

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

**Meeting \***

October 16, 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**

**Chris Linendoll**

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 was published for public comment and comment period ended on Oct. 1st. The commission is expected to take action on the proposed permit on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

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:**

On September 05, 2018, the commission renewed 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. Permittees have until December 11<sup>th</sup> to submit a renewal application.

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations GP (TXG920000) Renewal

C.W. Schneider

**Notes:**

The TCEQ is proposing to renew and amend the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation General Permit TXG920000, which authorizes the discharge of manure, sludge, and wastewater into or adjacent to water in the state by Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). **The current permit expires on July 20, 2019.** TCEQ is reviewing stakeholder comments and finalizing the draft permit prior to submitting to EPA.

Stormwater Construction General Permit (TXR150000) Update

Lili Martinez

**Notes:**

The TCEQ has issued the 2018 Construction General Permit (CGP) TXR150000. For more information about the general permit and renewal applications, click on the link below. For more information about the new 2018 CGP documents and the forms, click on: [Additional Guidance and Quick Links: Construction Activities](#)

Multi-Sector General Permit (TXR050000) Update

Rebecca Villalba

Notes:

The 2016 TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for Industrial facilities, TXR050000 became effective August 14, 2016. Effective September 1, 2017, applicants looking to obtain coverage under the MSGP, must submit the NOI, NEC, NOT, and NOC forms using the [online e-permitting](#) system available through the TCEQ website or request and obtain an electronic reporting waiver. Electronic reporting waivers are not transferrable and expire on the same date as the authorization to discharge.

Paper Forms: If you do not have access to a computer, please call the TCEQ Stormwater Processing Center at 512-239-3700, to obtain the paper application forms.

John Graves General Permit (TXG500000) Renewal

Rebecca Villalba

Notes:

The TCEQ is in the process of renewing the TPDES general permit for the John Graves Scenic Riverway, TXG500000, which expires on April 7, 2019. The draft permit and fact sheet are now available for public comment and review. Refer to the link below for more information about the John Graves Scenic Riverway draft documents. [John Graves Scenic Riverway General Permit \(TXG500000\)](#)

MS4 Phase II General Permit (TXR040000) Renewal

Hanne Nielsen

Notes:

The TCEQ is in the process of renewing the TPDES general permit for small MS4s, TXR040000, which expires on December 13, 2018. **The draft permit and fact sheet are now available for public comment and review.** For more information about the Small MS4 Phase II draft documents and public meeting, click on: [General Permit TXR040000 for Phase II \(Small\) MS4s](#)

**Rule Updates:**

30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 312 Biosolids Rule

Brian Sierant

Notes:

As we are working on rulemaking for Chapter 312 to clarify the intent of existing requirements, remove inconsistencies, and improve readability, on October 5, 2018, the TCEQ received a rule petition requesting that the Commission amend 312.3, the exclusions section, to authorize the beneficial use of sewage sludge processed with grease trap waste, grit trap waste, and/or domestic septage at a domestic wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The processing of grease trap waste and/or domestic septage may not represent more than 50 percent and grit trap waste not to present more than 25 percent for grit trap waste of the total influent processed at the WWTP. Also, the combination of grease trap waste, grit trap waste, and/or domestic septage may not represent more than 50 percent of the total influent that is processed. The percentage would be measured by manifested gallons and the total influent will be calculated as reported on Discharge Monitoring Reports.

The petitioner also requests that the 312.8, the definition section of the rules, be amended to include the definitions for Domestic sludge, Domestic wastewater, Grease trap, Grease trap waste, and to revise the definition of Sewage sludge.

We are currently working on the petition and will present our recommendation at Commission Agenda on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

HB 2582 Exemption for Certain Aggregate Production Operations

Laurie Fleet

Notes:

House Bill 2582 amended the Texas Water Code (TWC), §28A.001(1) to add a new exemption to the list of existing exemptions in the definition of "Aggregate production operation" (APO). The exemption applies to a site at which specialty or terrazzo-type stone is removed or extracted from the earth, the material is produced for commercial sale and used exclusively for decorative or artistic uses, and the horizon that is exposed for current production does not exceed five acres.

TCEQ drafted the proposed rule to amend 30 TAC Chapter 342 to add the new exemption. The proposed rule will be presented at the December 12<sup>th</sup> commission meeting to request permission to publish in the Texas Register for public comment.

**Notes:**

- HB 2031 directed TPWD and GLO to develop recommended discharge zones in the Gulf of Mexico for marine seawater desalination discharges. The final report was submitted to TCEQ on August 27, 2018.
- TCEQ is required to adopt rules for discharge zones by 2020.
- Prior to 2020, a person must consult TPWD and GLO regarding the discharge point prior to submitting a wastewater discharge application to TCEQ.
- After 2020, all discharges of marine desalination reject water into the Gulf of Mexico must be within the established discharge zones.

**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](mailto: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, January 15, 2019

[https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/WO\\_advisory\\_group.html](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/WO_advisory_group.html)

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

WQAWG website: [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/WO\\_advisory\\_group.html](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/WO_advisory_group.html)

**\*NEW LINK:** This meeting will be available by webcast at the time of the meeting by clicking on <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/decisions/agendas/webcasts.html>

**Notes:** There was an issue with YouTube and the webcast. The issue has been fixed by You Tube and the link should be working. All attendees attending through webcast were notified and have since had access to the WQAWG webcast online.