

## Arkansas Water Provider Legislative Task Force: August 22nd Meeting



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The Arkansas Water Provider Legislative Task Force will meet today.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. in Room A, MAC, Little Rock.

Items on the agenda include:

- Opening Comments by Co-Chairs Senator Alan Clark and Representative Tim Lemons
- Comments and Introductions of U.S. Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) Personnel by David Branscum, Arkansas State Director, Rural Development, USDA
- Overview of the USDA Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program by Dr. Carrie Castille, Louisiana State Director, Rural Development, USDA
- Overview of the Arkansas USDA Community Programs: Water/Wastewater & Community Facility by David Branscum, Arkansas State Director, Rural Development, USDA, and Steve Lagasse, Arkansas Program Director, Rural Development, USDA

The Task Force was created by Act 1056 during the 89th Arkansas General Assembly. The legislation declared a number of findings regarding the water utilities provision of water to state residents. Issues associated with areas served, ability to operate monopolies, importance of water supplies to economic development, requirements to supply out-of-area customers, and other matters were addressed.

The legislature mandated the creation of the Task Force to study a number of related issues and provide conclusions in a report to be submitted by January 1, 2019.

A copy of the [tentative agenda](#) can be found here.