



vrwa@vtruralwater.org  
www.vtruralwater.org  
20 Susie Wilson Road, Suite B  
Essex, Vermont 05452  
Phone (802)-660-4988  
Fax (866) 378-7213

## Call to Action – Your Participation is Needed!

As you are aware, recent funding reductions have significantly impacted VRWA's operations. Services previously offered via our technical assistance, training and source protection planning programs must now be on a fee basis (for more information, visit <http://vtruralwater.org/news/index.php#22>). We recognize this creates a challenging financial situation for systems that have relied on our no-direct-cost services for years. There is an opportunity to reestablish these federally supported services and therefore go back to a no-direct-cost services approach. We need your involvement to achieve this initiative. A few minutes of your time could directly benefit your system in the future. We ask that you complete a letter of support to be delivered to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. VRWA will receive and compile all these letters and then deliver them to the administrator in the near future.

The support letters will specifically request the EPA administrator to direct previously allocated EPA funds to the National Rural Water Association and its affiliates including VRWA. EPA will be making a decision on how to award funding over the next couple months. We have provided suggested language for your consideration (see below). If your system has company letterhead, please use it for this letter. Be sure to provide your system name, your name, and contact information on this item. We have provided a return envelope for you and will also accept the support letters in Word or PDF format via email if this is more convenient for you.

Your immediate action on this is appreciated as we will be providing this information to EPA in early February. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 802-660-4988 ext. 315 or by email at [sfielder@vtruralwater.org](mailto:sfielder@vtruralwater.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shaun Fielder".

Shaun Fielder  
Executive Director

***Support letter template information shown below.  
Please return to VRWA in the enclosed envelope  
or email to [vrwa@vtruralwater.org](mailto:vrwa@vtruralwater.org)***

On System letter head:

Date (insert)

To: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson

Our water system, (*insert company name*), with a service population of (*insert service population*) supports the technical assistance, training and source water protection assistance provided by the Vermont Rural Water Association through EPA funding to the National Rural Water Association.

(*You can add any other commentary that you feel shows the value of VRWA programs and services*)

Sincerely,

Your signature and title