

Permitting of PFAS Compounds in NJPDES Discharges to Surface Water

A Public Hearing sponsored by the New Jersey Clean Water Council

SPEAKERS

Shawn LaTourette began serving as Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on January 16, 2021. He is responsible for formulating statewide environmental policy while directing programs that protect public health and ensure the quality of New Jersey's air, land, water, and natural and historic resources. Shawn has 20 years of environmental experience, most recently as Deputy Commissioner and chief of staff, and, earlier, as chief legal and regulatory adviser at the DEP before being named Acting Commissioner. Since 2019, he has led efforts to craft the reforms necessary to advance the Murphy Administration's climate change and environmental justice priorities. Before entering public service, he specialized in protecting the rights of victims of toxic injuries while also advising infrastructure, transportation, energy and other industries on compliance with state and federal environmental laws and policies. He began his legal career organizing and defending New Jersey communities whose drinking water was contaminated by petrochemicals. A devoted advocate for equality of all people, Acting Commissioner LaTourette served as Chair of the LGBTQ Rights Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association, completing his term in 2020. The New Jersey native graduated magna cum laude from Rutgers University and earned his law degree summa cum laude from Rutgers Law School, where he was the class salutatorian and the recipient of multiple environmental and governance awards, and published scholarship on environmental law, natural resource damage and climate issues.

Virginia Wong is the Chief of the Water Permits Program in the Water Division of U.S. EPA Region 2. Region 2 covers New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Ms. Wong directs and manages the permitting aspects of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) programs for municipal and industrial facilities including direct and indirect dischargers, storm water, combined sewer overflows, and pretreatment. Ms. Wong has over 30 years of experience in wastewater management, industrial waste, pretreatment, NPDES permits and enforcement programs. Email: wong.virginia@epa.gov

Meg Parish is the Permits Section Manager for the Colorado Water Quality Control Division's clean water program. In this capacity, she and her team implement the Clean Water Act and Colorado Water Quality Control Act permitting programs. Meg has a JD from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC. and has previously worked as an environmental attorney at the Colorado Attorney General's Office, Earthjustice, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Hogan Lovells LLP. She has fifteen years experience in environmental law and regulations. Email: meg.parish@state.co.us

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Josie Nusz is a Water Quality Scientist in the Water Quality Standards Unit of the CDPHE WQCD. The Standards Unit of the CDPHE WQCD is responsible for developing water quality regulations and water quality standards to protect Colorado waters. Ms. Nusz is the Unit lead for developing water quality standards and advising on other water quality actions pertaining to protection of human health. Ms. Nusz has over 15 years of experience in the fields of water quality, risk assessment, and environmental toxicology. Email: josie.nusz@state.co.us

Anthony McCracken Sr., AICP/PP is currently the chairman of the New Jersey Clean Water Council and has served on the council for many years. He previously served as President of the New Jersey Section of the American Water Resources Association. Anthony is a nationally certified land use planner and is licensed in the State of New Jersey as a Professional Planner. He is employed as the Assistant Director of Planning in the Planning Division for Somerset County, New Jersey.