

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

July 20, 2021

Program Updates

- *Welcome*

Michele Risko – Manager - Drinking Water Standards Section

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Dania Grundmann – Special Assistant – Drinking Water Standards

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Steven Swierenga – Manager - Drinking Water Special Functions 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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(512) 239-6543

Tamara Calhoun – Team Leader

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Reminders:

- BPAT Waivers for the practical skills continuing education requirement will end on Sept 30, 2021.

Updates:

- Beginning September 2021, [Paper exams](#) will resume in all TCEQ Region offices on a quarterly basis only. [Registration](#) will be available online.
- Recently developed a guidance document for training providers who received provisional approval to help them transition their live-online classes to a formal approval

Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Program Support Section

Kristi Mills-Jurach – Division Director

OCE Program Support and Environmental Assistance Division – Kristi.Mills-Jurach@tceq.texas.gov

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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

512-239-1407

No updates.

Environmental Assistance Division (EAD)

Small Business and Local Government Assistance Section

Carmen Ramirez-Garcia - Team Leader

Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) Section

Carmen.Ramirez@tceq.texas.gov


(956) 721-8457

Free Asset Management Webinars. We still have a few dates available. [Public Water System Webinars: Asset Management for Small PWSs - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - www.tceq.texas.gov](#)

The following compliance notebooks are also available on the [Public Water Supply: Compliance Resources](#) Webpage.

[Public Water System Activation and Inactivation](#)  (RG-550) – guidance on how to update an approved system's status to active or inactive.

NEW [Water Hauler Compliance Notebook](#)  (RG-540) – a record keeping tool to help water haulers gather and organize documentation required to be available during an inspection.

NEW [Community PWS Compliance Notebook](#)  (RG-545) – a record keeping tool to help community PWSs gather and organize documentation required to be available during an inspection.

UPDATE [TNC PWS Compliance Notebook](#)  (RG-549) – a record keeping tool to help TNC PWSs gather and organize documentation required to be available during an inspection.

Water Supply Division

Plan & Technical Review Section (PTR)

Plan and Technical Review Section

Joel Klumpp - Manager

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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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No updates.

Drinking Water Standards Section

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Drinking Water Assessment Team

Laura Higgins - Team Leader

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(512) 239-2354

Drinking Water Quality Team

Kasy Stinson - Team Leader

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No updates.

Drinking Water Special Functions Section

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Sean Ables – Special Assistant

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(512) 239-1758

Drinking Water Technical Review Team (DWTERT)

James LaManna – Team Leader

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Public Information Requests (PIRs)

(Kent Steelman and Data Support Group)

- PDW Section Responses to Public Information Requests Completed – **16**
- PDW stated it had no responsive documents – **10**
- PDW provided individual response and/or data package – **6**

Data Support

(James Stapel, Kent Steelman, Rylan Fields, Ben Wesley, Hanny Martinez, Lee Apostolo)

- Continuing implementation of courtesy reminder project
- Federal Reporting of Compliance Data to EPA
 - Texas submitted **498,689** 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 **0.16%**

Sample Migrations

(Lee Apostolo, Sarah Magana)

- Environmental Electronic (E2) Reporting
 - **128,593** sample records submitted through E2
 - **84** labs are reporting through E2
- Chem Reporting
 - Sample records migrated **21,223**
- Lead and Copper Migrations
 - Sample records migrated **3,683**

Enforcement

(Sally Paramo, CarMello Manning, Caleb Ingle)

Enforcement

- 1st Quarter 2021
 - **25** Enforcement cases
 - **1** Data maintenance case
- 2nd Quarter 2021
 - **43** Enforcement cases
 - **2** Data maintenance case

Pre-Enforcement

- Notes for 2nd Quarter 2021
 - 57 new systems reviewed
 - 45 systems have been completed
 - 165 systems are still open and have unresolved violations

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

(Arin Kent-Poole and Kent Steelman)

2020 CCR generator is live

- 771 Provider Certificates of Delivery have been received
- 2,079 Consumer Confidence Reports have been accepted as compliant
 - 92% (2,079/2,262) of currently reviewed CCRs are compliant

Drinking Water Inventory and Protection Team (DWIP)

Patrick Kading – Team Leader

Patrick.kading@tceq.texas.gov (512) 239-4670

Leticia DeLeon – Technical Assistant

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Boil Water Notices

(Mike Howell)

In Q2 2021, the DWIP team received notification of 543 issued Boil Water Notices and 455 Boil Water Notices rescinded.

Public Notice

(Kristi Krieg, Mike Howell and Nicole Frisbie)

Public Notices Submitted (Data Entry):

April 2021: 596

May 2021: 412

June 2021: 559

Q1 2021 Total: 1,567

Public Notice Violations:

April 2021: 732

May 2021: 61

June 2021: 512

Q1 2021 Total: 1,305

Public Health Service Fees

(Teri Cisneros)

CY 2021:

Total invoices: 7,034 (approximately)

Amount invoiced: \$25,846,420 (approximately)

Date invoices were mailed: November 2020 (dated 11/30/2020)

Due date: 12/30/2020

As of 04/01/2021 **99.64% collected for CY2021**

Regulatory Assessment Fees

(Teri Cisneros)

CY 2020: 2,283 postcards mailed out December 2020.

As of 04/01/2021 **84% collected**

Inventory Team Information:

(Hannah Evans, Nicole Frisbie, Taylor Nickell, Collin Goostree, Kendall Adair, Celinda Vallejo-Rodriguez, Tabitha Guardiola, James Harville, Katia Ayala, Daniel Tomlinson, Shannon Uptmor, Dustin Scoggin)

In Q2 2021, DWIP Inventory Team received 2,821 requests and processed 1,967 requests.

Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP)

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

12 EPP letters went out from May to July 2021.

Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

559 Emergency Contact Update (ECU) forms were processed between April 2, 2021 and July 8, 2021. 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. TCEQ began to mail out the 2021 form in October 2020 to ensure updates for water systems across the state are completed by May 2021.

The State Legislature passed Senate Bill 3 on June 6, 2021. The new law under the Texas Water Code (TWC) Section 13.1394 requires all affected utilities across Texas to prepare and implement an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP). An EPP is a packet of information that a water system submits to TCEQ for review and approval. The plan applies to affected utilities and contains information about the water system and how it operates under emergency conditions. The plan proposes to TCEQ how the water system will maintain a water pressure of 20 psi (pounds per square inch) throughout the distribution system when the power has been off for more than 24 hours during an emergency and contains emergency contact information.

According to TWC Section 13.1394, an affected utility is defined as a retail public utility, exempt utility, or provider or conveyor of potable or raw water service that furnishes water service to more than one customer; and is **not** an affected utility under Section 13.1395 of the TWC. Furthermore, the law requires water systems providing water under emergency conditions during an extended power outage must do so at a minimum water pressure of **20 psi**.

TCEQ is working on creating a new template to be posted on the TCEQ website and letters will be sent out to all utilities informing them if they are affected or non-affected.

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

Superior Systems

(Leticia DeLeon and Taylor Nickell)

Zero Superior System letter reviews were conducted from May-July 2021.

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 FY21 CDM Smith and subcontractors will complete source water protection plans for 30 groundwater systems and one surface water body.
- 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.
 - SWP plans have been completed for Guadalupe River State Park and Choke Canyon State Park Calliham

- TCEQ DWIP Team staff serve as the TCEQ GPS Coordinators and Trainers for TCEQ’s staff and contractors.
- TCEQ DWIP Team assists with the Texas Optimization Program (TOP)
- Texas Optimization Recognition Program Update:
 - Water Treatment Plants that received annual awards March 2021 through May 2021: Benbrook Water Authority 14 years, City of Dallas – Bachman 14 years, City of Dallas – Elm Fork 8 years, and City of Gainesville 11 years
 - 23 surface water treatment plants participating in Recognition Program, currently three have met all the requirements continuously for 5 to 10 years, three for 10 to 15 years and one for more than 20 years.
 - For more information on the Texas Optimization Recognition Program please contact Mason T. Miller at mason.miller@tceq.texas.gov

TCEQ 2021 Online Public Drinking Water Conference

(Mason T. Miller)

Please join us at this year’s Public Drinking Water Conference on August 10-11, 2021, online!

DURING THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE YOU CAN:

- Earn continuing education units toward your water operator license for the qualifying sessions you attend.
- Video chat with regulators about your public water system and receive free assistance.
- View exhibitor videos, visit exhibitor websites, and discover exciting new products and services.
- Obtain information about current and upcoming rules and regulations.
- And best of all...it’s FREE!

For more information and to register in mid-May visit the PDW Conference website:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/conference.html>

Next DWA WG Meeting: October 2021