

**Discussion Topics for 307.9: Standards Attainment
Water Quality Standards Workgroup May 16th, 2007
TCEQ Staff Draft**

Representative Sampling [307.9(a) – (c)]

- expand on how to ensure that samples used to assess standards compliance are “representative” of the water body [307.9(b) & (c)]
 - consider storm flow exclusion
 - better define peripheral areas of a water body that might not be representative
 - evaluate spatial averaging for certain parameters, such as is done for total dissolved solids (across entire water body)
- evaluate vertical averaging for samples, mixed-surface layer methodology for dissolved oxygen

Sampling periodicity and evaluation [307.9(e)]

- reevaluate which averaging statistic (mean or median) is appropriate for determining compliance with a given criterion and what averaging period is most appropriate
 - bacteria - assess recreational standards attainment based on geometric mean criterion only (use single sample maximum for swimmer safety notification and wastewater permit evaluation)
 - chloride, sulfate, total dissolved solids, and human health toxics criteria currently are evaluated as samples averaged (arithmetic mean) over a period of at least one year
- additional considerations/suggestions on identifying impaired water bodies