

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Drinking Water Advisory Work Group
January 9, 2007, Building F, Room 2210, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
SUMMARY

Welcome/Introduction -Buck Henderson

TCEQ Staff Updates:

Elston Johnson (Field Ops) 1/9/2007

- Presentation
 - Risk Based Investigation Strategy
(See handout)
 - Purpose of Investigation Strategy
 - Agency Responsibilities
 - How we accomplish mission
 - Background
 - Plan
 - Examples:
 - Water Facility Investigations
 - Wastewater investigations
 - Sludge in the creek
 - PWS
 - PWS Investigation
 - Waste
 - Municipal solid waste
 - Air quality
 - Summary
- Goal is efficient use of our resources

Questions

Charles Maddox

1 year investigation is extensive, the next year the inspection is abbreviated (focus on 1-2 issues)

Elston Johnson

Will do PWS inspection on as-needed basis

Ken Peterson

Will inspector notice PWS & establish time and place to meet?

Elston Johnson

Answer: yes

Ken Peterson

Customer complaints have resulted in inspector going to PWS, taking pressure reading, then writing violation to PWS.

Elston Johnson

Inspector will review the process so PWS has time to respond.

Marlo Berg- TROT

Small batch of SWT plants (approx 20) will be sent to enforcement group. Those PWS have already received NOV from Marlo.

Mike Lannen

Drought update

(See map)

287 PWS under contingency. Many PWS have not removed their drought contingency even though it recently rained. This is because they still have not reached a stage in their Drought Contingency Plan that allows them to modify their restrictions.

173 PWS- mandatory

114 PWS- voluntary

Total 287 PWS

Alicia Diehl

DLQOR

Disinfection residual reports

All PWS send report to TCEQ. Transient-non community PWS keep report on-site so inspector can review report.

Form is fillable-outable

Form is opened, and then converted to a data file.

Must send to TCEQ because of signature.

DWQ Team has received many phone calls.

UCMR 2

Rule published January 4.

Perchlorate is no longer collected.

Samples begin Jan 2008.

Stage 2 DBP Rule

Going full-steam.

Large systems (>100,000 pop) will be doing evaluation this year.

TCEQ will create sample cost estimate letter. Good tool for estimating budget.

Question

Byron Lowder

Sample collection

Alicia Diehl

Chem samples collected by TCEQ subcontractor

Marlo Wanielista Berg

LT2 samples collected by PWS

Alicia Diehl

Distribution system evaluation may identify area of system w/ high DBP concentration

Question

Is result to be reported on 2006 CCR?

Alicia Diehl

No. Need more discussion because will report on 2007 CCR.

Marlo Wanielista Berg

Surface water items will be included on CCR.

Tony Bennett

Intention is to follow EPA guidance for IDSE monitoring.

Answer:

Alicia Diehl

USMR sample collection delayed from July 2007 to Jan 2008. IDSE sample collection will not overlap UCMR2 sample collection.

Greg Rogers

DWP Team is developing GW Rule language.

Rule will increase number of raw water samples required.

Agency is working toward method of verifying electronic signature when lab results are submitted to TCEQ.

DLQOR e-submission

SWMOR e-submission

Marlo Wanielista Berg

Nobody likes typing in data

Propose to use assessment of a planning tool.

Question:

Can TCEQ open rule that addresses calibration of instruments?

Answer:

Marlo Wanielista Berg

Can't open rule that wasn't handed down from Feds

Ken Peterson

Legislature has procedure for opening rule that are in place.

BREAK

Doug Holcomb: Utilities & Districts Update

State Revolving Fund

TWDB recently sent solicitation letter to PWS. TCEQ works with TWDB to rank applicants.

Due date to submit completed solicitation letter is Jan. 26. Contact D. Holcomb or Dorothy Young for blank solicitation form.

Certified copy of CCN maps are being provided to PWS. TRWA is assisting TCEQ with providing map to PWS. Map is stored in county courthouse.

Question:

Ken Peterson

Will TCEQ send referral to enforcement?

Answer:

Doug Holcomb

TCEQ will give PWS reasonable amount of time to file certified map in county courthouse.

TCEQ used contractor to get map filed with courthouse.

Plans Review

An increased number of plans have been submitted in year 2006 compared to 2005.

Plans review has hired one additional person. New employee is >55 years old. Subcontractor of EPA is employer of new staff.

CCN expedited release

Release landowner or utility from existing CCN holder.

This is a new process.

Mark Zeppa

TCEQ has regulatory guidance on CCN expedited release.

See TCEQ website

Operator Licensing

T. Lopez

Rule revisions are now under way.

All licenses will be good for 3 years.

License applications go up \$3.00.

Will examine cost of training.

Process control rule to be removed then places in 290 Rule.

Proposed rule on Texas register April 2007.

Letter has been sent to training providers. Letter is to be signed then returned to TCEQ operator certification.

HB 38

Renewal application form has been updated so operator can renew on-line.

Online application is easier to complete.

Questions:

Will there be a fee for association meetings and computer based training?

Answer:

TCEQ still offers cluster training.

Contact staff in procurement- Regina Adams

Question:

El Paso repair of line-break by person that isn't certified operator.

Answer:

Elston Johnson

Foreman is to be certified operator; laborer does not have to be certified operator.

Tony Bennett

Intention is to follow EPA guidance for IDSE monitoring.

Buck Henderson Stakeholder Updates

Mark Pearson

Community Resource Group

Provide funding assistance, compliance assistance

Texas Water Utilities Association

Mark Hamilton

March 13,14,15 conference in San Antonio

Texas Municipal League

IWSCOT, Fri Feb 9, **Mark Zeppa**: Election to board, proposed legislation, and Fire flow requirement

De-certify ETJ Around a city incorporated area Association of water board directors Sam Jones

TRWA- Ken Peterson, Anticipate quiet legislative session. Interested in de-certification of ETJ. Will look at updating water code of cost to do line extension. Jan (next Thursday and Friday) TRWA conference in Austin, March 16 & 17 Annual Convention

TX AWWA: **Mike Howe** April 10-13, Fort Worth, TX, Annual Conference
Register at Texas-Water.com TX AWWA

Charles Maddox: PWS have received fines for line breaks as unauthorized discharges
Meeting this Thursday

City of El Paso: Did get hit with 100 year storm. June 2007- will start 27 MGD
Desalination plant

Buck Henderson Rainwater harvesting.

TCEQ now has new regulatory guidance (RG) for PWS that want to use rainwater as a source for drinking water purposes.

Also General Information (GI) Guidance for homeowner's private use of rainwater harvesting

Buck Henderson has taken a new position as Technical Assistant to Water Supply Division Director. He will continue to oversee the public drinking water program as the Texas Drinking Water Administrator in his new position and will continue to serve as "acting" PDW section manager until the position is filled.

Comment: NOVA Lab, Only 3 labs in state approved to perform cryptosporidium analysis. See EPA website for other labs. Analytical labs in Vermont.

Next DWA WG meeting April 3, 2007