



## NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2022 @ 10:00 A.M.

### Microsoft Teams meeting

#### AGENDA

##### INTRODUCTIONS

Tony provided a welcome and started the meeting at 10:02

Council Members: Ashley Kerr, George Bakun, Pamela Goodwin, Amy Goldsmith, Maria Connolly, Harry Woznuk, Sandra Howland, Jennifer Coffey, Jim Cosgrove, David Kovach, Tony McCracken, Russ Furnari

Advisor: Peggy Gallos

DEP Staff: Jennifer Feltis, Kerri Standowski, Monique Girona, James Lunski, Ketan Patel

Guests: Bree Callahan, Gary Brune, Chris Gulics, Rayna Laiosa

##### APPROVAL OF MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- January 11, 2022- Motion to approve from Jim Cosgrove. Seconded by Harry Woznuk- All in favor, approved.

##### DEP UPDATES

###### DWQ Program Updates

- **CSO Stakeholder Meetings:** DWQ held four CSO Stakeholder meetings for the next round of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) NJPDES permits. The first stakeholder meeting was on December 7, 2021 regarding permit conditions for public engagement. A second stakeholder meeting was held on January 13 to discuss permit conditions for environmental justice that may be considered for incorporation into the next CSO permits. The last two meetings were on February 10 and 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss climate change and metrics, respectively. Agendas and any written comments we have received related to this effort can be found on our website. <https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/cso-stakeholder-engagement.htm>
- **Water Bank:** DWQ and the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience held a series of engagement sessions at the end of January to provide an update to interested parties on the draft direction of the Intended Use Plan (IUP) in response to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These sessions provided an opportunity to solicit input for topics such as priorities, affordability criteria, funding packages, project types that qualify for principal forgiveness (PF), and disadvantaged community determination criteria. The sessions also included discussions on the allocation of PF and funding packages to address lead, PFAS, and climate change. More information can be found on our website. <https://www.nj.gov/dep/wiip>
- **PFAS:** We received 44 sampling results from some of our Category B and L facilities in response to our request for information dated August 18, 2021. Results were provided for two samples taken at least 30 days apart. The original request was for results to be provided by December 15, 2021 but was extended through January 31, 2022. DWQ is in the process of evaluating these results and our next steps. DWQ staff answered questions

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about the number of requests that were sent and what is posted regarding the DLA surveys. More information can be found on our website.

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pfas.htm>

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Presentation on Water Infrastructure Investment Plan Efforts, Ketan Patel, Division of Water Quality- Bureau of Construction, Payments, and Administration

Council members provided comments and asked questions. There was discussion about small systems and what is being considered for loans. These comments and concerns will be shared with the program for consideration. A council member asked if there was an assessment of how the funds are used and DWQ responded that yes, there is an assessment requirement. Council members and DWQ discussed that repayments have been good and because of this the revolving fund has been effective and with the influx of additional funds (ARP, BIL, OSG and green grants) have allowed for the Water Bank to put together very favorable packages for the upcoming IUP cycles.

- Continued discussion about public hearing

The Council and DWQ discussed the next steps for putting together a public hearing for 2022. DWQ will continue to do research and report back to the Council on what we learn and potential timing. There was some discussion about holding the meeting in-person or virtually. The Clean Air Council is holding a hybrid meeting in April and DWQ will share this information with the Council as well as seek information on how to run a hybrid public hearing. Early fall for the public hearing is a consideration and we will want to check the Commissioner's schedule with a preference of days being Wednesday, Tuesday and Thursday in that order.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Next meetings would be scheduled for April 12, 2022 and May 10, 2022

Future meeting and presentations: The WQMP program will present at the May meeting. Other suggestions by some CWC members: update on Arsenic presentation and findings; Inductors on outfalls (David will follow up); and nitrate as it relates to drinking water protection (no update can be provided due to current litigations).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn from Jim Cosgrove. Second provided by Maria Conolly- adjourned 11:26 am.