



## NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL MEETING

January 14, 2025

Via Microsoft Teams

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Jim Cosgrove filled in for Chair Tony McCracken and called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

**Council Participants (9):** James Cosgrove, Krishna Jagannathan, Amy Goldsmith, Samantha DeAndrea, David Kovach, Sandra Howland, Maria Connolly, Pamela Goodwin, Sean Moriarty (Chamber representative)

**DEP Participants (5):** Sue Rosenwinkel, Christine Enright, John Murray, Charles Jenkins, Jennifer Feltis Cortese

**Guests (4):** Lu Bivona (CCMUA), Timothy Feeney (CCMUA), Wale Adewunmi (MCMUA),  
Skelly Holmbeck (WADRB)

#### APPROVAL OF MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- November 12, 2024 - Motion by Amy Goldsmith, Second- Krishna Jagannathan, Approved.

#### DEP UPDATES – Provided by John Murray | DEP

##### **NJPDES Ground Water Permit for Monmouth County Reclamation Center (MCRC):**

- On November 25, 2024, the DWQ issued a letter to representatives of MCRC requiring the submission of an individual NJPDES DGW permit application for the facility's stormwater basin discharges. This determination is based on the Department's finding that such discharges represent a significant contribution of pollutants to the waters of the state based on available data. MCRC is an active landfill with seven stormwater basins that collect stormwater from the landfill and discharge to either ground or surface water and are currently permitted under the I1 General Permit (GP). The I1 GP is intended for stormwater discharges only where such stormwater does not come into contact with any landfill leachate. The letter provides 90 days for submission of the individual NJPDES DGW permit application.

##### **Final NJPDES CSO permits issued to Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA), Camden and Gloucester City:**

- On November 4, 2024, the Bureau of Surface Water & Pretreatment Permitting (BSWPP) issued Final NJPDES CSO permits to CCMUA, Camden and Gloucester City. These renewal permits authorize the discharge from combined sewer overflow outfalls within the Permittee's combined sewer systems and serve to implement the initial five years of the Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) Implementation Schedule as established by the Permittees and approved in the Administrative Compliance Agreement executed by the Department and the Permittees dated November 1, 2024. Additionally, these permits incorporate a requirement for the Permittees to submit an amended LTCP to finalize the control measures to be implemented beyond the initial five years of the LTCP.

##### **Finalization of Significant Indirect User (SIU) permits requiring landfills to monitor for PFAS:**

- In November and December of 2024, the BSWPP issued five (5) final SIU (Category L) permit actions requiring landfills which discharge leachate to a Publicly Owned Treatment Plant to monitor their effluent for PFAS. Specifically, these landfills will begin/began to monitor and report for 15 PFAS compounds within their leachate

via Monitoring Report Forms on a quarterly basis beginning on the effective date of those actions. BWSPP is in the process of finalizing the SIU permit for one (1) remaining landfill with an expected effective date early in 2025.

**Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) initiates pretreatment pilot to remove and destroy PFAS from trucked-in wastewater:**

- On December 9, 2024, representatives of the Divisions of Water Quality and Water Enforcement met with PVSC staff to tour its new pilot study to remove and destroy PFAS from trucked-in wastewater. Partnering with OVIO Inc., PVSC is testing the efficacy of foam fractionation in the separation of PFAS from wastewater received via their Liquid Waste Acceptance program. Inside specially designed columns, ozone and air are introduced into the wastewater which creates electrostatically charged bubbles. PFAS molecules “stick” to electrostatically charged bubbles, rise and form a concentrated foam or foamate. The foamate is then separated and destroyed via electrochemical oxidation which breaks PFAS’s Carbon-Flourine bond, resulting in carbon dioxide and fluoride. Ovivo reports this technology can remove up to 99% of targeted PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS, from wastewater. More information from OVIO regarding this technology can be found at: [PFAS Removal | Olift™ Foam Fractionation | Ovivo](#) and [Onsite PFAS Destruction | Obreak™ Electro-Oxidation | Ovivo](#)

**Request for PFAS Sampling of Ground Water at Class B Residuals Land Application Sites:**

- To further the Department’s PFAS initiative, the Division of Water Quality has issued three (3) “Request for Information” letters on January 8, 2025, to Class B preparers that land apply residuals (sewage sludge) under a Letter of Land Application Management approval (LLAMA). These LLAMA sites have been receiving repetitive applications of prepared residuals. The request for information letters require the facility to collect two (2) ground water samples at least 30 days apart in multiple wells (upgradient and downgradient of the land application fields) at the LLAMA site for the presence of the same PFAS compounds consistent with previous requests for information issued by the Division of Water Quality.

**Request for PFAS Sampling for 17 Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) that are Delegated Local Agencies:**

- To further the Department’s PFAS initiative, the Division of Water Quality sent “Request for Information” letters on January 13, 2025, to 17 POTWs with approved Industrial Pretreatment Programs (i.e. Delegated Local Agencies or DLAs) to investigate and characterize the types and quantities of PFAS present in their influent, effluent, and residuals on a calendar quarter basis. This monitoring request is a follow up to the Department’s previous survey requirement which required DLAs to conduct outreach to their Significant Indirect Users to review their current and past practices that may be sources of PFAS. Additional information regarding the survey is available here: [PFAS DLA Survey](#).
  - Discussion: A council member mentioned that they have received calls but agree with the approach in order to determine what level of PFAS are present in influent, effluent and residuals.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Presentation from Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA) on CSO Public Engagement: Timothy Feeney |CCMUA and Lu Bivona |CCMUA
  - Discussion: Council members thanked Tim and Lu for their efforts and would like to see other authorities follow suit.
  - Council members, Tim and Lu discussed maintenance and retrofit for stormwater management. Green infrastructure has unique challenges, and it is important to consider the landscaper contract or provide training to public work staff. In Camden, Rutgers University landscape architects designed and worked with them to simplify the projects- spent a lot of time reviewing plan options and selecting shrubs and trees. It is a good idea to have those responsible for maintaining, be a part of the discussion on how projects are built.
- Public Hearing Update: Written testimony due January 15, 2025

- To date, the DEP has not received any formal written testimony. Public participation was light this year and may want to think about how to get better participation. It was suggested that council members could put more effort into getting the message out.
- The Council and DEP staff entered into an open discussion.
  - The Council was interested in what was next for DWQ regarding PFAS, such as landfills, Class B sites, sewer treatment plants. DWQ staff responded that efforts were underway to collect information from the 17 Delegated Local Agencies for data on influent, effluent, and residuals. A council member asked about Class C recycling facilities (leaves, soil, natural products). DWQ responded that they will look into this, but so far there is not much on the radar.
  - The Council asked for an update on the Surface Water Quality Standards proposal that included PFAS criteria. The - new standards were planned to be formally published in early 2025 and are still progressing through regulatory steps. DEP staff stated that a proposal could be expected soon.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Subcommittee Updates- no updates were given at this meeting.
  - TMDL - James Cosgrove, Amy Goldsmith
  - WQMP and Septic Management Plan - Tony McCracken, James Cosgrove, Sandra Howland, Ashley Kerr
  - Policy Committee - Maria Connolly, Harry Wozunk, Peggy Gallos
  - Education - Amy Goldsmith, John Murray, David Kovach
  - DRBC - Dave Kovach
  - Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Chlorides – Open

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Next meetings:
  - March 11, 2025
    - Tentative meeting topic: Microplastics
  - May 13, 2025
    - Tentative site visit: Montgomery - Membrane Bioreactor

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Jim Cosgrove, Second- David Kovach, meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM.