

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Drinking Water Advisory Work Group (DWA WG) Meeting

October 20, 2020

Program Updates

- *Welcome*

Michele Risko – Manager - Drinking Water Standards Section

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Sean Ables – Special Assistant – Drinking Water Special Functions Section

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Permitting & Registration Support Division

Occupational Licensing Section

Shannon Watson – Section Manager

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Tamara Calhoun – Team Leader

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No updates.

Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Program Support Section

Kristi Mills-Jurach – Division Director

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Kendra Houston – Program Support Section Work Leader

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Marilyn Gates – Program Support Section Manager

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Al Fuentes - PWS/Water Liaison

OCE Program Support Section – Alfonso.Fuentes@tceq.texas.gov

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No updates.

Environmental Assistance Division (EAD)

Small Business and Local Government Assistance Section

Diana Steele - Team Leader

Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) Section

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No updates.

Water Supply Division

Plan & Technical Review Section (PTR)

Plan and Technical Review Section

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Brittney Wortham-Teakell – Technical Specialist/Special Assistant

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Plan Review Team

Vera Poe - Team Leader

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Response and Capacity Development Team

Kenneth Dykes – Team Leader

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Technical Review and Oversight Team

Stephanie Escobar – Team Leader

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Electronic Submittals

The team is accepting electronic submittals along with hard copy submittals when customers are able. Submittals may be sent via email to PTRS@tceq.texas.gov

Setback Distance Requirements at PWSs

After recent internal discussion on the Chapter 290 setback requirements between an OSSF sprayfield and a PWS treatment plant or storage tank, WSD staff believe that the Chapter 290 rules should be clarified and plan to amend the applicable portions of the rules in a future rule change. As is true for all TCEQ rules projects, there will be an opportunity for stakeholder input during the rule change process.

In the meantime, we are proposing to resume allowing a lesser setback requirement for OSSF sprayfields (150') rather than the more restrictive requirement for lands irrigated by sewage plant effluent (500'). We note that the rules which establish setback distance requirements for PWS groundwater source distinguish between OSSF sprayfields and lands irrigated by sewage plant effluent. Specifically, a 150-foot setback distance is required between PWS groundwater sources and OSSF sprayfields pursuant to 30 TAC §290.41(c)(1)(A), while a 500-foot setback

distance is required between PWS groundwater sources and lands irrigated by sewage plant effluent, 30 TAC §290.41(c)(1)(C).

We believe this approach is protective of public health because the design of low dosage, low angle spray OSSFs will result in aerosols being spread to a lesser extent and distance than larger spray irrigation systems for municipal wastewater effluent disposal. Additionally, a review of TCEQ historical regulations indicates a greater concern on protection of PWS groundwater sources than other PWS facilities. Based on this indication of program policy, it is both reasonable and protective to apply the same setback distance requirements for PWS groundwater sources to other PWS facilities.

Notification of Change to Report for Membrane Plants

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) determined that a change is needed at public water systems (PWSs) with surface water treatment plants (SWTPs) using low pressure membranes for pathogen removal. All PWSs with this type of treatment process must regularly pass a direct integrity test (DIT) to prove the membrane units can remove pathogens. TCEQ is changing one of the pressure values that must be reported on the surface water monthly operating report (SWMOR-ALT). The TCEQ developed an updated version of the SWMOR-ALT for this change. All membrane plants must begin using the updated version and reporting the changed pressure value on or before April 1, 2021. A letter explaining this change was mailed on October 16, 2020 to all impacted PWSs.

To assist PWSs that use low pressure membranes for pathogen removal with the transition to using the new SWMOR-ALT, the TCEQ is offering training. The training will be virtual, and PWSs will be matched with a small group of similar systems. In the trainings, TCEQ staff will explain the reason for the change, address future DIT requirements, answer questions, and cover data requirements for membrane plants. To receive an invitation to the training, you must: submit an email to PTRS@tceq.texas.gov; include “Membrane Training 2020” in the subject; and provide your PWS ID, plant name(s), and the email addresses for invitations.

To briefly explain the issue: currently PWSs that use low pressure membranes for pathogen removal report two values for each DIT, the pressure at the start of each DIT and the rate of change in the pressure during the test. The updated version of SWMOR-ALT requires PWSs to report the lowest pressure that occurred during the DIT instead of the pressure at the start of the DIT. The lowest pressure typically occurs at the end of a DIT. PWSs must continue reporting the DIT starting pressure on the current version of the SWMOR-ALT until they begin reporting the lowest pressure on the updated version.

By April 1, 2021, the lowest pressure during a DIT must be above the TCEQ-approved minimum pressure (P_{test}) for a unit to pass a DIT. This change may require reprogramming of the membrane programmable logic controller (PLC), supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, shutdown alarms, daily reports, and/or system storing historical data.

TCEQ will email a copy of the updated SWMOR-ALT to each PWS after they attend the training. For PWSs that do not attend a training session, the new version of the SWMOR-ALT

will be available on the TCEQ website on April 1, 2021. For PWSs who schedule a training date, TCEQ will send them new DIT parameters in advance of the training session. For all others, new DIT parameters will be mailed by March 1, 2021.

To summarize, all PWSs that use low pressure membranes for pathogen removal must begin using the updated SWMOR-ALT and reporting the lowest pressure during each DIT on or before April 1, 2021. These PWSs must submit the April 2021 SWMOR-ALT by May 10, 2021 with TCEQ form 20889 certifying the facility reported the lowest pressure during each DIT and providing verification data.

Plan Review Team (PRT)

Number of plans and specifications submittals processed by the Plan Review Team in July to September 2020: 635.

Evaluation for Potential Corrosivity: In 2016, TCEQ started using industry standard saturation indices to look at water corrosivity in order to evaluate how a new source or change in treatment may impact corrosivity. The three indices TCEQ started with were Langelier Saturation Index, Ryznar Stability Index and the Aggressive Index. Water chemistry in potable water mains is a complex issue with many variants. Just as each water system's final treated water varies, other factors, such as specific water quality parameter constituent levels, pipe materials, and presence or absence of corrosion control, may contribute to whether a system may become an Action Level Exceeder(ALE). Use of these indices is similar in that they are a potential indicator of future problems. TCEQ uses the indices in a graded approach to determine if additional sampling may be in order when systems request approval of new sources or adds/changes treatments that affect water chemistry. TCEQ has added two more indices to assist this determination. The two indices are Chloride to Sulfate Mass Ratio (CSMR) and the Calcium Carbonate Precipitation Potential (CCPP). Research has shown that the ratio of chloride to sulfate in the water can be an indicator of potential lead release. An evaluation of LCR tap sampling data from 12 drinking water utilities collected as part of a Water Research Foundation (WRF) project found that all of the water systems with chloride-to-sulfate ratios less than 0.58 met the 90th percentile action level for lead, whereas only 40 percent of the systems with chloride/sulfate ratios greater than 0.58 met the lead action level. TCEQ has also performed similar research on Texas PWSs. The research on Texas PWSs confirmed the WRF research. The CCPP is a more reliable water stability index to use since this index provides a quantitative measure of the calcium carbonate deficit or excess of the water, giving a more accurate guide as to the likely extent of CaCO₃ precipitation that provides a protective coating.

Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey: the EPA has indicated the four-year survey of infrastructure needs is on for 2020. The last update from EPA indicated the survey may be released for the accumulation of data in October. TCEQ will be working with the Financial Managerial and Technical Assistance contractor on completion of the surveys for selected PWSs and appreciates the PWSs participation in compilation of this important data. The survey is very important for water systems funding as the sum of the state needs are used to determine the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) allotment Texas will receive.

Technical Review and Oversight Team (TROT)

Number of Exception and Alternative Capacity Requirement requests processed by the Technical Review and Oversight Team during June 2020 – August 2020: 380.

Response and Capacity Development Team (RCDT)

Number of free on-site Financial, Managerial, and Technical (FMT) Assistance assignments made for public water systems by the Response and Capacity Development Team July – October 2020: 123. This number excludes assignments made for wastewater systems and contractor training events.

Capacity Development:

- Do you need funding or other assistance? The Texas Water Infrastructure Coordination Committee (TWICC) is an umbrella organization designed to help water and wastewater systems find funding. TWICC is made up of state and federal funding, regulatory and assistance agencies including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Texas Rural Water Association (TRWA), Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), General Land Office (GLO), Texas American Water Works Association (TAWWA) and Communities Unlimited. The last TWICC meeting was hosted remotely by USDA on July 15, 2020. If you are interested in talking to TWICC members about potential projects, funding and other assistance you can contact Dorothy Young at dorothy.young@tceq.texas.gov. Information on TWICC members, funding sources and other resource links are available at www.twicc.org. The next TWICC meeting is tentively scheduled to held online on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. The Public Utility Commission will host.
- TCEQ has a new category in the Public Drinking Water Recognition Program called Water Partners: Water Systems Helping Water Systems. You can nominate your water system or someone else's for both informal and formal partnerships. For more information, go to <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/recognition>.

Texas Optimization Program (TOP):

Due to safety concerns during the pandemic, TOP staff and contractors have reduced the number of onsite events. Remote technical assistance is available. For questions, please reach out to TOP staff by emailing TOP@tceq.texas.gov.

From July to September 2020:

- TOP staff conducted two membrane plant evaluations.
- TOP staff evaluated a regional raw water distributor.

The drop in onsite events has provided TOP staff and TOP Support contractors an opportunity to make much needed updates to existing operator and staff training documents and to develop new technical guidance materials. Updates are being made to:

- Directed Assistance Module (DAM) 2A Chemical Dosing
- DAM 2B SWTP Jar Test
- DAM 5 Chloramination
- DAM 10 SWTP Turbidity Data Integrity
- DAM 12 Cross-Connection Control Program Development

We have also been providing internal training to WSD staff through online meetings.

Drought:

- As of October 1, 2020, approximately 3.29% of the state is in exceptional drought, 8.73% of the state is in extreme drought, 8.89% of the state is in severe drought, 11.05% of the state is in moderate drought, and 10.69% of the state is abnormally dry. 57.35% of the state is not experiencing any drought related issues.
- As of October 1, 2020, the state's monitored water supply reservoirs are 81.2% full, a decrease of 4.5% since July 2020.
- Staff continue to monitor and provide additional resources to one High-Priority system and three Watch List systems until their current projects are completed.

Assistance for At-Risk Public Water Systems:

- Staff continue to monitor eleven systems in receivership, eight systems under temporary management and thirteen systems designated as "Primary At-Risk."

Cross-Connection Control:

- Program staff are utilizing Microsoft Teams to conduct remote Cross Connection Control Program surveys to assist systems. One remote survey was conducted this past quarter. Program candidates continue to be identified and scheduled for technical assistance.
- The TCEQ Cross-Connection Control Subcommittee conducted its quarterly meeting remotely on September 3, 2020. It was well attended with participation amongst long time members and new members. Topics discussed included Landscape Irrigation Program rule updates, additions to technical assistance materials, and navigating USC-approved backflow prevention assembly resources. Interested attendees can subscribe to meeting notifications on the TCEQ homepage or can contact Katherine McGlaughlin for more information. Katherine can be reached at Katherine.McGlaughlin@tceq.texas.gov.
- The Cross-Connection Control Program continues to receive frequent requests for approval of alternate forms.
- Mr. Peter Reitmeyer, contractor with the University of Texas at Arlington, has joined the TCEQ Cross Connection Program.

Public Water System Supervision Program (PWSSP)

Jessica Hoch – PWSSP Lead Quality Assurance Specialist

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(512) 239-2353

- What is the Public Water System Supervision Program (PWSSP)?
 - The state is required to maintain a PWSS program in order to retain primary enforcement authority (primacy) over Texas public water system compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).
 - The program is implemented by many areas of the agency.
 - Program webpage

- <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/pwss.html>
- What is the PWSPP Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)?
 - The TCEQ's PWSPP QAPP is an EPA approved document that guides systems and laboratories on requirements for collection, analysis, and reporting of data for compliance with SDWA.
 - The PWSPP QAPP includes requirements that are not only applicable to laboratories analyzing and reporting drinking water data, but there are requirements that a PWS must adhere to described in the documents as well.
 - It is of the utmost importance for the PWS to be aware of requirements in the QAPP in order to ensure their chosen laboratory will meet those requirements.

Drinking Water Standards Section

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Drinking Water Assessment Team

Laura Higgins - Team Leader

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Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Program

(Mia Gonzales, Claire Carlton, Lillian Johnson, Charlotte Pope, Jacqueline Hernandez, Sharika Thompson, Tammy Huynh)

Data Integrity and Adequacy

- Please direct QA concerns to the PWSS QA Officer, Jessica Hoch at <mailto:jessica.hoch@tceq.texas.gov>.
- Performing regular outreach to the micro labs to resolve month data gaps and ensure continuity of operations.
- Continuing program efforts to work with systems and laboratories to ensure all data is reported.

- Ensure system operators are completing documentation appropriately.
 - Guidance for systems on how to complete the MRF:
 - <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/permitting/watersupply/pdw/tcr/Complete%20the%20Microbial%20Reporting%20Form.pdf>
 - <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/permitting/watersupply/pdw/tcr/Complete%20the%20Microbial%20Reporting%20Form.pdf>
- Laboratory MRF Guidance:
 - <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/permitting/watersupply/pdw/tcr/Laboratory%20Guidelines.pdf>
- TCEQ issues corrective actions to laboratories that do not adhere to the QAPP.
 - When laboratories do not adhere to the QAPP, systems are at risk of receiving violations.
- Hold labs accountable for the requirements you need them to adhere to in order to remain in compliance.
 - File a complaint directly with the laboratory, when needed. NELAP accreditation requires laboratories to follow up on and keep record of all complaints and associated resolution.
- QAPP Addendum 4 is available on the RTCR Program and Public Water Supply Supervision (PWSS) webpages.
 - The requirements are applicable to laboratories and PWS.
 - Be knowledgeable in order to hold your lab accountable.

Groundwater Rule (GWR) Program

(Matt Court, P.G., Ken Quinney)

Triggered Source Monitoring Reminders

- A groundwater system that has a positive sample in the routine, monthly distribution coliform sampling must collect a Triggered Source Monitoring (TSM) “raw” coliform sample at each active well.
 - If there are multiple routine, monthly distribution coliform samples that are positive on the same day; you must collect a TSM “raw” coliform sample for each routine positive at each active well.
- If the raw well sample is *E. coli* positive, the system must perform corrective action under the GWR.
 - If you receive notification of an *E. coli* positive raw sample result, please contact the TCEQ’s GWR program staff for corrective action guidance.
- If a system has a violation from a TCEQ investigator that is identified as a significant deficiency, the system needs to resolve that violation through the region investigator. If the violation is not corrected within 120 days then it may result in an additional GWR significant deficiency violation.

Assessment Source Monitoring Reminder

- A groundwater system may have wells placed on Assessment Source Monitoring (ASM) by the TCEQ if there is a request for an exception or concerns about contamination from surface water.
- Please ensure you review your system's correspondence with the TCEQ related to requirements for ASM "raw" coliform samples at specified wells.
 - The GWR Program has noted some systems continue to collect ASM samples when there is no a compliance requirement for the samples.
 - If your system monitors wells for internal process control and data collection, please ensure the Microbial Reporting Form (MRF) has the samples marked as "special" so they are not used for compliance determinations.

Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Program

(Jason Williams, Colin Gearing, Lauren Medlin, Thressa Webb, Chance Rushing)

Seth Kramer has left the LCR team to head up the voluntary Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Program Drinking Water grant program. Please contact Seth for information on this new testing program at seth.kramer@tceq.texas.gov.

Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

- Rule still in proposed status. Promulgation and implementation timelines not determined. For specific questions about the proposed rule reach out the EPA.
- Proposed Revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule EPA website
 - <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/proposed-revisions-lead-and-copper-rule>
- EPA Lead and Copper Rule Proposal Infographic
 - https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-10/documents/proposed_lead_and_copper_rule_infographic.pdf
- EPA Reference Guide for Public Water Systems
 - https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-10/documents/lcr_proposal_comment_request.pdf

Tap Sampling

The tap sample reporting deadline was October 10th for all 2,000+ systems scheduled to monitor between June and September of this year. The LCR Program is currently determining compliance and updating sample schedules. All systems scheduled to collect tap and water quality parameter samples during the July – December 2020 monitoring period have been notified. A list of sample sites was enclosed in the monitoring notification letter, so please ensure staff/personnel involved in tap monitoring use the provided list of sites and corresponding LCR sample point IDs. A list of systems scheduled to sample during this six-month monitoring period can be found on the Lead and Copper Program Webpage. Systems scheduled to collect lead and copper tap samples during Routine 6M2 are reminded to sample and follow the steps summarized below:

- Review guidance on the TCEQ's Lead and Copper Website and ensure all steps associated with lead and copper tap sampling are completed and accurately documented. Set your system up for success and sample early.
 1. Contact an accredited laboratory for bottles and analyzing samples. Ensure sample receipt, acceptability, analysis, and reporting.

2. Visit the TCEQ Lead and Copper website for forms and instructions.
 3. Complete the Lead Consumer Notice form after sampling and deliver to customers and the TCEQ.
 4. Follow up with Texas Drinking Water Watch to make sure your data has been reported and accepted by TCEQ.
- QAPP Addendums 2 & 3 are available on the LCR Program and PWSS webpages.
 - These requirements are applicable to laboratories and PWS.
 - Be knowledgeable in order to hold your lab accountable.

The TCEQ encourages public water systems to make available to the public any information regarding the location of lead plumbing, fixtures, and/or pipes including lead service lines. Methods to make this material publicly available include posting maps or other locational information on your system's website, and adding into your Consumer Confidence Reports, Lead Consumer Notices, and Lead Public Education documents, as applicable. The TCEQ also encourages that the information be made available to your customers upon request.

- The EPA also highly encourages making public all discoveries of lead in your system.

Drinking Water Quality Team

Kasy Stinson - Team Leader

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Chemical Compliance Program- PWSCHEM@TCEQ.texas.gov

(James LaManna, Emily Smith, Colt Kernan, Rhea Cypert, Ian Sharp, Nathalie Bello, Matthew Munro)

- Staff and Program Areas
 - James LaManna x2374
 - Organics Compliance
 - Chemical Sample Collection Contract
 - Emily Smith x5282
 - Chemical Monitoring and Reporting Compliance
 - Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)
 - Chlorine Dioxide, Chlorite, and Bromate
 - Colt Kernan x4752
 - Inorganics Compliance
 - Radionuclides Compliance
 - Rhea Cypert x5728
 - Disinfection Byproducts (DBP) Compliance
 - Operation Evaluation Level (OEL) Compliance
 - Nathalie Bello x2533
 - Lab Approval
 - Sample Scheduling
 - Ian Sharp x0542
 - OEL

- Matthew Munro x5821
 - DLQOR

Surface Water Treatment Rule- SWTR@TCEQ.texas.gov

(Donald Hunter x4661, Aaron Vu x5216)

- If you have concerns about the physical copy of your SWMOR being delayed in the mail, please provide an additional scanned copy to SWTR@tceq.texas.gov
- SWMOR Audits: The program has been performing in-depth audits on systems each month. Several issues identified include: the SWMOR being set-up incorrectly (i.e. wrong CT parameters, wrong DIT parameters), reporting being completed incorrectly (i.e. data being pulled in a manner inconsistent with rule), and data consistencies/inconsistencies which indicate improper reporting or programming issues.
 - Please take this opportunity to check:
 - Is my SWMOR set-up using my most recent CT study and DIT parameters, as applicable?
 - Is my plant sampling and associated data being performed at the correct times and locations as reported in the SWMOR and consistently with my CT/DIT letters?
 - Are the reports, tools, and calculations programmed into my SCADA and/or used to produce data for my SWMOR set-up correctly?
- SWMOR Housekeeping
 - Make sure you are using the most up-to-date forms
 - Can be found on TCEQ website: [Forms, Instructions, and Guidance for Surface Water Monthly Operating Reports \(SWMORs\)](#)
 - Recommendations
 - If you have questions, contact TCEQ

Drinking Water Special Functions Section

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Drinking Water Technical Review Team (DWTRT)

Vacant – Team Leader

Public Information Requests (PIRs)

(Kent Steelman and Data Support Group)

- PDW Section Responses to Public Information Requests Completed – **1**
- PDW stated it had no responsive documents – **17**
- PDW provided individual response and/or data package – **12**

Data Support

(James Stapel, Kent Steelman, Rylan Fields, Ben Wesley, Lee Apostolo, Stephen Taylor)

- Continued work on the 2019 Annual Compliance Report
- Continuing implementation of courtesy reminder project
- Federal Reporting of Compliance Data to EPA
 - Texas submitted **485,536** records to EPA for review
 - These data include information on public water system facilities, compliance samples, and violations and enforcement actions
 - TCEQ has a current error rate of **0.09%**

Sample Migrations

(Lee Apostolo and Sarah Magana)

- Environmental Electronic (E2) Reporting
 - **132,843** sample records submitted through E2
 - **83** labs are reporting through E2
- Chem Reporting
 - Sample records migrated **24,757**
- Lead and Copper Migrations
 - Sample records migrated **15,152**

Enforcement

(Sally Paramo, CarMello Manning, Caleb Ingle, Arin Kent-Poole)

Enforcement

- 3rd Quarter 2020
 - **42** Enforcement cases
 - **1** Data maintenance case
- 2nd Quarter 2020
 - **41** Enforcement cases
 - **0** Data maintenance case

Pre-Enforcement

- Notes for 3rd Quarter 2020
 - 78 new systems reviewed
 - 57 systems have been completed
 - 178 systems are still open and have unresolved violations
- Notes for 2nd Quarter 2020
 - 206 new systems reviewed
 - 136 systems have been completed
 - 176 systems are still open and have unresolved violations

Post-Enforcement

- Notes for 3rd Quarter 2020
 - 3 new system reviewed
 - 2 cases have been closed
 - 28 cases are still open and have unresolved violations
- Notes for 2nd Quarter 2020
 - 1 new systems reviewed
 - 1 case have been closed

- 32 cases are still open and have unresolved violations

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

(Arin Kent-Poole and Kent Steelman)

Generating violations and sending violation letters

Drinking Water Inventory and Protection Team (DWIP)

Patrick Kading – Team Leader

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Leticia DeLeon – Technical Assistant

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Boil Water Notices

(Mike Howell)

In Q3 2020, the DWIP team received notification of 640 issued Boil Water Notices and 557 Boil Water Notices rescinded.

Public Notice

(Kristi Krieg, Mike Howell and Nicole Frisbie)

Public Notices Submitted (Data Entry):

July 2020: 588

Aug. 2020: 407

Sept. 2020: 545

Q2 2020 Total: 1,540

Public Notice Violations:

July 2020: 448

Aug. 2020: 64

Sept. 2020: 103

Q2 2020 Total: 615

Public Health Service Fees

(Teri Cisneros)

CY 2020:

Total invoices: 7,037 (approximately)

Amount invoiced: \$25,498,764 (approximately)

Date invoices will be mailed: November 2019 (dated 11/30/2019)

Due date: 12/30/2019

As of 09/30/2020 **99.81% collected for CY2020**

Regulatory Assessment Fees

(Teri Cisneros)

CY 2019: 2,273 postcards mailed out December 20, 2019.

As of 09/30/2020 **95% collected**

Inventory Team Information:

(Hannah Evans, Nicole Frisbie, Zach Spivey, Taylor Nickell, Collin Goostree, Kendall Adair, Paiton Upshaw, Celinda Vallejo-Rodriguez, Tabitha Guardiola, James Harville, Katia Ayala, Emily Mailman)

In Q3 2020, DWIP Inventory Team received 1,437 requests and processed 1,409 requests.

Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP)

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

18 EPP letters went out from July to September 2020.

Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

6 Emergency Contact Update (ECU) forms were processed since July 2020. Water systems are encouraged to keep their emergency contact information up to date at all times. The information can be verified on [Drinking Water Watch](#). A water system needing their information updated can email in their request to pdws@tceq.texas.gov or call (512) 239-4691 to request a 2021 form. The TCEQ will begin to mail out the 2021 form in **October 2020** to ensure updates for water systems across the state are completed by May 2021. These forms are mailed out in four batches starting with water systems located along the coast and then moving north towards the Texas Panhandle.

If you have any questions you can also contact Leticia De Leon at (512) 239-4978 or (512) 965-2371.

TCEQ is working with EPA to bring a Texas Virtual Community Based Water Resiliency Workshop with an emphasis on Cybersecurity on November 5, 2020. The registration link is posted on the DWAWG webpage.

Superior Systems

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

5 Superior System letter reviews were conducted from July to September 2020.

Source Water Protection (SWP)

(Mason T. Miller)

- TCEQ DWIP Team manages the SWP contract and assists public water systems with completing and updating SWP plans.
- TCEQ SWP contractor is CDM Smith
- During FY20 CDM Smith and subcontractors will complete source water protection plans for 26 groundwater systems and three surface water bodies.
- TCEQ DWIP Team assists Texas Rural Water Association as they work with public water systems updating SWP plans and implementing best management practices throughout the state.
- Partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to implement SWP at State Parks.
- TCEQ DWIP Team staff serve as the TCEQ GPS Coordinators and Trainers for TCEQ's staff and contractors.
- TCEQ DWIP Team coordinates the TCEQ PDW Conference

- TCEQ DWIP Team assists with the Texas Optimization Program (TOP)
- TOP - Recognition Program Update (July 2020 through September 2020)
 - Water Treatment Plants receiving annual awards this quarter: City of Houston Southeast (1YR), City of Denton – Lake Ray Roberts (2YR)
 - 23 surface water treatment plants participating in Recognition Program, currently five have met all the requirements continuously for 5 to 10 years, three for 10 to 15 years and one for more than 15 years.
 - For more information on the Texas Optimization Recognition Program please contact Mason T. Miller at mason.miller@tceq.texas.gov

PDW Conference Update

- TCEQ hosted its 17th Annual Public Drinking Water Conference on August 4-5, 2020.
- This year the PDW Conference moved to an online format due to COVID-19.
- Over 1,400 people attended the online event, including TCEQ staff, exhibitors, speakers, water operators, water system managers, laboratory professionals and engineers from across the state.
- By going to an online format, we were able to reach a larger audience.
- The 2020 TCEQ Online PDW Conference proved to be challenging and rewarding!

Next DWA WG Meeting: January 2021