



Financial, Managerial, and Technical (FMT) Assistance Program

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Mission Statement



The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality strives to protect our state's public health and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is clean air, clean water, and the safe management of waste.

FMT Assistance Program Background

- Initiated under the Safe Drinking Water Act – 1996 Amendment, Section 1420
- Supports public health objectives of the Texas Capacity Development Program
- Free assistance for any public water system



Types of Assistance

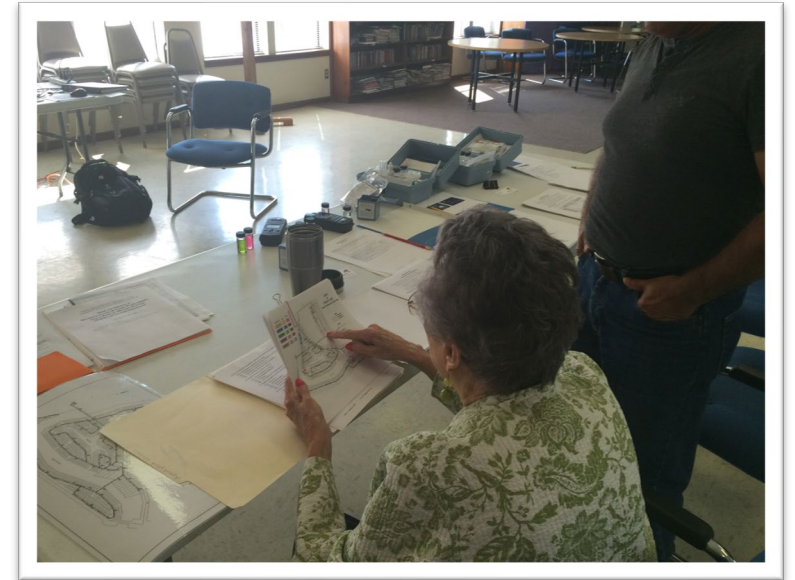
FMT Capacity Assessment

FMT Assistance (task list)

Consolidation Assessments

Drinking Water Operator Training

Special Assignments



FMT Capacity Assessment

- Conducted for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) applications and other entities as assigned
- Outlines systems' strengths and identifies any areas in need of improvement



FMT Assistance

- Provides free support and education to public water systems
- Useful to systems attempting to:
 - solve operational issues,
 - find financing,
 - address compliance concerns, and
 - understand how to fill out forms.
- 827 FMT assignments were made in FY2024.
- 41 tasks/topics available
 - Task list available at www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/fmt





TCEQ Financial, Managerial, and Technical (FMT) Assistance Contract

FMT Assistance Task List

Please contact us at 512-239-4691 or FMT@tceq.texas.gov if you have any questions or want to request FMT Assistance.

FINANCIAL

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1) Financial Management | 4) Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Asset Management |
| 2) Reserved | |
| 3) Business Plans | 5) Funding |

MANAGERIAL

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6) Entity Formation | 11) Natural Disaster Preparedness and Response |
| 7) Cross Connection Control Program and Backflow Prevention | 12) Water Loss and Conservation |
| 8) Operating Reports and Record Keeping | 13) Staffing |
| 9) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development | 14) Staff and Board Training |
| 10) Emergency Planning | 15) Customer Service and Outreach |

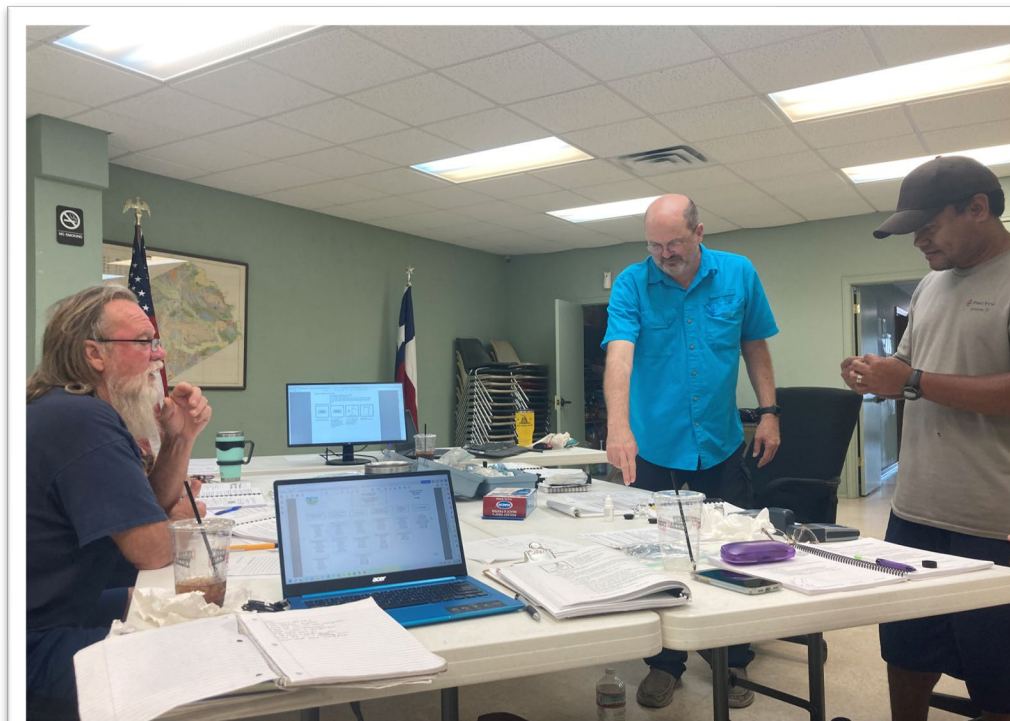
TECHNICAL

- | | |
|--|--|
| 16) Sampling and Analysis | 30) Compliance Violations (Address and Prevent) |
| 17) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Violations (Address and Prevent) | 31) General System Assessment and Action Plan Development |
| 18) Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) | 32) Mapping |
| 19) Groundwater (GW) Production | 33) Pressure Maintenance |
| 20) Source Water Assessment | 34) Purchase/Wholesale Water Contracts |
| 21) Water Treatment and Disinfection | 35) Public Water System (PWS) 101 |
| 22) Wastewater Treatment and Disinfection | 36) Wastewater System (WWS) 101 |
| 23) Plant Operations Manual (O & M Manual) | 37) Completing Public Notifications |
| 24) Monitoring Plan | 38) Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) |
| 25) Coliform Requirements | 39) Exceptions to Rule and Plan Review Process |
| 26) Nitrification Action Plan (NAP) | 40) Capacity Requirements |
| 27) Alternate Source Evaluation | 41) EPA's Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSA) |
| 28) Maintenance | |
| 29) Flushing Water Distribution Lines | |



FMT Assistance Tasks of Interest

- MCL Violations
- Operating Reports and Record Keeping
 - DLQOR
- Lead and Copper Rule
 - including LSL inventory
- Monitoring Plan
- Staffing
- PWS 101
- Water Loss and Conservation
 - Water Loss Tracking
 - Drought Contingency Plan (DCP)
- Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP)



Consolidation Assessment

- Determines consolidation opportunities and assesses the feasibility of two or more systems working together to improve service to customers
- Can evaluate neighboring PWSs and larger utilities



Drinking Water Operator Training (DWOT)

- Trains PWS operators on technical subjects related to PWS operation to increase technical capacity
- Training provided by FMT using directed assistance modules (DAMs) written by TCEQ's Texas Optimization Program (TOP)
- 14 DAMs available
- DAMs are essentially workshops that are classroom / benchtop oriented



DWOT Available DAMs Include:

DAM 1: Developing Performance Goals & a Monitoring Strategy at a SWTP

DAM 2: Establishing Appropriate Chemical Feed Rates at a SWTP

DAM 2B: Jar Testing for a SWTP

DAM 3: Completing the SWMOR for a Conventional SWTP

DAM 3-Alt: Completing the SWMOR-ALT For SWTPs With Alternative Treatment

DAM 4: DBP Control for SWTPs

DAM 5: Process Control for PWSs Using Chloramines

Dam 6: Filter Assessment for a Conventional

DAM 7: Method 334 – Approval of Non-DPD Online Chlorine Analyzers for Regulatory Use

DAM 8: NAP for PWSs Using Chloramines

DAM 9: Special Studies in a WTP

DAM 10: Filter Data Integrity for a SWTP

DAM 11: How to Perform a RTCR Level 1 Assessment

DAM 12: How to Develop & Manage an Effective Cross-connection Control Program

Special Assignments

- Includes activities not defined by the other assignment types but work in support of the TCEQ capacity development strategy
- Typically used for PDW conference, workshops, etc.



How to Request Assistance

Email: FMT@tceq.texas.gov

- PWS name and seven-digit PWS ID
- Name, number and email of the system contact
- A description of what assistance is needed
 - Example: " My name is Jane Doe with [PWS ID] [PWS Name] and I am requesting assistance with filling out the Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP). My contact information is [phone number] and [email]."

Our Process

1. When assistance is requested, an assignment is sent to our contractor, TRWA
2. TRWA contacts the system and schedules the visit
3. TRWA delivers the assistance (USUALLY this is on-site, but can also offer some assistance virtually through phone or video chat)
4. If more help is needed, additional assistance can be requested.

Questions?

Email: FMT@tceq.texas.gov

Phone: 512-239-4691 (main line)

www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/fmt