



Contractor Technical Assistance (TA) Services Available to Region 9 Tribal Water Systems

Purpose

To ensure Tribal communities in Region 9 have access to safe drinking water, EPA is committed to providing technical and compliance assistance to operators of public water systems.

EPA contractors are available to assist you in achieving compliance with regulations like the **Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and Improvements**. They can provide on-site support to identify service line materials and plan replacement projects, at no cost to you or your community.

This fact sheet describes these services, outlines eligibility, and provides steps for submitting a request to EPA.



Potholing is an excavation method that involves digging small holes to identify the location, depth, and type of underground service lines.

This modern method helps you plan current and future service line projects more quickly and efficiently than other methods like charts and maps.

What can Region 9 Contractors do for you?

- Develop service line inventories, including locating and mapping lead service lines and investigating unknown service lines.
- Visually identify service line materials and conduct potholing of underground service lines.
- Prepare planning documents for the replacement of lead or galvanized-requiring-replacement service lines on both the utility and customer-owned lines.
- Complete funding applications and/or other supporting documents for replacement projects.

What are the eligibility requirements?

Service requests must:

- ✓ be directly connected to the identification, planning, design, or replacement of lead service lines.
- ✓ benefit a community water system or non-profit, non-community water system.
- ✓ serve a federally recognized Indian Tribe in CA, NV, AZ or the Navajo Nation.

OK, so how do I submit a service request?

See the next page for step-by-step instructions.

Service Request Timeline

Step 1: Submit Project Proposal.

Service Line Inventory (SLI): For help with investigatory work, complete steps A, B, and D below.

Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR): For help with planning replacement projects and finishing funding applications, complete each of the steps below.

A

Complete our [Project Proposal Form](#)

B

Get Tribal government approval

- Your proposal must be submitted with a Tribal resolution or a Tribal government endorsement of the proposal (i.e., the Tribal leader's signature on the letter).

C

Skip step C

SLI

LSLR

Prepare planning documents for Construction Projects

- EPA can help you establish a timeline for completion, secure the necessary right-of-way permissions, and assist with funding applications.

D

Email a copy of your proposal and documentation to your [area Project Officer](#)

Step 2: Respond to EPA Comments.

If additional information about your project is needed before making a final decision, we will reach out to you to request more information. You must submit a response to any EPA requests.

Step 3: Await Decision

Once we have reviewed your final project proposal, we will inform you of our service request decision. If your project is found eligible for technical assistance, your area Project Officer will email you an **In-Kind Services Letter** to get started.

Questions?

Reach out to your Lead Service Line Program Coordinators:

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[LSLR Program](#)



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