

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Cross-Connection Control Subcommittee  
March 5, 2008  
Building F, Room 2210  
9:30a m - 2:30 pm**

Welcome and Introductions

Announcements

1. Next meeting of the subcommittee will be held on June 4, 2008.
2. TCEQ Legal staff confirmed that the information about this subcommittee available online through the TCEQ website meets the open meeting requirements.
3. The TCEQ Public Drinking Water Section Manager confirmed that this subcommittee does have the authority to issue policy statements. These statements must be approved by the Drinking Water Advisory Workgroup.
4. A new TCEQ webpage regarding cross-connection control and backflow prevention is available and can be found at:  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water\\_supply/pdw/trot/cc\\_control.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/pdw/trot/cc_control.html)
5. A new award has been created for “Outstanding Cross-Connection Control Programs.” Information about the award criteria can be found at:  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water\\_supply/pdw/recognition/crossconnectioncontrol.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/pdw/recognition/crossconnectioncontrol.html)

Adoption of minutes from meeting held December 6, 2007.

TCEQ Regulatory Guidance Document: RG-206 A Public Water System Guide to Customer Service Inspections

Extensive group discussion of recommended revisions to the document. Recommended revisions were made by a subgroup of the committee composed of: Byron Hardin (Brown and Caldwell), Larry Bell (Texas Rural Water Association), Danny Lytle (City of Austin), and John Jordan (American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE)/Houston Area Plumbing Joint Apprenticeship Committee (HAPJAC)). Based on these discussions, changes will be made to the document and the revised document will be distributed for review at the next meeting.

TCEQ Regulatory Guidance Document: RG-345 Backflow Protection of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems

Mark Redlitz, Texas Fire Marshall’s Office

- Presentation of a revised version of the RG-345 document. The original document was based on the American Water Works Association’s Manual M14: Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. The revised document takes into account changes made in the

AWWA Manual's 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Members of the subcommittee should review the revised document and be prepared to discuss the document at the next meeting.

Bruce Pearson, San Antonio Water System

- The subcommittee should recognize Mr. Redlitz's outstanding work on the revisions to this document.

#### Biochemical Treatment of Firelines to Prevent Microbiological Contamination (MIC)

Group discussion of the best way to address situations where chemicals are injected into firelines to prevent MIC. Education efforts could be aimed at the public, via information posted on the State Fire Marshall's website, or to sprinkler system inspectors, fireline contractors, or the manufacturers of these chemicals.

Andy Waite, EPA Region 6

- It may be possible to address chemical injection of firelines using the Federal Rules and Regulations for anti-terrorism. EPA staff will look into this possibility.

#### New RG: Establishing and Managing an Effective Cross-Connection Control Program

- Discussion of the proposed RG was tabled until the next meeting.

#### Color-Coding of Water Lines

Bruce Rathburn, San Antonio Water System/American Backflow Prevention Association

- Presentation of information regarding inconsistencies between different sources regarding proper color-coding and labeling of water lines. Plumbing Codes provide guidance for piping inside buildings but guidance for the piping between the meter and building is lacking. Due to aquifer protection issues in the San Antonio area, it is necessary to distinguish between raw groundwater and raw surface water.

General discussion about whether the situation could be addressed via pipe labeling. Drawbacks to pipe labeling explored. Necessity for wellhead protection also discussed. No resolution reached during discussion.

#### EPA Presentation on Revisions to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR)

Andy Waite

- Information about revisions to the TCR is available at:  
[http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/tcr/regulation\\_revisions\\_tcrdsac.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/tcr/regulation_revisions_tcrdsac.html)
- One of the options that is being explored during the revision of this rule is to provide incentives (such as reduced sampling requirements) to public water systems if the system can demonstrate that the distribution system is being well managed and maintained. One way a public water system could demonstrate

good management of the distribution system is by running an effective Cross-Connection Control Program.

Remaining Agenda Items: Backflow Prevention at RV Parks

- Tabled until next meeting.

Remaining Agenda Items: Draft Staff Guidance Documents

- Please look at the following draft staff guidance documents before the next meeting:
  - Backflow Incident Protocol
  - Compliance with CSI Requirements
  - Requirements for Placement of Assemblies