Little Rock
Rogers
Jonesboro
Austin
MitchellWilliamsLaw.com

Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.



Walter Wright, Jr. wwright@mwlaw.com (501) 688.8839

Ensuring the Cybersecurity of America's Drinking Water Systems: U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee Hearing

02/13/2024

The Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials of the United States House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee ("Committee") held a January 31st hearing titled:

Ensuring the Cybersecurity of America's Drinking Water Systems ("Hearing")

The stated overall purpose of the *Hearing* was to address:

- Essential part that the United States public water system plays in everyday lives
- · Public water systems are increasingly vulnerable to cyberattacks by adversaries and other bad actors
- There is a continuing need to strengthen cybersecurity

The Committee Majority Staff prepared a memorandum to Members of the Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials that addressed:

- Evolving Cybersecurity Threats to Critical Infrastructure
- Federal Cybersecurity Roles and Responsibilities
- Statutory Authorities Related to Cybersecurity and the Water Sector
- Additional Federal Funding Sources, identifying:
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- DHS State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
- Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program at DHS
- Sector Directed Information Sharing

Witnesses at the *Hearing* and their written statements included the following:

- <u>Cathy Tucker-Vogel</u>, Public Water Supply Section Chief, Kansas Department of Health and Environment on behalf of the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
- Scott Dewhirst, P.E., Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer, Tacoma Water on behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
- <u>Rick Jeffares</u>, President, Georgia Rural Water Association on behalf of the National Rural Water
 Association
- Kevin Morley, Ph.D., Manager-Federal Relations, American Water Works Association

A copy of the Committee Majority Staff memorandum can be found here.