

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460 • JUNE 1973

Lab Shifts Will Involve 155 Employees

Shifts of research operations among seven EPA laboratories and three National Research Centers have been announced by Assistant Administrator Stanley M. Greenfield

The moves, now in progress, will be completed this summer and will affect approximately 155 permanent employees.

The transfers are being made, Greenfield said, to consolidate and strengthen the Agency's research and development work in water supply, marine water quality, pesticides, and radiation. Operations that have been carried out in remote and sometimes unsafe facilities are being moved to the appropriate NERCs or, in one case, to a satellite laboratory that will be enlarged with a new building and facilities costing \$2.8 million.

A summary of the program shifts,

with the approximate number of positions involved in each, follows;

Water supply research programs are slated to go to NERC-Cincinnati from the Northeast Water Supply Research Laboratory, Narragansett, R.I., 20 positions; from the Gulf Coast Water Supply Laboratory, Dauphin Island, Ala., 16 positions; and from the Northwestern Water Supply Laboratory, Gig Harbor, Wash., 12 positions.

Part of the marine water quality work now performed in leased facilities at West Kingston, R.I., will be moved to nearby Narragansett this summer, and EPA plans to expand the Narragansett facilities with a new \$2.8-million building to accommodate the entire program now at West Kingston. The Narragansett laboratory will be renamed the National Marine Water Quality Laboratory and will remain a NERC-Corvallis affiliate.

Pesticide research programs will go to NERC-Research Triangle Park, N.C., from the Primate and Pesticides Effects Laboratory, Perrine, Fla., 55 positions, and from the Chamblee Toxicology Laboratory, Chamblee, Ga., 25 positions.

EPA is leaving Chamblee to make more room for DHEW operations there.

Radiation research at the Eastern Environmental Radiation Laboratory, Montgomery, Ala., will be moved to NERC-RTP and NERC-Las Vegas. Health effects research, 17 positions, will move to North Carolina, and monitoring-quality assurance work, 10 positions, will move to Las Vegas.

The Office of Radiation Programs will take over the remaining field activities (as opposed to research

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EPA's Research Reorganized Into 4 Operating Components

A reorganization of EPA's research office and some shifting of headquarters personnel and titles were announced recently by Acting Administrator Robert Fri.

Renamed the Office of Research and Development, the new organization remains under the direction of Assistant Administrator Stanley M. Greenfield.

The basic organization of the four National Environmental Research Centers and their field laboratories is not affected.

"In changing the old Office of Research and Monitoring," Greenfield said, "we have tried to fit our headquarters components more closely to our actual research and development functions and hence to become more responsive to EPA's overall needs."

Four main operating units were created:

• The Office of Program Integration, under Dr. Leland D. Attaway, charged with "assuring that research and engineering strategies match and are responsive to the Agency's goals."

- The Office of Environmental Engineering, headed by Albert C. Trakowski, to manage the Agency's research, development, and demonstration programs in pollution control.
- The Office of Environmental Sciences, under Dr. Herbert L.
 Wiser, which will develop criteria for environmental quality standards and identify new problems.
- The Office of Monitoring Systems, headed by Willis B. Foster, to work on equipment, techniques, and systems for measuring and handling environmental data.

Two smaller components reporting directly to Greenfield are the Office of Program Management headed by Dr. David G. Stephan, and the Washington Environmental Research Center with Dr. Larry Ruff as acting director. The latter will continue the analytical and exploratory work of the old Environmental Studies and Implementation Research Divisions.

(Continued on page 3)

Washington Commuters Hire Own Bus

A group of EPA headquarters employees have found an unusual way to get back and forth to work each day. They charter a bus.

It started when the Radiation Programs Office was moved en masse late in April from suburban Rockville, Md., to downtown Washington, 16 miles away. Many employees who live in the Rockville area suddenly had tough commuting problems: parking space at Waterside Mall is costly and scarce, the rush-hour traffic formidable, and public bus service was slow and crowded and required a transfer.

But Jean Maguire, a secretary in the office of William D. Rowe, deputy assistant administrator for radiation programs, had a brilliant idea and the gumption to carry it out.

She canvassed her colleagues before the move to find people who did not want to battle the Washington traffic twice each day. She found enough to justify chartering a special bus.

The service has been operating since the second day the RPO people were in their new quarters in the East Tower of EPA's Waterside Mall headquarters. The riders now include a number of Water Pro-

SAILING TO WORK

Water-borne commuting between Alexandria and EPA headquarters was launched three weeks ago by Robert Greenspun, analyst in Air and Water Programs.

Two to four persons have been taking the 10-minute trip on the Potomac each day, he said, and there is room for more. The dock is three blocks away. The cost: \$1.50 per day.

The boat is owned by Greenspun and three AWP colleagues, Harry Pitts, Denis Daniel, and Charles Marks, who still work at Crystal Mall on the Virginia side and can't yet sail to work.



-photo by Ernest Bucci

Shirley Landsman, James Hardin, and Joseph Logsdon board the bus—while Wayne Hansen checks off their names—for daily charter trip.

grams Office personnel who were transferred in May from the Crystal Mall Building in Arlington.

The group now has about 50 subscribers, and the bus is filled. Actually, it is slightly "oversold." On any given day some regular riders will be absent on leave, or sick, or traveling. So there have not been many standees during the seven weeks the bus has been operating.

The bus makes two pickup stops each morning: at 6:50 in Gaithersburg, five miles north of Rockville, and at 7:10 at a shopping center in Rockville, near the former Radiation Office location. Volunteer checkers try to make sure that everyone is accounted for. Then the bus makes a non-stop, express trip to Southwest Washington, arriving about 7:50. The return trip starts at 4:30 or soon thereafter.

The service is informal and depends on volunteer leaders to collect money, keep records, and count noses. Besides Ms. Maguire, these leaders have included Harold Peterson, David Lutz, Paul Magno,

Carl Miller, Richard Chiacchierini, and James Gruhlke.

The cost is calculated to cover the bus firm's charge of \$80 per day for the two trips, divided evenly among the subscribers. The current assessment is \$35 per month, and one-time, one-way riders are charged \$1.50 per trip if space is available.

The monthly charge is about equivalent to public bus fares, but it provides faster, more convenient service. The group has built up a small cash reserve, Peterson said, to assure that bills are paid promptly and to meet contingencies.

There are indications that other bus charter groups may be organized soon to serve EPA employees in other suburban areas. A list of seven charter bus firms, their costs and franchise limitations has been distributed to all Agency employees in the Washington area.

Donald J. O'Bryan Jr. of the Office of Research and Development, says he has 20 to 25 persons interested in a charter bus that would start in Olney, Md., and make a couple of stops nearer the city.

LAKE SURVEY FLIERS HELP IN FLOOD WORK

An EPA helicopter team on the National Eutrophication Survey recently worked over a weekend to help with flood control and relief operations along the Mississippi River in southern Illinois.

Pilots Tommy Bohannan and William Hinkle and Crew Chief Frederick Pike flew 14 missions on Saturday and Sunday, April 28-9, to deliver food and water to communities isolated by the flood, to survey levees and dikes, and to make photographs and contour maps of the disaster areas.

The fliers and other member's of EPA's lake survey operation were working out of Dayton, Ohio, when the flood came. The adjutant general of the Illinois National Guard, whose members have been assisting in the survey, accepted EPA's offer of a helicopter and crew to help in the flood emergency.

The crew flew the pontoonequipped aircraft about 300 miles to the National Guard command post at Grafton, Ill., 30 miles upstream from St. Louis, and put their services at the disposal of flood control officials.

EPA and Tunis Seek to Rescue One of World's Dirtiest Lakes

A three-year cooperative program aimed at saving one of the world's most polluted lakes was launched this month in Tunisia, North Africa, by EPA and the Tunisian government.

Herbert Quinn of EPA's Office of International Activities and Thomas E. Maloney of the Pacific Northwest Environmental Research Laboratory spent a week in Tunis, the capital city, setting up technical procedures for the project with Tunisian officials.

Maloney, who heads the lake eutrophication research work at PNERL in Corvallis, Ore., will be EPA project officer for the joint study, which will be underwritten by United States credits in Tunisian dinars equivalent to \$250,000.

Object of the work, which will be performed by Tunisian scientists with technical assistance from EPA, is to alleviate the pollution problems of Lake Tunis, a shallow, lagoon-like pond that has received sewage and runoff waste water from Tunis and other cities for many centuries, probably back as far as the ninth century, B.C., when Carthage was built near the present site of Tunis.

The lake used to have an outlet to the Gulf of Tunis, but now is a

land-locked pond 45 square kilometers (11 square miles) in size but only one or two meters deep. During the cooler months of the year immense growths of algae flourish, along with commercially valuable fish and shellfish, but in summer there are frequent and severe fish kills. Sewage discharge is a significant factor in this destructive cycle.

Dr. Abderrazak Azouz, director of Tunisia's National Technical Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, is coordinating the project for his government. Principal project scientist will be Habib Ben Alaya.

Several engineering and biological studies of Lake Tunis have been made during the last decade, and the Tunisian government is anxious to eliminate noxious odors and to increase and stabilize fish production.

The new joint study will focus on the eutrophication problems of the lake, evaluating the potential benefits of diverting the sewage input, and estimating the rate and extent of recovery of the lake after such diversion.

EPA experts hope the study will lead to development of a predicative model that could be adapted for use with other lakes that are in advanced stages of eutrophication.

Laboratory Shifts Will Involve 155 Employees

(Continued from page 1) and development) at Montgomery, which will become the focus of ORP's field operations east of the Mississippi.

The transfers will bring presently scattered R&D programs to the EPA research centers that are directly responsible for their management, Greenfield said. The shifts are also expected to reduce operating costs.

The cost factor is particularly important, he said, in the case of facilities housed in old buildings unsuitable for hazardous laboratory operations. Severe safety problems exist at the Perrine laboratory, and, to a lesser degree, at Chamblee and Montgomery, and it would be prohibitively expensive to repair and upgrade them or construct new facilities to meet the Agency's safety standards and the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

The Dauphin Island facility will be returned to DHEW for use in the Food and Drug Administration's shellfish sanitation work.

The Gig Harbor laboratory will be transferred to a new facility to

be constructed about 15 miles away at Manchester, Wash. This building, containing 20,000 square feet of floor space and costing \$1.8 million, will combine a laboratory staff for Region X and a marine research program.

"We plan to implement the transfers so as to cause minimum disturbance to ongoing scientific work," Greenfield said. "All employees involved will be given every consideration and assistance in making a smooth transition, in accordance with Agency and Civil Service regulations."

4,000 Kids See Gulf Breeze Laboratory

More than 4,000 school children trooped through the Gulf Breeze Environmental Research Laboratory last month to learn firsthand about the myriad forms of marine life in the waters around the laboratory on Sabine Island, Florida, near Pensacola.

In three tours a day over a twoweek period, busloads of fourthgraders from the public schools of Escambia County came to the laboratory, heard brief lectures on the marine environment (Do you know the difference between a bay and an estuary?), and were shown some of the laboratory's current work on the effects of pesticides.

The hit of the annual open house—available only to kids and not to the adult public—was an array of outdoor aquariums set up on a dock area, where a great variety of marine creatures were displayed at fourth-grade eye level. These included a "petting zoo"—special tanks containing marine specimens that the visitors were encouraged to touch and handle.

If you haven't petted a baby squid, you haven't lived.

"Fourth graders are at an ex-



Dr. Delbert Wayne tells a group of Florida fourth-graders which aquariums are for looking and which are "petting tanks" for feeling and handling.

cellent age for developing an awareness for the environment and its resources," said Dr. Nelson R. Cooley, fishery biologist at the lab.

"Concern for preserving the earth's natural resources must begin with the young," he said. "By concentrating on one grade we hope that every child in Escambia County schools will have visited our lab at least once during the elementary school years."

The aquarium tanks set up under the direction of technician Dana Tyler, were kept constantly supplied with estuarine water from Pen-



Dana Tyler, left, shows the visitors one of the more crabby specimens.



This small squid may be slimy, but he's also transparently fascinating.



Darryl Malone holds two crabs that will be declawed for handling.



Lester Wolf adjusts net-hauling gear on the lab trawler Dolphin.



Sea squirt's squirting mechanism draws squeals of delight from four girls.

sacola Bay, and filled with specimens netted from the lab's trawler Dolphin under the direction of Lester Wolf, facilities manager, Darryl Malone, maintenance man, and Gerrit Nudo, a West Florida University student working at the lab on a cooperative training program.

Each morning during the two weeks, the Dolphin sailed out to resupply the exhibit tanks with shrimp, crabs, scallops, squids, and dozens of varieties of plain and fancy fish. Some specimens were barred from the "petting" tanks, including the scorpion fish, which has a venomous sting, and crabs with working claws.

In addition to the fourth graders' tours on week days, the lab stayed open for several tours for troops of Boy and Girl Scouts on Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6.

Laboratory Director Thomas W. Duke said that next year at least one day of the exhibit period would be open to the public.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS POST GOES TO ANN L. DORE

Ann L. Dore, former director of public relations for the Committee for the Re-election of the President and press secretary for the Inaugural Committee, last month was named EPA director of Public Affairs, succeeding Thomas T. Hart who resigned in January.

Ms. Dore had previously been a public relations consultant to a number of firms in New York City, including Heublein Inc., International Salt Co., Greenleaves Farms, Inc., Buitoni, Inc., Lederle Laboratories, and the International Cooking School. In 1970, she was coordinator for Dr. John McLaughlin's campaign for the U.S. Senate from Rhode Island.

Born in Newark, N.J., 31 years ago, Ms. Dore was raised in Chatham, N.J., and was graduated from Marymount College, Tarrytown, N.Y. She studied at the University of London in 1961-62. She was supervisor of commercial scheduling for the ABC television network for two years and director of alumnae relations for Marymount College for three years. In 1965, she received the Outstanding Young Woman of America Award.

Volleyball Players Win Sports Award

Three members of the volleyball team at the Northeast Water Supply Research Laboratory, Narragansett, R.I., recently received sports awards from the Presidential Commission on Physical Fitness.

Certificates, signed by President Nixon, went to Edward Katz, Stefan Mulawka, and Joseph Adriano.

The lab's volleyball team has been playing five times a week for two years, Katz said, and his doctor is pleased with the drop in his cholesterol level.

Advice to Utah: Stay Off 'Hot' Tailings

Land on which uranium mill tailings have been dumped is not a suitable place to build a race track.

That was EPA's advice June 7 to Utah officials considering what to do about a proposed automobile race track just southwest of the Salt Lake City limits.

The land, formerly leased by the Vitro Chemical Co., was used for the disposal of sand-like, slightly radioactive waste from the firm's uranium mining operations, according to Paul B. Smith, regional radiation representative in EPA's Denver office. The company has long since ceased uranium processing, and about 900,000 tons of tailings have just been sitting there. Early this year a private development corporation started leveling the piles with draglines, preparatory to building an auto race track on the site.

If the race track is built, employees and spectators "would receive unnecessary radiation exposure," EPA said in a formal recommendation made at the request of Utah Governor Calvin Rampton.

Such exposure would come from radon gas emanating from the tailings, an exposure similar to that occurring in Grand Junction, Colo., and other places where the tailings, at first thought to be harmless, were used as construction fill material and as an aggregate for concrete.

The EPA statement was prepared by the Radiation Programs Office in Washington and signed by William D. Rowe, deputy assistant administrator. It was based on the Agency's studies at the Vitro site in 1967 and 1968 as well as experience with radioactive tailings in other locations.

A special three-week survey at the Vitro tailings pile was made in May by a radiation team from NERC-Las Vegas, but the results were not available in time for Smith's meeting June 7 with a committee appointed by Gov. Rampton to consider the problem.

The monitoring team was headed by David L. Duncan, project officer, and included Gregory G. Eadie and Dwayne L. Rozell, of Las Vegas, and Jon Yeagley of the Denver Regional Office. They were assisted by Blaine Thomas and Jeff Throckmorton of the Utah State Division of Health.

The EPA statement advised a "hands-off" policy on any use of uranium tailings until legal means have been set up to control such uses. It noted that Utah has no laws or regulations for tailings control and that the Vitro site development was started "without the knowledge of the State's radiological health program."

"Radon emanation from the tailings pile does not present a significant hazard to the surrounding community as long as there are no structures within one-half mile of the site," the statement said. But at the site itself "radon concentrations exceed the current limits for population exposure..." and would

be a hazard to "any occupant of a structure built over or adjacent to the tailings."

The Agency recommended that the tailings be graded and covered, to prevent them from "migrating" by wind or water erosion or by truck hauling, and fenced to keep people away. It also urged the State to establish control regulations and to consider possible remedial actions for four business buildings just west of the site.

The monitoring team that surveyed the area last month took dosimeter readings in the four buildings as well as air samples from three stations on the pile itself and one at a suburban sewage treatment plant.

Smith said one possible use of the site might be for a sewage treatment plant, which needs a large area for ponds and filters, operates virtually unattended, and is not frequented by the public.

Old Age Overtakes Big Sam, Steer With Hole in Stomach

Big Sam, the steer with a hole in his stomach, died last month at the experimental ranch in Nevada where he had quietly helped EPA scientists throughout his nine-year life.

Sam was one of a test herd of steers and cows that were periodically allowed to graze on the Atomic Energy Commission's Nevada Test Site, an area subject to radioactive fallout from nuclear experiments.

Sam and several other animals in the herd had "fistulas," or surgically created holes, permitting EPA veterinarians to remove the contents of their rumens to check on what was happening to the radioactive isotopes in their feed while it was being digested.

Big Sam was the most famous of the herd, for he had been sent to expositions and state fairs in Nevada, Texas, and New Mexico and had appeared on many television programs to illustrate environmental radiation monitoring. Once the governor of Nevada shook his hoof for the press cameras.

On such occasions Sam wore a small plexiglass window in his fistula, through which the churning rumen contents could be seen. But usually he wore a simple leather plug.

None of the animals that have grazed on the atomic test site has suffered any ill effects traceable to radiation fallout, but observation of the herd and monitoring of isotope levels in meat and milk is continuing. The test ranch is operated by EPA's National Environmental Research Center at Las Vegas.

An autopsy showed that Big Sam died of natural causes. Nine years is an unusually long life.

48 ATTEND GPO COURSE ON PRINTING

Forty-eight EPA employees from regional offices, research centers, and laboratories throughout the country attended a three-day seminar on "Editorial Planning for Printing Production" in Washington last month.

The lecture and workshop course was arranged by Henry Washington of the Printing Management and Distribution Section and Paul Ceresini, General Services Branch. It was presented by the Government Printing Office experts under the leadership of Robert McKendry, to help upgrade the work of the Agency's printing control officers, editors, writers, and illustrators.

Topics covered included format and type selection, copy preparation and proofreading, graphic design, printing methods, and printing procurement through GPO regional centers and commercial firms.

Give-and-take panel discussions with GPO people tackled many of the printing production problems of individual Agency programs, and Mr. McKendry said he hoped that similar meetings could be held in the future.

Attendees were given certificates for completing the course, and the sessions concluded with a tour of the main GPO publication facility.

Nine Regional Offices, four research centers, two detached laboratories, and Agency headquarters were represented at the sessions.

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Thomasina B. Bayless of NERC-Cincinnati, right, receives certificate for completing special course at Government Printing Office in Washington last month. Others in picture, from left, are Robert McKendry of GPO, course moderator; Henry F. Washington, chief, Printing Management and Distribution Section; and Paul Ceresini, chief, General Services Branch.

Jerry Moore's Work Helps Win State Award for Service Club

Jerry Moore, a fish and wildlife reviewer in EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs in Washington, is credited with helping to win a statewide award for the Chantilly, Va., chapter of the Jaycees service club.

The Outstanding Environmental Award was presented recently to the chapter for a series of voluntary projects during the last year, all sparked by Mr. Moore:

- He planned and supervised the landscaping of the State Jaycees' Camp Virginia for retarded children near Roanoke.
- He designed and guided the development of two "nature trails" in Fairfax County parkland, for one of which he obtained a grant from the national Jaycees organization, with matching funds from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
- He obtained 400 plants and shrubs that had been planted for the Transpo '72 exhibition last summer at Dulles Airport (designed by Mr. Moore) and had them transplanted after the exhibition to the grounds of two schools in Fairfax County and to a local park, all at no cost to the county.
- In cooperation with the Virginia Department of Highways, a tree nursery, and the Chantilly Jaycees, he designed and directed the landscaping of an entrance to a new housing development, Greenbrier.

Moore is also an instructor in wildlife management at Northern Virginia Community College, and is working with the college administration to increase the number of environmental courses available in the State's community college system.

Scholarship Deadline Is July 15; Speech Fund Reaches \$5,000

The deadline for applying for EPA scholarships for the 1973-74 academic year is July 15, according to Robert F. McDonald of the Office for Planning and Management, who manages the Scholarship Fund.

The fund now has about \$5,000 to distribute, McDonald said, mostly from honoraria and fees offered to Agency officials for speeches and magazine articles. EPA officials cannot accept such payments, but can ask the speech-sponsoring organization or the magazine publisher to make a voluntary charitable contribution in lieu of the fee. The Fund was established two years ago to receive such contributions and last year awarded \$5,550 in scholarships.

The scholarships are awarded to children of career employees having at least three years of service (or children of deceased or disabled employees). Recipients must be full-time students at an accredited college or junior college.

Sixteen persons held EPA Scholarships during the academic year that ends this month, and only one of these is graduating, McDonald said. The scholarships are renewable, but by June 1 only one or two renewal applications and 10 or 12 new applications had been received.

Applications forms may be obtained from the Personnel Officer at

Report Due Soon On Monitoring '72 Nuclear Testing

The NERC at Las Vegas is publishing this month a technical report on environmental radiation monitoring of all underground nuclear tests made by the United States in 1972.

The report describes the methods used and data obtained in "off-site" areas not immediately adjacent to "ground zero" the well-head above the detonation location.

any EPA location.

One of the biggest sources of speech-fee contributions to the Fund was cut off suddenly at the end of April, when Administrator William Ruckelshaus left EPA to become acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Ruckelshaus had to cancel speaking engagements that would have added "about \$3,500" to the Fund, McDonald said.

The Fund also welcomes donations from EPA employees and others. But the income from such tax-free gifts has dropped considerably from what it was last year, he said.

A five-man board of trustees will meet shortly after July 15 to choose the scholarship recipients.

DANIEL SNYDER NEW REGION III ADMINISTRATOR

Daniel J. Snyder III was appointed regional administrator of Region III, Philadelphia, last month.

Snyder had been acting in that post since Edward W. Furia resigned in February.

Snyder joined EPA in January, 1972, as regional counsel and five months later was named acting deputy administrator for Region III.

A native of Greensburg, Pa., Snyder is 29 years old and a graduate of Dickinson College and the University of Virginia Law School. He has been teaching environmental law at the Villanova University Law School, Villanova, Pa.

He and his wife Lynda live in Philadelphia.

Cywin Wins Patent on System For Disposing of Waste Heat

A patent on the design of a "closed loop" system to dispose of waste heat from power plants by using a municipal water supply as a "heat sink" has been granted to Allen Cywin, chief of EPA's Effluent Guidelines Division.

Cywin conceived the idea about three years ago when he was director of Applied Science and Technology for the Federal Water Quality Administration, an EPA predecessor agency in the Department of the Interior.

Cywin recently received notice that his patent had been allowed and numbered and would be issued in two or three months.

As a Federal invention, the patent "belongs" to the Interior Department but it is usable by anyone without payment of royalty. "All I get from it is some satisfaction," Cywin said, "and an item for my personnel record"

Cywin's scheme offers several advantages: prevention of thermal pollution of rivers or lakes, avoidance of costly cooling towers, and beneficial slight warming of the

municipal water system.

Water that has been heated by passing through the condensers of a power station or industrial plant, he explained, would go to the city water system's intake for treatment and distribution to domestic users.

Much of the added heat would be absorbed by the ground in which the water mains are laid. Most city systems have so great a volume of water flow that there would be only a few degrees rise in temperature at the tap. This warming would be desirable for the great majority of water uses, Cywin said, and it would speed bacterial action in the sewage treatment plant at the end of the line.

Cywin also claims his scheme could be adapted to the reuse of treated effluent water from sewage plants for power plant cooling. In such cases, if the effluent water quality is unsuitable for direct use in the municipal system, a heat exchanger or evaporator would be used to transfer the heat energy from effluent condenser water to the municipal system sink.