ACTIONS
From: Larsen, Brent
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:14 AM
To: Garcia, David <Garcia.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Wooster, Richard <wooster.richard@epa.gov>; Crawford, Brad <crawford.brad@epa.gov>; 'Lashunda Brown' <Brown.Lashunda@epamail.epa.gov>; Hunt, Laura <Hunt.Laura@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Action Items for the NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch

Upcoming action items for the NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch:

Entergy Louisiana, LLC - Ninemile Point Electric Generating Plant, (LPDES Permit No. LA0003093, AI No. 2841), State Permit Review
NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch proposes to issue a letter with comments to LDEQ regarding the proposed reissuance of the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit by the regulatory due date of February 9, 2017.

Jefferson Parish Department of Sewerage, East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant, (LPDES Permit No LA0066630, AI No. 19537), State Permit Review
NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch proposes to issue a letter with comments to LDEQ regarding the proposed reissuance of the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit by the regulatory due date of February 10, 2017.

Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP), LLC, Deepwater Port Complex (LPDES Permit No. LA0049492, AI No. 4634), State Permit Review
The existing wastewater permit which was jointly issued by EPA & LDEQ expired September 30, 2013. EPA and LDEQ are continuing to work together on the proposed reissuance of the permit regarding appropriate permit requirements for brine discharges. This situation is similar to the Strategic Petroleum Reserves under the U.S. Department of Energy, (Big Hill Oil Storage, TX0092827, and Bryan Mound Oil Storage, TX0074012) which EPA reissued with permit requirements for brine discharges in Nov. 2014.

TX WQMP Final Approval for Oct 2016 Updates, Approval of State Water Quality Management Plan
The week of February 13-17, 2017, the Water Division plans to approve updates to the Texas Water Quality Management Plan (TX WQMP) submitted by TCEQ. This document is a waste treatment plan required under the Texas Water Code and the federal Clean Water Act that provides information on limits needed in TPDES and NPDES permits, including those necessary to implement Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).

Issuance of Final NPDES Permits – EPA Permits

The weeks of February 6-17, 2017, the following permits are expected to be issued/reissued by EPA following signature of the final permit and transmittal letters by the Water Division Director. Should issues arise, the permit issuance dates could be delayed, which could affect the permit effective date for authorization to discharge for new permits.

NPDES Number	Facility Name _____	
TX0124024	Plains All American Pipeline, L.P.	
TX0134020	J.B. Bomba – Guinn Operating	(west of the 98th meridian oil and gas

produced water discharge)

TX0134032	CMR Energy, L.P.
TX0134043	Delek Logistics Operating, LLC
TX0134044	Beckville Gas Processing Plant
LA0050971	Chitimacha Tribe of LA WWTP No 1

Proposed Reissuance of General Permit for Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Discharges in Texas Coastal Waters (TXG330000), Proposal of NPDES Permit, Publication in Federal Register

The week of February 13-17 or February 21-24, 2017, the Water Division plans to submit a Federal Register Package announcing proposed reissuance of the Texas Coastal Oil and Gas General Permit. This permit covers a relatively small universe of oil and gas exploration and production dischargers to waters along the Texas Coast (about 15 operators under the current permit coverage). The current permit will expire on July 30, 2017, and no new operations will be authorized after the expiration date if the final permit is not signed by July 30, 2017. We propose to provide a 45-day public comment period. For this reissuance, coverage of the Category of discharges from stripper wells (those producing 10 or less barrels of oil per day), is being spilt off into a separate general permit. This action will involve signature of a Federal Register notice by the Water Division Director, publication of a notice announcing a public comment period on the proposed permit, request for CWA 401 Certification and Coastal Zone Consistency determination by the Texas Railroad Commission, and uploading of draft permit documents to the Web after publication of the Federal Register Notice.

Proposed Reissuance of General Permit for Oil and Gas Production Discharges from Stripper Wells in Texas (TXG350000), Proposal of NPDES Permit, Publication in Federal Register

The week of February 13-17 or February 21-24, 2017, the Water Division plans to submit a Federal Register Package announcing proposed reissuance of a new general permit for Stripper Wells in Texas. Stripper wells are those, typically older, wells that are only capable of producing 10 or less barrels of oil per day. This new permit is actually the result of splitting this class of dischargers out of the existing Coastal Oil and Gas General Permit, and providing coverage via a separate permit. The Texas Coastal GP TXG330000 currently covers about 40 stripper well discharges from East of the 98th meridian. The current permit will expire on July 30, 2017, and no new operations will be authorized after the expiration date if the final permit is not signed by July 30, 2017. We propose to provide a 45-day public comment period. We also propose to authorize discharges from stripper wells from the West of the 98th meridian. The total number of operators affected by this permit may exceed 100. This action will involve signature of a Federal Register notice by the Water Division Director, publication of a notice announcing a public comment period on the proposed permit, request for CWA 401 Certification and Coastal Zone Consistency determination by the Texas Railroad Commission, and uploading of draft permit documents to the Web after publication of the Federal Register Notice.

Possible Interim Objection to Louisiana Short Term and Emergency General Permit – Review of State Permit

EPA R6 is coordinating with EPA HQs (OWM, OECA) regarding the review of the proposed reissuance of the Louisiana Short-Term and Emergency General Permit, (ST&E GP). EPA's regulatory action is due to LDEQ by Wednesday, 2/8/17, per an agreed extension. HQs has recommended that R6 issue an Interim Objection (i.e., to request additional information) and include a discussion of EPA's concerns about LDEQ's "Emergency Declaration and Administrative Order(s)." EPA has been working to closeout an old Louisiana NPDES Program Withdrawal Petition which references concerns about the state's Emergency Orders. LDEQ has an ongoing practice of issuing Emergency Order which authorize wastewater discharges outside the scope of the Clean Water Act after very significant weather-related events. LDEQ has verbally agreed to work with R6 to resolve the Emergency Order language concerns. It is R6's typical procedure that the Associate Director of the NPDES Permits & TMDL's Branch sign Interim Objections issued to LDEQ. HQs and R6 have a follow-up call planned for Thursday, 2/2/17.

Large Scale Flood and Water Quality Controls - Sediment Retention Presentation – Announcement of Webinar

The Water Environment Association in Texas (WEAT) Stormwater and Watershed Committee, in cooperation with EPA Region 6, will host a Webinar on March 1, 2017. Brad Sumrall, Weston Solutions, Inc. will present a sediment management and flood control strategies that will be implemented in the Middle Rio Grande Watershed, New Mexico. Stormwater designers and modelers, consultants, river authorities, stormwater managers, among others will be invited. Invitation e-mails are planned for Monday February 13, 2017, with Web announcements of the Webinar the same week.

EVENTS

From: Larsen, Brent
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 8:50 AM
To: Garcia, David <Garcia.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Wooster, Richard <wooster.richard@epa.gov>; Crawford, Brad <crawford.brad@epa.gov>; Schaub, Mike <Schaub.Mike@epa.gov>
Subject: Public Events Forecast 6WQ-P

David:

Through the end of February (and the MS4 Conference in September that required some Web Postings now), these are the public meetings and other more significant meetings scheduled to date for the NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch:

Public Meetings

Assessment Methodology Stakeholder Meetings Hosted by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality – State Public Meeting

EPA is an invited member of the stakeholder group and is to provide input and answer questions relating to the regulations regarding listing and assessment of waters. EPA will be participating via phone, these meetings are to be held February 9th and 23rd.

Other Meetings:

Outer Continental Shelf General Permit, Offshore Operators Committee – Permittee Meeting
EPA plans to meet with the Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) on February 22, 2017. Upcoming reissuance of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) permit covering oil and gas exploration and production activities in the Gulf of Mexico will also be discussed. Fracking activities offshore have been of interest to environmental groups, including the Center for Biological Diversity, who are expected to comment on the OCS permit once proposed.

The Water Division plans to get the draft permit ready for proposal soon after the February 22 meeting with the OOC, so that it can hopefully see Federal Register publication by mid-March. Since it's a general permit, the proposal and final must be published in the FR and CWA 401 Certifications requested from Texas and Louisiana.

1) Purpose of 2/22 Meeting- The Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) requested the meeting to discuss offshore fracking with R6 staff. OOC did the same presentation to BOEM/BSEE. Discharge of fracking chemicals was an issue raised prominently by NGOs during the comment period on Region 4's reissuance of the permit for the eastern Gulf.
2) Proposed Permit Changes may include
   a) One NOI for each facility, instead one NOI to cover all facilities in a leasing block (No actual change to operators' practices)
   b) Primary operator must file NOI instead of any operator (no change to current operators' practices)
   c) Delete Drilling fluids and produced water characterization studies (Studies completed)
   d) Add study/assessment for well treatment fluids (fracking fluids) (Similar requirements as finalized by R4)
   e) Some minor changes or clarifications requested by OOC or BOEM/BSEE.
3) Activities required:
   a) Publish proposed permit in FR in March (90 days comment period)
   b) Public meeting/hearing during public comment period (around the first week of May)
   c) Prepare Response to Comments after comment period
   d) EPA internal review for final decision
   e) Signature by 9/30/17.

EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference – EPA Co-sponsored Public Conference
The 19th Annual Stormwater Conference will be held this year in San Antonio, TX from September 17-21, 2017. The EPA-Cosponsored Conference will inform and educate stormwater professionals on stormwater controls that can address stormwater pollution discharges to surface waters. The Conference encourages meaningful participation from communities and stakeholders in Region 6. Outreach activities associated with this event will require posting of information about the dates and registration/participation opportunities on the Web ASAP.