

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY WORK GROUP (WQAWG)

Meeting *

July 17, 2018 @ 1:30 p.m.
Building E, Room 201S

Meeting Summary

All information presented in this document is a compilation of TCEQ staff notes and is not a transcript of the meeting; inadvertent errors and/or unintentional omissions of information may exist in this document. Any information cited should be verified by the user.

Moderator

Gregg Easley

Welcome and Introductions

General Permit (GP) Updates:

Harris County GP (TXG530000) Renewal

Laurie Fleet

Notes:

The TCEQ is proposing to renew the Harris County Onsite General Permit TXG530000, which authorizes the discharge of wastewater from on-site treatment systems connected to single family residences located in Harris County, Texas. The current permit expires on January 30, 2019. Draft permit sent to EPA in March 2018. EPA had no comments on our draft permit. We plan to publish the public notice on August 24th.

Livestock Manure Compost GP (WQG200000)

Laurie Fleet

Notes:

The TCEQ is proposing to renew the Livestock Manure Compost General Permit WQG200000, which authorizes the disposal of wastewater generated from livestock manure compost operations by evaporation or irrigation. The current permit expires on November 10, 2018. Public Notice published June 8 and 9, comment period ended July 9. The commission is expected to take action on the proposed permit on October 31, 2018.

Petroleum Contaminated Water GP (TXG830000)

Laurie Fleet

Notes:

The TCEQ is proposing to renew and amend the Petroleum Contaminated Water General Permit TXG830000, which authorizes the discharge of water contaminated by petroleum fuel or petroleum substances into or adjacent to water in the state. The current permit expires on September 12, 2018. EPA had no comments on our draft permit. We published the public notice on February 9th and the comment period ended March 12th. The commission is expected to take action on the proposed permit on September 05, 2018.

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations GP (TXG920000) Renewal

Gregg Easley

Notes:

The Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) General Permit TXG920000 is due to expire on July 20, 2019. The Water Quality Division's CAFO Permits Team has developed a draft general permit, which will be posted on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) website

for your review. The draft permit and fact sheet will be posted at the following link <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/general/index.html> along with the deadline to submit comments.

John Graves GP (TXG500000) Renewal

Lindsay Garza

Notes:

The TCEQ is proposing to renew the John Graves General Permit TXG500000, which authorizes discharges from certain quarries located in the John Graves Scenic Riverway. The current permit expires on April 7, 2019. The TCEQ is currently developing the draft permit.

Stormwater Construction GP (TXR150000) Renewal

Lindsay Garza

Notes:

- CGP effective March 5, 2013
- expires March 5, 2018
- Renewal process began September 2016
- Stakeholder meeting was held – October 17, 2016
- EPA Review - February 2017
- Public Notice – June 2017 (13 newspapers and Texas Register)
- Public Meeting – July 2017
- Agenda for adoption – February 7, 2018
- Draft permit, Fact Sheet, and RTCs are now available for viewing on Commissioner’s Corner webpage

MS4 Phase II General Permit (TXR040000) Renewal

Rebecca Villalba

Notes:

The TCEQ is proposing to renew the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit TXR040000, which authorizes the discharge of stormwater from certain small MS4s. The current permit expires on December 13, 2018. The TCEQ is currently developing the draft permit. The public comment period when set will be posted at

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/general/index.html>

Question: What is the projected timeline for publishing notice of, and seeking public comment on, the MS4 General Permit?

The publication date depends on when we receive EPA’s approval on the draft general permit. If they approve of the permit within a week, the soonest it could be published is September. TCEQ plans to send out a GovDelivery email to anyone signed up for wastewater and stormwater program updates. You can sign up at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTCEQ/subscriber/new>

Rule Updates:

30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 312 Biosolids Rule

Brian Sierant

Notes:

Proposed rule changes are underway for the 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 312 to provide clarification for the intent of rule requirements. The rulemaking will clarify the intent of existing requirements, remove inconsistencies, and improve readability. The timeline will be approved for drafting the rule. Stakeholders will be notified as soon as the timeline has been approved by the Commissioners.

Notes:

On June 14, 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency issued technology-based pretreatment standards to reduce the discharge of mercury-containing dental amalgam to publicly owned treatment works. These new regulations are found in 40 CFR Part 441. TCEQ initiated rulemaking to amend 30 TAC §305.541 to adopt 40 CFR Part 441 by reference. The rule was published in the Texas Register on February 9th and a public hearing was held on March 8th. The comment period ended on March 12th. The commission adopted the proposed rule on June 27th. The rule will be effective July 19th.

Federal Rule Clean Water Act Analytical Methods Update

David James

Notes:

The TCEQ is developing an implementation plan for the new final rule. The TCEQ discussed implementation expectations with EPA headquarters and reviewing what other states are doing.

A TCEQ internal workgroup has been formed with representatives from program areas across the agency to look at the impacts of the MUR on:

- TPDES permit applications and permitting,
- TPDES compliance monitoring,
- TCEQ-NELAP accreditation, and
- *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.*

Several internal workgroup meetings have been held since April 2018 to propose an implementation plan and timeline.

The Water Quality Division prepared and sent a draft memo to the TCEQ laboratory accreditation staff to request the addition to the field of accreditation for a non-potable water matrix the new analytical methods for pollutants that are analyzed under the respective methods. Comments were received and discussed with WQD management. The final memo is expected to be finalized and sent this week. The timeline for laboratories to be compliant has not been determined.

TCEQ will seek input on the draft implementation plan from an external workgroup made up of representatives from laboratories, consultants, permitted wastewater treatment facilities. If interested in participation, please send an email to Outreach@tceq.texas.gov. The TCEQ will seek input from interested parties in mid-February and set a meeting date, time, and location. Currently, there are 10 people that have expressed an interest to participate. No external workgroup meeting date has been set. Interested participants will be notified as soon as a date has been set.

Additional information will be provided to the regulated community when possible.

For additional information on the 2017 MUR, please go to the following EPA link: <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/methods-update-rule-2017>

Announcements:

WQAWG Meeting: Tuesday, October 16, 2018

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/WQ_advisory_group.html

EPA 20th Annual EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference will be held August 19-23, 2018, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. <http://tamuk-isee.com/conferences/epa2018conference/>

Notes:

Two additional announcements were mentioned during meeting:

1. The Autumn Environmental Conference and Expo combines the former Advanced Air Permitting and Water Quality/Stormwater Seminars and includes a one-day Waste Classification Workshop. This event provides engineers, environmental managers, consultants, and the regulated community updates on permitting rules, requirements, issues, and regulations. Registration will be available August 14, 2018.

Date: October 9-11, 2018

Location: Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, TX 78704

Agenda: Draft agenda should be posted by August 14, 2018. Follow [@TCEQEvents](#) on Twitter to get the latest updates.

Website: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/autumn-environmental-conference-and-expo>

2. 34th Annual EPA Region VI Pretreatment Workshop

Date: August 13-16, 2018

Location: Skirvin Hilton, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Agenda: Please visit the RVIPA [website](#) 

Registration and Hotel: Please visit the RVIPA [website](#) 

Questions:

Does TCEQ have a website where the public can search for wastewater permits?

Yes. The website to search for Individual Permits is <https://www6.tceq.texas.gov/wqpaq/index.cfm>

The website to search for General Permits and Registrations is

http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/wq_dpa/index.cfm

How does TCEQ provide information on upcoming events?

The public can look on the TCEQ website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/events> or sign up for GovDelivery emails and text messages at

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTCEQ/subscriber/new>

Adjournment