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States ‘Hungry’ for Cybersecurity Guide Despite SDWA Suit, Attorneys Say

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Brooks Smith and Judith Jagdmann were interviewed in the September 11, 2023 *Inside EPA* article, [“States ‘Hungry’ for Cybersecurity Guide Despite SDWA Suit, Attorneys Say.”](#)

Two industry attorneys say EPA is likely to try again to require states to review water utilities’ cybersecurity practices if a court rejects its controversial Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) memo on the subject, but could take a more collaborative approach in any replacement, saying states are “hungry” for guidance on how to identify and fix vulnerabilities.

In recent interview with *Inside EPA*, attorneys Brooks Smith and Judith Jagdmann, both partners with the law firm Troutman Pepper, said even the state governments and water groups that are challenging the SDWA guide — and recently won an order from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit suspending its implementation — are open to working with the agency on a new policy with the same overall goal.

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