

Response and Recovery Operations in Contaminated Water Systems

Protecting Our Nations Water Supply

Water supply systems within the U.S. are vulnerable to contamination by chemical and biological agents. Contamination events could result in serious illness and death for a significant number of people. The affected water utilities need guidance on dealing with contaminated water systems. A decision support tool is needed that will provide best practice protocols for response and recovery operations, including making the decision, for example, as to whether or not to flush a water system following a contamination event.



A Decision Support Tool

Decision-support tools that inform water utility decision-makers, first responders, local decision-makers, and state and local recovery operations authorities about decontamination methods and processes are not readily available. Previous work has been done in this area, but the DHS Water Security Sector indicates that there is no comprehensive guidance on clean up and restoration of a water distribution system contaminated by chemical or biological agents.

Much of the work has focused either on a comprehensive plan for a single utility or on particular aspects of

in situ restoration and cleanup of contaminated water and pipe materials.

Moving Forward

Open Environment, PLLC was formed by research team members prior to the start of the project to provide services to water utility operators and to eventually commercialize the Network Decontamination Model software platform that would be developed from project research efforts. This entity will provide consulting services to populate and deploy the NDM system with targeted end users in conjunction with commercialization partner KYPipe. The management team of Open Environment, PLLC team is working to secure commercialization rights to the project deliverables. They will offer a subscription based model combined with services to support NDM implementations.

KYPIPE LLC is a dominant pipe network analysis technology provider and current project partner. They have been focused on integrating the NDM model into their current software platform and have participated in all user workshops and pilot site implementations. They will be the commercialization partner and the main sales agent for the NDM system.



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