
AMWA backs Fox nomination to lead EPA Water office

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee this week will consider President Biden's nomination (<https://www.amwa.net/article/radhika-fox-nominated-lead-epa-office-water>) of Radhika Fox to serve as EPA's next Assistant Administrator for Water. The committee's May 12 hearing (<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/5/hearing-on-interior-and-epa-nominees>) comes after AMWA sent a letter in support of the nomination late last month.

The association's letter (<https://www.amwa.net/letter/letter-support-nomination-radhika-fox-assistant-administrator-water>) to the leaders of the EPW Committee applauded Fox's "strong track record of bringing various water sector stakeholders and advocacy organizations together to develop cooperative initiatives and policy solutions that help promote a sustainable water future for all Americans." It specifically highlighted her tenure as CEO of the US Water Alliance and her earlier position directing policy and government affairs at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

"[Fox's] combination of experience, expertise, and relationships will position her to succeed in this important role," AMWA wrote.

In addition to Fox, the EPW Committee will consider the nominations of Michal Ilana Freedhoff to serve as EPA's Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances and Shannon Aneal Estenoz to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife during Wednesday's hearing. The panel will not vote on the nominations during this week's hearing but will likely do so in the coming weeks.

New regulatory tracking tool available to AMWA members

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

Following last month's debut (<https://www.amwa.net/article/new-legislative-tracking-tool-available-amwa-members>) of AMWA's new Legislative Tracker, AMWA members can now

take advantage of a similar tool to keep tabs on the latest regulatory actions by EPA and other federal agencies.

AMWA's Regulatory Tracker (<https://www.amwa.net/trackers>) is a web-based Google spreadsheet that lists regulatory actions related to drinking water that are either under development or recently completed. The tool includes summaries of each action, the status of the rulemaking, and links to the association's related reports and comment letters. The tracker will be regularly updated by AMWA staff.

AMWA members are required to login to the association's website to access the tool. To do so, members may visit the (<https://www.amwa.net/resources-depth>)Resources In-Depth (<https://www.amwa.net/resources-depth>) portion of the website or navigate directly (<https://www.amwa.net/trackers>) to the Legislative and Regulatory trackers.

Water GMs invited to strategic communications Zoom roundtable

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

General managers are invited to participate in a Zoom roundtable discussion on water utility strategic communications this June. Sponsored by the Utility Branding Network, the roundtable will be led by strategic communications expert John Ruetten, author of *The Evolution of Water Utility Communications* (<https://www.amwa.net/article/evolution-water-utility-communications>), recently published in AMWA's *Water Utility Executive*.

The roundtable gives general managers the opportunity to discuss various aspects of utility communications, including the difference between strategic and customer communications, the effectiveness of current outreach efforts, and the general manager's role in leading beneficial changes. Water utilities are faced with climate change resiliency, the rising cost of developing new water resources, aging infrastructure, and unregulated contaminants while at the same time grappling with affordability and social equity issues. Given these challenges, are current communications adequate for building stronger relationships with policy makers and influencers and counterbalancing misinformation, politics, bias, and special interests?

The Utility Branding Network (<http://www.resourcetrends.com>) Strategic Communications Roundtable provides a forum for general managers to discuss these critical issues and to review a straightforward communications approach that elevates standards, improves employee communications, makes investment proposals more compelling, and makes it easy for policymakers and influencers to be substantively informed.

These roundtables are offered a May 10, 2021 and Page 2 of 5 on June 3 and June 7 at 2:00

p.m. ET. Space is limited for each event. Click Here (https://7dfcb679-4c4c-41ee-853e-d22f06b2982e.usrfiles.com/ugd/7dfcb6_f53c421cc73f457f998ef11dbe557b0d.pdf) to see the sample agenda. To register, simply email John Ruetten (<mailto:john@resourcetrends.com>).

New climate normals show record warmth throughout U.S.

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has released (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/noaa-delivers-new-us-climate-normals>) new U.S. Climate Normals (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/us-climate-normals/>) that show warming temperatures throughout the nation. The data reflect the 30-year averages for the contiguous United States that allow for comparisons to current conditions. The new data set also includes the first set of Precipitation Normals, which incorporate data from both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and citizen scientists.

The new average temperature for the contiguous United States between 1991-2020 is 53.3°F, an increase of 0.5°F from the 1981-2010 data. This also marks the warmest recorded period for the United States. The new data indicate an increase in temperatures in all regions except for portions of the Midwest and the Northern Plains, while showing a decrease in precipitation in much of the western United States.

Deadline for AMWA's 2021 awards rapidly approaching

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

AMWA's 2021 Gold, Platinum, and Sustainability Awards are an excellent opportunity for utilities to showcase their management expertise, so eligible member utilities should submit completed applications for consideration soon. AMWA's website (<https://www.amwa.net/awards/overview>) provides examples of winning applications for each of the award categories.

AMWA intends to present all winning utilities with awards at its 2021 Executive Management Conference in October.

Why wait? Submit (<mailto:barber@amwa.net>) your applications for the three utility management award programs before the June 18 deadline.

Join AMWA and member CEOs to discuss member benefits, utility priorities

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

AMWA invites all member utility leaders to discuss their top-of-mind issues with senior AMWA staff members on Thursday, May 27 at 1:00 p.m. ET. During the 45-minute meeting, AMWA staff will provide a quick refresher of member benefits and programs. AMWA encourages new members and new member representatives, in particular, to join the meeting. Contact Antoinette Barber (<mailto:barber@amwa.net>) for more information or a meeting link.

Executive positions recently posted to AMWA job board

May 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM

Civil Engineer V (Plans Review Supervisor)
Honolulu Board of Water Supply
Honolulu, Hawaii

Assistant General Manager
Saint Paul Regional Water Services
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Deputy Director of Public Works
City of San Mateo
San Mateo, California

Assistant Program Administrator (Water System Operations)
Honolulu Board of Water Supply
Honolulu, Hawaii

Learning and Development Manager

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Internal Communications Specialist

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Post a job or view listings today (<http://jobs.amwa.net/jobs>)! (<http://jobs.amwa.net/jobs>)

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