



NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Highlights

May 10, 2022 @ 10:00 A.M.

(Microsoft Teams Meeting)

INTRODUCTIONS

Tony McCracken provided a welcome and started the meeting at 10:05 am

Council Members: Amy Goldsmith, Sandra Howland, Maria Connolly, Jim Cosgrove, David Kovach, Tony McCracken, Mark Wadiak, Russ Furnari

Members of the Public: Gerald Reiner

DEP Staff: Janice Brogle, Gabriel Mahon, John Murray, Kerri Standowski, Monique Girona

APPROVAL OF MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 8, 2022 – Motion to approve from Jim Cosgrove. Seconded by Maria Connolly– All in favor, approved.

DEP UPDATES

John Murray provided the following DEP updates:

- Clean Water Council website: The revamped Clean Water Council website is ready for Council review and a small group of council members will work with DEP staff to review the website and identify any additional changes that may be needed. Tony recommends looking at the clean air council website before convening the group. Council members that volunteered for website review: David Kovack, James Cosgrove, Russ Furnari, Amy Goldsmith, and Tony McCracken. John Murray will set up the meeting.
- PFAS Updates:
 - DWQ has been working on an updated version of our Division's PFAS website to improve site layout and make it more user friendly. NJPDES Discharge to Surface Water Permittees (Category B), NJPDES Significant Indirect User Permittees (Category L), and Delegated Local Agencies (DLAs) will have their own sections on the PFAS website. These designated sections will include information that is already available on our webpage, such as Request for Information Surveys, Survey Results, and FAQs.
 - On March 23, 2022, DWQ sent a Request for Information to additional industrial facilities requiring facilities to take two samples, 30 days apart for 14 PFAS compounds. This action is similar to the first round of Request for Information that was sent on August 18, 2021, however, two additional compounds were added to the PFAS Compounds list found under "Attachment I- Monitoring Instructions" of the request letter. Sampling results from the first group of industrial facilities are

available on our website. Tony suggested that as new information is posted to the PFAS webpage, that it also be highlighted under NEWS on the DWQ homepage.

- On April 12, 2022, DWQ met with the AEA PFAS Subcommittee to discuss DWQ's efforts to date to identify, reduce, and/or eliminate PFAS in industrial wastewater discharges. DWQ also shared data from the first group of industrial facilities required to monitor for PFAS in their discharge in order to provide several of POTWs, also on the call, an idea of the level of PFAS that may be discharging to their plants from industrial users. DWQ will continue to have open dialogue with the AEA PFAS Subcommittee.
- On May 25, 2022, DWQ will be holding a meeting with the AEA PFAS Subcommittee and representatives of the 17 Delegated Local Agencies to discuss how best to share information.
- Fee Stakeholder Meeting: On April 20, 2022, DWQ held a NJPDES Fee Stakeholder Meeting to solicit feedback on developing a simplified fee structure that covers the cost of administering the NJPDES program, renders the fees more predictable, and maintains consideration of both environmental impact and relative workload. Stakeholders who attended the April 20 stakeholder session may submit comments until Friday, May 13, 2022. Additional stakeholder meetings may be scheduled.
- Water Bank: The draft Proposed FFY22 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CW SRF) and Drinking Water SRF (DW SRF) Intended Use Plans (IUPs) were made available online for review and comment on March 23, 2022. The 30-day comment period began on March 23rd and ended on April 22, 2022. Comments are under program review and response to these comments will be addressed in the final IUPs. A public hearing for the proposed FFY 2022 CW SRF and DW SRF IUPs was held on April 6, 2022. The Final IUPs for FFY22 are anticipated to be published and made available to view online toward the end of May 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

Uniform Ethics Code / Training / Outside Employment Questionnaires:

- The Uniform Ethics Code / Training / Outside Employment Questionnaire needs to be completed by all member of the council and John Murray will follow-up. Please reach out to John with any questions.

2022 Public Hearing Discussion (discussed after the WQMP Presentation):

- Council Members were asked to consider what questions concerning "PFAS in Residuals" they'd like to see presented at a Virtual (Microsoft TEAMS) CWC Public Hearing event anticipated Fall 2022. Members also suggested covering topics of broad interest such as: how PFAS exposure occurs, the level of risk, and what the public can do to reduce exposure. The structure of the public hearing will be discussed at a subsequent council meeting and a subcommittee will be formed to work with the Department.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation on Water Quality Management Planning (WQMP) Program-Gabriel Mahon, Bureau Chief of NJPDES Stormwater Permitting and Water Quality Management:

- Gabe Mahon presented an overview of the WQMP Program explaining how the Department works with Counties to develop WQMPs that include: sewer service area delineation, build-out analysis, wastewater treatment capacity analysis, nitrate dilution analysis, strategies to address potential deficiencies, and septic management programs.

Discussion after the presentation:

- Council members expressed concerns over the lengthy process to receive an amendment to a WQMP. Gabe clarified the timing requirements of the current amendment process and DEP is looking to streamline the process but cautioned this action may require a WQMP rule amendment. Also, clarification was made by Gabe that Stormwater is not a consideration in the WMP and there are currently no provisions for

climate change in the WQMP process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meetings:

- The next meeting will be June 14, 2022, followed by July 12, 2022.

Tasks and presentations for the next meeting:

- John Murray will set up a website subcommittee meeting with council members and the Department.
- The Uniform Ethics Code / Training / Outside Employment Questionnaire needs to be completed by the next meeting, and John Murray will resend out information.
- The Department will present the Surface Water and Pretreatment PFAS Strategy at the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn from Amy Goldsmith. Second by Maria Connolly - adjourned 11:49 am.