

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

4. Lead-In-Water Testing Program

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■ Program Objectives

The Lead-In-Water Testing Program is intended to help in further reducing the risk of exposure to lead from drinking water in the Bull Run service area by providing:

1. A mechanism for free or low-cost lead-in-water testing for residential, commercial, industrial and institutional customers,
2. Testing of targeted classes of customers and specific classes of services that may be at significant risk from highly elevated lead levels in their drinking water, and
3. Assistance to customers with elevated levels of lead-in-water to aid them in reducing their risk of exposure to lead from this source.

■ Approach

The program will be managed by the Portland Water Bureau in coordination with all of Portland's wholesale water purveyors. The program will be made available throughout the entire Bull Run service area. This new program will require thorough coordination with wholesale purveyors and LHRP stakeholders, and may demand a relatively high level of resources once the program is underway. The program has been divided into two phases, Phase I - Program Development, and Phase II - Program Implementation.

Phase I - Program Development

The Bureau has elected to secure the services of a consultant to assist in further refining the program objectives and scope, developing criteria for targeting the program, and preparing an implementation plan for the program. The Request for Proposals for these services is included in Appendix 4-1, with highlights summarized below.

It is anticipated this work will be divided into two tasks; Task 1 - Program Definition & Criteria, and Task 2 - Implementation Plan.

Task 1 - Program Definition & Criteria. This task will consist of further refining the objectives and scope of the Lead-In-Water Testing Program. It will include coordination with the Bureau, wholesale providers, and other stakeholders to further refine the objectives and scope of the program. The task will include coordinating with the Bureau's ongoing Lead Hazard Reduction Program and evaluating regulatory implications of this program.

The program is anticipated to include lead-in-water testing for both customers expressing general interest or concern about lead levels as well as testing of targeted classes of services and customers at significant risk from highly elevated lead levels in

drinking water. This task will include identifying classes of customers at special risk from lead exposure (such as day-care centers and schools) and identifying classes of services most likely to have elevated lead levels in their drinking water (such as housing of a certain age or with certain plumbing materials). This will also include generating criteria to aid in prioritizing outreach efforts, soliciting participation by targeted customers, and predicting anticipated demand for these services.

Task 2 - Implementation Plan. This task will consist of developing a work plan for implementation of the Lead-In-Water Testing Program. The implementation plan will include detailed recommendations for the approach, resource requirements, schedule, and budget for implementing the program.

Phase II - Program Implementation

Although final details of the program will depend on the outcome of the Program Development phase of the project, it is anticipated the program will include the following major components:

- **Awareness.** The program will include a range of strategies for increasing the communities' awareness of the program, and communicating program objectives and eligibility criteria to customers and stakeholders.
- **Operations.** This component will include specific plans for capturing and responding to testing requests, sample collection, laboratory analysis, record-keeping, data management, communicating results to customers, and ongoing coordination with wholesale water purveyors.
- **Customer Assistance.** This component will include appropriate follow-up assistance for customers with highly elevated lead levels in their drinking water, with the objective of helping them reduce their risk of this exposure.
- **Program Evaluation.** This component will include a means of tracking of testing results and evaluating the overall effectiveness of the program in achieving its objectives.

■ **Schedule**

The schedule for this work is summarized in Table 4-1.

**Table 4-1
Lead-In-Water Program Schedule**

Activity	Begin Date	End Date
<u>Phase 1 - Program Development</u>		
Consultant Selection & Award	Feb '98	June '98
Objectives & Criteria	June '98	July '98
Implementation Plan	July '98	Sept. '98
<u>Phase 2 - Implementation</u>		
Staging & Start-up	Oct. '98	Nov. '98
Full Implementation	Dec. '98	Indefinite