

Water Quality Advisory Work Group
Meeting Summary
July 11, 2006

**Welcome, Announcements, and Introductions – Sherry Smith, Program Specialist,
Wastewater Permitting Section**

- Charles Maguire is the new Land Applications Team Leader
- Water Quality Seminar – September 14-15, 2006 – Round Rock, Texas

Update on Municipal Reuse - Louis C. Herrin, III, Technical Assistant

- Draft application for domestic water reuse is now available for comment, Louis will email or mail it by request
- We are receiving several applications for reuse – will probably get more this summer from Houston area.
- Web access coming soon
- Direct reuse is picking up
- No term limits
- 210 authorizations do not have flow limits
- Requires self reporting

Update on Homeland Security - Louis C. Herrin, III, Technical Assistant

- Voluntary is changing to mandatory soon
- Several programs on how to put a natural disaster plan together are available on CD
- Louis will be sending a letter to all domestic permit holders
- All systems need to have plans for Homeland Security
- What happens in a natural disaster?
 - What systems need to be up and running first?
 - What if a wastewater plant is compromised?
 - What if an employee is missing?
 - Who should be contacted and when?
- Industrial facilities will be handled differently possibly by SIC codes
- Everyone should know what their plan consists of and how to implement it
- A list of contacts will be maintained by TCEQ staff in case of natural disaster
- All lift stations will be required to have quick connects
- All water and wastewater treatment plants must have reliable power supply
- We will also be requesting latitude/longitude on all lift stations, possibly requested in phases

**Update on Chapter 222 - Subsurface Area Drip Dispersal Systems - Louis C. Herrin, III,
Technical Assistant**

- Subsurface Area Drip Disposal System Rule effective July 5, 2006
- Application will be available online by August 1, 2006

- Q: Will the application take the place of permits for subsurface irrigation systems?
- A: Cannot require permit under this current rule until November 1, 2006

Water Program Funding and Fees - Derek Chapin, Chief Financial Office (Handout #1)

- 2005 Legislature cut agency General Revenue funding by \$20 million per year
- General Revenue now less than 1% of total TCEQ funding
- 98% of General Revenue fund goes to Water programs
- May ask Legislature to restore \$20 million to the General Revenue fund
- If General Revenue funding is not restored, options are increase current fees, adopt new fees, or cut current water programs and services
- The Governor's Office asked all state agencies to cut budget by 10%
- Consolidated Water Quality fee – accounts for over half of the revenue
- August 9, 2006 Agency – LAR – will be on Commissioners' Agenda – requests funding
- August 18, 2006 – will submit document to LBB & Governor's Office
- In September – discussion will tentatively be held with regard to agency's proposals
- Current obligation in Water programs is \$60 million
- Overdue fee adopted – If fee is overdue permit will not be issued
- \$200 threshold currently

Overdue Fee Policy – Sherry Smith, Program Specialist, Wastewater Permitting Section

- The overdue fee policy has been adopted.
- If an applicant has an overdue fee or outstanding penalty, the permit will not be declared administratively complete or issued; depending on when during the process the delinquency is discovered.
- This has been the policy of the Water Quality Division for some time. Applicants should notice little change in our procedure.
- For the next few months, balances less than \$200 will not hold up the permit processing. As soon as a new software package is complete (probably sometime this fall) the threshold will drop to \$25.

Update on Storm Water Phase II MS4 and Other General Permits - Sherry Smith, Program Specialist, Wastewater Permitting Section (Handout #3)

TXR040000 Phase II MS4s (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems)

- Currently briefing executive management. Will request to be set on the Commission Agenda for adoption when briefings are complete.

TXR050000 (MSGP)

- Currently briefing executive management
- Tentatively set for the August 9, 2006 Commission Agenda for adoption

TXR150000 (Construction Storm Water)

- Expires 3/2008
- Discussions have begun regarding renewal.

TXG110000 Discharges from Concrete Production

- Scheduled for ED briefing on July 13, 2006
- Will continue executive briefings followed by Commission Agenda for adoption

TXG130000 Aquaculture

- Adopted April 2006

TXG340000 Petroleum Bulk Storage Stations and Terminals

- Public comment period ended on June 19, 2006
- The RTC is currently being reviewed by TCEQ legal staff

TXG670000 Hydrostatic Testing

- Issued April 5, 2005.
- Accepting and processing NOIs.

TXG830000 Water Contaminated by Petroleum Fuel or Substance

- Expires October 2007
- Renewal is being drafted

TXG920000 Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation

- Amendment was adopted in April 2006.

WQG600000 Commercial solid waste discharge to a POTW

- Scheduled for the April 26th agenda for adoption.
- This permit will be administered by the Waste Permits Section.

WQG200000 Compost Manure

- Expires October 2007
- Renewal is being drafted

WQG600000 Commercial solid waste discharge to a POTW

- Adopted in April 2006
- Authorizations are being processed by the Waste Permits Division

Most Common Problems Found During Administrative Review - Laurie Lancaster, Team Leader, Applications Review and Processing Team (Handout #4)

- USGS map must be original with latitude/longitude
- Signatures are preferred in blue
- Questions for bilingual applicants have been revised
- Spanish templates are now available on the TCEQ website
- Notify ARP team if phases have changed so they have correct DMRs
- Fees assessed on September 1, 2006 – send Notice of Termination (NOT) for general permits or cancellations for individual permits before end of August so fees will not be assessed
- Renewal application – submitted 180 days before expiration date
- If there is good reason for exception, provide letter of explanation

2006 Standards Revision - Sidne Tiemann, Water Quality Standards Team (Handout #5)

- Life Toxic Criteria – EPA sent to USFWS for approval
- Next standards revision – preliminary public comments receiving and being reviewed
- Rule making process to begin soon

- Project work group meetings will begin in September
- Staff Wish list – Segment Boundary changes, site specific criteria

Wastewater Operator Licensing Update - Susan Hier, Operator Licensing Section, Compliance Support Division (Handout #6)

- There are approximately 10,500 current wastewater licenses
- We administer between 3,000 and 4,000 exams per year
- Class D operators of facilities incorporating subsurface area drip dispersal systems cannot renew or re-obtain the Class D license
- Facilities that incorporate subsurface area drip dispersal systems for effluent disposal must have a chief operator with at least a Class C license
- Operators can now renew their license on-line through Texas On-Line. TCEQ pays subscription fees, over 450 have applied on-line since April 3, 2006. Fast and easy! Beneficial to operators and staff
- Examination results are available on the TCEQ web site within about 2 weeks
- Operators can obtain their licensing information on the web, such as expiration date, CEU s earned and complete list of training courses taken
- Also available on the web site is program information such as examination schedules, rules and requirements, and need-to-know criteria.
- Protocol on processing applications for licensing - effective September 1, 2006, licenses and registrations will not be issued or renewed for individuals or companies who are delinquent in fee or penalties owed to the TCEQ.
- The Advisory Committee for Water Utility Operator Licensing will meet Friday July 14, 2006 at 9:30 am in Rm A-173

Next meeting date and suggested topics:

- Tuesday, October 10, 2006, TCEQ, Building F, Room 2210, 1:15 pm
- Suggested topics
 - Major changes in Water Quality Standards for nutrients and mercury
 - Appendix A and B - site specific changes
 - TMDL's work session
 - 316B – restoration
 - Update on water program funding fees

**Water Quality Advisory Work Group
Attendee List
April 11, 2006**

Tom Stang	TCC
Frank Mills	AEP
Tom Ballou	Sherwin Alumina
Antonella Georgesca	City of Houston
Walid Samarneh	City of Houston
Kevin Collins	Baker Botts LLP
Tammy Brooks	GLO
Pat Radloff	TPWD
Carol Batterton	WEAT
Mary Etter	LCRA
Lial Tischler	Tischler/Kocurek
Ann Ardis	USGS
Craig Maske	Dodson & Assoc.
Alicia Reinmund	LCRA
Rex Hunt	APA
Raj Bhattarai	City of Austin
Richard Eyster	TDA
Robert Ruiz	TWDB
James Grimm	TX Poultry
Ted Long	NRG Texas
Mahendra Mohite	Malcolm Pirnie
Norm King	TXDOT
Sherry Smith	TCEQ
Michelle Wilkinson	TCEQ
Susan Meckel	LCRA
Jennifer Dorsey	CDM
Kerry Whelan	Reliant Energy
Michelle Smith	Lloyd Gosselink
Myron Hess	National Wildlife Fed.
Steve Manning	Parsons
Ruben Cobs	City of Austin
Lydia Gonzalez Gromatzky	Beveridge & Diamond P.C.
Roxanne Jackson	City of Austin