] What are you switching to?

| Item                                       | Switching to:    |
|--|------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.2.3] | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

B2.3.1. [If "Durable goods..." was selected in B2] How severe are your concerns about shortages or supply chain disruptions involving <u>durable goods and other critical equipment and supplies, etc.</u> from **present day to December 2020?** 

| Item   | No<br>impact<br>from<br>COVID-<br>19 | Slight (not likely to compromise operations) | Moderate<br>(could<br>require<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe (could affect service delivery) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Filter media   | 0                                    | O  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)/ Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC) | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Membrane modules   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Pumps  | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Motors   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Pipes  | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Valves   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Fuel   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Vehicles   | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 3 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 4 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |
| Other – 5 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                                       | 0                                    | 0  | 0  | 0                                      |

B2.3.2. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.3.1] For each item, what are you most concerned about from **present day to December 2020?** (select all that apply)

| Item             | Unavailable from supplier(s) | Delayed /<br>backordered<br>from<br>supplier(s) | Transportation / distribution difficulties | Price | Other<br>(please<br>specify) |
|------------------|------------------------------|---|--|-------|------------------------------|
| [options based   |                              |   |  |       | [TEXT                        |
| on answers       | 0                            | 0   | 0  | 0     | ENTRY                        |
| given to B2.3.1] |                              |   |  |       | BOX]                         |

B2.3.3. [If at least one positive answer was given in B2.3.1] What steps have you taken or are you taking to prepare for potential shortages and supply chain disruptions? (select all that apply)

| Item                                       | Seek<br>alternative<br>suppliers | Increase purchasing / maintain a larger than typical inventory | Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies | Make arrangements with neighboring utilities or mutual aid networks (e.g., WARN) | Other<br>(please<br>specify<br>) |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.3.1] | 0                                | 0  | 0   | 0  | [TEXT<br>ENTRY<br>BOX]           |

B2.3.4. [If "Switch chemicals, procedures, or technologies" selected in B2.3.3] What are you switching to?

| Item                                       | Switched to:     |
|--|------------------|
| [options based on answers given to B2.3.3] | [TEXT ENTRY BOX] |

- B3. Has your [Organization Type] made any requests for personnel, supplies, or equipment to your tribal, local, or state emergency operations center (EOC), primacy agency, or similar organization?
  - 1. Yes, and the request was entirely fulfilled.
  - 2. Yes, and the request was partly fulfilled.
  - 3. Yes, but the request was overlooked or not fulfilled.
  - 4. No, support was not needed.
  - 5. No, but we would have made a request for support if the option had been available to us or if we had known about it in time
  - 6. Do not know
- B4. Is there anything else you would like to add about supply chain issues, or to explain how you developed your answers? [TEXT ENTRY BOX]

### C. WORKFORCE ISSUES

C. Next, we would like to identify and understand concerns about COVID-19-related workforce issues.

C1. To what extent did your [Organization Type] experience shortages of key personnel, including contractors performing critical functions to maintain operations, from January 2020 through present day? (Depending on your browser, you may need to scroll to the right to see all options.)

| Personnel type   | No<br>shortage<br>at all | Slight<br>shortage<br>(did not<br>compromise<br>operations) | Moderate shortage (required operational changes to maintain a constant level of service) | Severe<br>shortage<br>(affected<br>service<br>delivery) | Do not<br>know |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|---|----------------|
| Licensed or certified drinking water and/or wastewater operators | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Laboratory technicians / sample analysts                         | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Field workers (meter reading, sampling, maintenance, etc.)       | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Engineering / design / construction personnel                    | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Critical equipment repair  | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Administrative   | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Customer service   | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Other [TEXT ENTRY BOX]   | 0                        | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0              |

C2. To what extent do you expect to experience shortages of key personnel, including contractors performing critical functions to maintain operations, from **present day through December 2020?** (Depending on your browser, you may need to scroll to the right to see all options.)

| Personnel type   | No<br>shortage<br>at all | Slight<br>shortage<br>(not likely<br>to<br>compromise<br>operations) | Moderate<br>shortage<br>(could<br>require<br>operational<br>changes to<br>maintain a<br>constant<br>level of<br>service) | Severe<br>shortage<br>(could<br>affect<br>service<br>delivery) | Do not<br>know |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Licensed or certified drinking water and/or wastewater operators | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Laboratory technicians / sample analysts                         | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Field workers (meter reading, sampling, maintenance, etc.)       | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Engineering / design / construction personnel                    | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Critical equipment repair  | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Administrative   | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Customer service   | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |
| Other [TEXT ENTRY BOX]   | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0              |

C3. [To be asked if respondents select slight, moderate, or severe for any personnel type in questions C1 or C2.] What factors contribute to personnel shortages you identified on the previous page? (Check all that apply)

|   | Does not contribute | Contributes somewhat | Contributes significantly | Do not<br>know |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Absenteeism (illness, care of family    |                     |                      |                           |                |
| members, daycare closure, virtual       | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| schooling, etc.)                        |                     |                      |                           |                |
| Layoffs or furloughs                    | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Reduced work hours of current staff     | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Delayed or canceled plans to hire staff | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Lack of backup certified personnel      | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Operators unable to obtain or           |                     |                      |                           |                |
| maintain needed certification due to    | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| lack of in-person training              |                     |                      |                           |                |
| Restrictions on travel                  | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Lack of I.T. infrastructure (e.g.,      | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| equipment, network capacity)            |                     | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |
| Other (please specify) [TEXT ENTRY BOX] | 0                   | 0                    | 0                         | 0              |

C4. What strategies or resources has your [Organization Type] used to address potential shortages of certified operators, laboratory staff, or other trained personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Used technology (e.g., live video feeds) to allow some operational tasks to be performed remotely |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 0 | Used telework for job functions that could be performed remotely                                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Decreased staffing/changed shift work while maintaining core operations                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Delayed non-critical work   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Increased use of contractors  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Accessed operators from nearby utilities, including via WARN or other mutual aid networks         |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Utilized backup laboratory services   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | Other (please specify) [TEXT ENTRY BOX]   |  |  |  |  |  |

C4.1. [If one or more options was selected in response to C4] Did the strategies you implemented help mitigate staffing shortages?

|  | Yes | Not sure | No |
|--|-----|----------|----|
| [options based on answers given to C4] | 0   | 0        | 0  |

C5. What is the greatest concern your [Organization Type] has associated with maintaining staffing during the pandemic? (Select one)

- 1. Availability of testing for illness
- 2. Availability of PPE
- 3. Ability to house personnel on site
- 4. Cross-training personnel
- 5. Protecting high-risk employees
- 6. Adhering to changing local and state requirements
- 7. Other (please specify): [TEXT ENTRY BOX]
- C6. Is there anything else you would like to add about workforce issues, or to explain how you developed your answers? [TEXT ENTRY BOX]

#### D. FINANCIAL ISSUES

D. Next, please identify any financial impacts that your [Organization Type] has experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a reminder, you are answering on behalf of [Organization Name].

[This paragraph to be inserted only for surveys going to wastewater facilities (not community water systems or AI/ANV utilities).] (We understand that in some cases a wastewater facility may belong to a larger organization such as a municipality that manages multiple facilities. Please answer specifically for the wastewater facility identified above. If that is not possible, please explain how you are answering the financial questions in your response to question D6, at the end of this section.)

D1.1.1. Let's start with your [Organization Type]'s operational budget from January 2020 to the present. Since different organizations have different accounting periods, please tell us the cutoff date you will be using for "the present" when filling out the following table. For example, your cutoff date could be the last day of your most recent accounting month. (Please enter as mm/dd/yyyy) [DATE FIELD]

D1.1.2. Please indicate the state of your [Organization Type]'s operating budget from January 2020 to the present.

|  | Value (in                  | This n | umber is: | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------|--------|-----------|------------|
|  | dollars)                   | Exact  | Estimate  | the value  |
| Budgeted operating revenue (January 2020 - present)  | [NUMERICAL<br>ENTRY FIELD] | 0      | 0         | 0          |
| Actual operating revenue (January 2020 - present)    | [NUMERICAL<br>ENTRY FIELD] | 0      | 0         | 0          |
| Budgeted operating expenses (January 2020 - present) | [NUMERICAL<br>ENTRY FIELD] | 0      | 0         | 0          |
| Actual operating expenses (January 2020 - present)   | [NUMERICAL<br>ENTRY FIELD] | 0      | 0         | 0          |

D1.2. [To be asked if the January to present anticipated revenue is lower than the January to present budgeted revenue] Your answers indicate that actual operating revenue was lower than budgeted during the January to present period. What COVID-19-related factors contributed to this?

| Factors                                      | Not a contributor | Contributor | Significant contributor | Do not<br>know |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Nonpayment of bills                          | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Decreased use (decreased demand for service) | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Reduction in rates and/or fees               | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |

D1.3. [To be asked if the January to present anticipated expenses are higher than the January to present budgeted expenses] Your answers indicate that actual operating expenses were higher than budgeted during the January to present period. What COVID-19-related factors contributed?

| Factors   | Not a contributor | Contributor | Significant contributor | Do not know |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Personnel costs (e.g., overtime, increased hours)   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Consumables (e.g., higher cost for chemicals, more sanitation/cleaning, higher inventories) | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Utilities costs (e.g., higher power, fuel, etc. costs)                                      | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| PPE (e.g., cloth masks)   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |

D2.1. We would like your assessment of your [Organization Type]'s financial situation for the rest of 2020. We recognize that projections for the rest of the year are uncertain, but do you expect your financial situation for the remainder of the year to improve, to worsen, or to stay about the same, compared with the January to present timeframe?

|                   | Financial outlook for the remainder of 2020 |                             |   |                |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|----------------|
|                   | Improve                                     | Improve Stay about the work |   | Do Not<br>Know |
| Operating revenue | 0   | 0                           | 0 | 0              |
| Operating expense | 0   | 0                           | 0 | 0              |

D2.2. [To be asked IF the response above indicates that the operating revenue situation is expected to "worsen."] To what COVID-19-related factors do you attribute the worsening outlook for operating revenue in the remainder of 2020?

| Factors                                      | Not a contributor | Contributor | Significant contributor | Do not<br>know |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Nonpayment of bills                          | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Decreased use (decreased demand for service) | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Reduction in rates and/or fees               | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0              |

D2.3. [To be asked IF the response above indicates that the operating expense situation is expected to "worsen."] To what COVID-19-related factors do you attribute the worsening outlook for operating expenses in the remainder of 2020?

| Factors   | Not a contributor | Contributor | Significant contributor | Do not know |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Personnel costs (e.g., overtime, increased hours)   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Consumables (e.g., higher cost for chemicals, more sanitation/cleaning, higher inventories) | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Utilities costs (e.g., higher power, fuel, etc. costs)                                      | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| PPE (e.g., cloth masks)   | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  | 0                 | 0           | 0                       | 0           |

D3.1. If your [Organization Type] has experienced or anticipates a decrease in cash flow due to COVID-19, what mitigating actions are you taking or planning? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Drawing down days cash on hand                  |
|---|---|
| 0 | Drawing on reserve funds                        |
| 0 | Delaying maintenance                            |
| 0 | Reducing staff hours                            |
| 0 | Reducing staff pay and/or benefits              |
| 0 | Laying off staff                                |
| 0 | Incurring additional debt                       |
| 0 | Refinancing debt and/or deferring debt payments |
| 0 | Delaying/canceling capital improvement projects |
| 0 | Adjusting rates higher than originally planned  |
| 0 | Other – 1 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                      |
| 0 | Other – 2 [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                      |
| 0 | Not applicable (no decrease in cash flow)       |

D3.2. [To be asked if a positive answer is given to D3.1] What type of impact do you think these actions are making or will make in mitigating the decrease in your [Organization Type]'s cash flow?

|  | Have made / will<br>make a small<br>impact | Have made / will<br>make a large<br>impact | Do not know |
|--|--|--|-------------|
| [options based on answers given to D3.1] | 0  | 0  | 0           |

D4. Which of the following is your [Organization Type] considering regarding capital infrastructure projects due to COVID-19? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Not applicable (no projects planned)   |
|---|--|
| 0 | No change to current or planned projects   |
| 0 | Pausing/slowing a project for which construction has begun                               |
| 0 | Delaying starting a project that was planned to start soon                               |
| 0 | Accelerating starting a project  |
| 0 | Reducing the scope or funding for a project for which construction has begun             |
| 0 | Increasing the scope or funding for a project (current or planned)                       |
| 0 | Delaying applying for a subsidized loan/grant by at least six months                     |
| 0 | Accelerating interest in applying for a subsidized loan/grant for a shovel-ready project |
| 0 | Other (please specify) [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  |
| 0 | Do not know  |

D5. In response to COVID-19, what actions has your [Organization Type] taken to help alleviate economic impacts on customers? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Suspended service shutoffs  |
|---|---|
| 0 | Waived late payment fees  |
| 0 | Provided extensions on bill payment                               |
| 0 | Expanded customer assistance programs                             |
| 0 | Expanded water conservation programs                              |
| 0 | Delayed or eliminated planned rate adjustment                     |
| 0 | Lowered rates   |
| 0 | Other (please specify) [TEXT ENTRY BOX]                           |
| 0 | None (no actions taken to alleviate economic impact on customers) |
| 0 | Do not know   |

D6. Is there anything else you would like to add about financial issues, or to explain how you developed your answers? [TEXT ENTRY BOX]

### E. ANALYTICAL SUPPORT ISSUES

E. Next, we'd like to know if the COVID-19 pandemic has affected your ability to complete required sampling and laboratory analyses.

E1. What COVID-19-related conditions have interfered with your [Organization Type]'s ability to complete the required <u>sampling</u> needed to operate your system and to determine compliance with regulations? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Lack of available personnel for sample collection   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| 0 | Lack of available supplies for sampling and/or shipping                                       |  |  |
| 0 | Lack of available personal protective equipment   |  |  |
| 0 | Lack of access to approved monitoring locations (e.g., for pre-treatment sampling or coliform |  |  |
|   | sampling)   |  |  |
| 0 | Other (please specify): [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  |  |  |
| 0 | None (no COVID-19-related hindrances to completion of required sampling)                      |  |  |
| 0 | Do not know   |  |  |

E2. What COVID-19-related conditions have interfered with your [Organization Type]'s ability to complete required <u>laboratory analyses</u> needed to operate your system and to determine compliance with regulations? (Select all that apply)

| 0 | Lack of available laboratory personnel  |
|---|---|
| 0 | Lack of available supplies for sampling and/or shipping                             |
| 0 | Lack of available personal protective equipment                                     |
| 0 | Internal laboratory capacity shortages that delay timely analysis                   |
| 0 | Decreased access to external laboratory services                                    |
| 0 | Delays in external laboratory services  |
| 0 | Sample transport delays   |
| 0 | Travel restrictions   |
| 0 | Revenue interruption  |
| 0 | Other (please specify): [TEXT ENTRY BOX]  |
| 0 | None (no COVID-19-related hindrances to completion of required laboratory analysis) |
| 0 | Do not know   |

E3. Is there anything else you would like to add about analytical support issues, including how you addressed them (e.g., using primacy-agency-approved alternate sampling sites), or to explain how you developed your answers? [TEXT ENTRY BOX]

### F. CYBERSECURITY ISSUES

- F. Please tell us about any cybersecurity issues or concerns.
- F1. Has your [Organization Type] experienced any issues or concerns related to cybersecurity during the pandemic? [Yes/No]
- F1.1. [appears if answer to F1 is "Yes"] Please describe the issues or concerns. [TEXT ENTRY BOX]

### G. CLOSING

- G. Finally, we'd like to ask you where you think the greatest challenges lie.
- G1. Looking ahead to the next several months, please indicate your level of concern about topics covered in this survey.

| Issue              | No concern | Mild concern | Serious<br>concern | Don't know |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|
| Supply Chain       | 0          | 0            | 0                  | 0          |
| Workforce          | 0          | 0            | 0                  | 0          |
| Financial          | 0          | 0            | 0                  | 0          |
| Analytical Support | 0          | 0            | 0                  | 0          |
| Cybersecurity      | 0          | 0            | 0                  | 0          |

- G2. Thank you for participating in this survey. Is there anything else you would like to tell us? [TEXT ENTRY BOX]
- G3. To whom should any questions regarding your responses to the survey be directed?
  - 1. Name [TEXT ENTRY BOX]
  - 2. Title [TEXT ENTRY BOX]
  - 3. Email address [FIELD FOR EMAIL ADDRESS]
  - 4. Phone number [FIELD FOR PHONE NUMBER]

Submittal. Please double-check that you have answered all questions in the survey. (A "check" mark in the Table of Contents indicates that you have reached end of each section of the survey, but not that you have answered all questions in the section. We recommend that you go back to the beginning and page through to ensure all questions are answered.) When you press "Submit," you will no longer be able to change your answers.

### [SUBMIT BUTTON]