NPDES Roundtable Meeting Agenda

Skype Meeting, Hosted by
State Water Resources Control Board

October 18, 2018
9:00 AM – 2:15 PM

To join the online meeting:
See appointment for Skype Link

To join the teleconference only:
+1 (916) 562-0861, access code: 56909396

ITEM	1	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**INTRODUCTIONS/REVIEW AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS**	Afrooz Farsimadan State Board	9:00- 9:15 (15 mins)
Purpose	Roll call and review agenda.		
Desired Outcome	Get attendance and finalize agenda.		
Background			
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Afrooz Farsimadan (916) 341-5544 Afrooz.Farsimadan@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

ITEM	2	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**NPDES ROUNDTABLE SUBCOMMITTEES**	Diana Messina State Board	9:15-9:45 (30 mins)
Purpose	REQUEST ROUNDTABLE TO ESTABLISH SUBCOMMITTEES FOR TWO UPCOMING STATEWIDE DRAFT PERMITS		
Desired Outcome	(1) Understanding of the role of Roundtable subcommittees (2) Initial steps to establish two Roundtable subcommittees for: - Draft Statewide Sanitary Sewer System WDR Reissuance - Draft new Statewide NPDES Permit for Suction Dredge Mining		
Background	The Deputy Management Committee (DMC) set forth guidance for Regional Water Board communication and input on proposed statewide permitting projects. The use of Roundtable subcommittees has proven to be an efficient approach for the State Water Board to receive an organized set of comments representing the nine regional water boards.		
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Diana Messina (916) 341-5523 Diana.Messina@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

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ITEM	3	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**UPDATES ON ICIS CODING FOR DMRS**	Jayne Joy Region 8	9:45-10:00 (15 mins)
Purpose	Update NPDES staff		
Desired Outcome	Information sharing		
Background	**Permit coding:** EPA's ICIS Coding training was provided to all RB staff. The goal is to get Regional Board staff to code their own permits in anticipation of the termination of in-kind contractor support by 2020. EPA didn't get any feedback from the training attendees. RBs are concerned about workload. Staff are getting behind on permit inspections and follow ups. Coding ICIS is complicated and time consuming and RBs don't have the resources to code their own permits. RBs suggested to create a centralized group to code permits statewide. Jayne Joy presented the summary outlining the ICIS coding process and presented it at the RB DMC. The RB DMCs made is clear they could not take on the task of ICIS coding and all seemed to understand. Let's discuss at the RT and get agreement on the recommendations.		
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Jayne Joy (951) 782-3284 Jayne.Joy@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

ITEM	4	Assigned to:		Time
Title of Topic:	**UPDATE ON THE STATE SSS WDR REISSUANCE AND THE RB9 SSS WDR REISSUANCE**	Gil Vazquez State Board	Brandi Outwin-Beals RB9	10:00-10:25 (25 mins)
Purpose:	Update NPDES staff			
Desired Outcome:	Information sharing			
Background:	**Sanitary Sewer System WDR reissuance Update** The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Sanitary Sewer Systems Waste Discharge Requirements General Order (SSS WDR) in 2006 to initiate a new statewide regulatory program to reduce sanitary sewer overflows. The State Water Board amended the corresponding Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in 2013. State Water Board staff have received comments and suggestions from stakeholder groups, such as collection system agencies, the California Water Environment Association and the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. The next steps include the following: • Creating a workgroup consisting of State Board and Regional Board staff. • Meeting with environmental groups, small disadvantaged communities, and private collection systems (i.e.: mobile home parks, industrial parks, shopping center and others). • Providing public workshops. **Update on RB9 Sanitary Sewer System WDR**			
Attachments/ Links:	SSS WDR Reissuance Project (			
Contact Person:	SB: Gil Vazquez (916) 322-1400 Gil.Vazquez@waterboards.ca.gov RB9: Brandi Outwin-Beals (619) 521-5896 Brandi.Outwin-Beals@waterboards.ca.gov			
Notes:				
Decisions:				
Action Items:				

BREAK
10:25 – 10:35 AM

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ITEM	5	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**UPDATE ON THE SUCTION DREDGE MINING PERMIT**	Renan Jauregui State Board	10:35-10:50 (15 min)
Purpose	Provide Status update on what Action is being considered		
Desired Outcome	Information sharing		
Background	Suction dredge mining has been prohibited since 2009. SB 637, which became effective on January 1, 2016 provided an alternative to lift the prohibition by having the Water Board take some regulatory action. Since then, staff in compliance with the bill requirements conducted various workshops throughout the state with stakeholders. Based on the outcome of the workshops it was recommended that the appropriate regulatory mechanism would be a Statewide NPDES Permit. So we are in the process of reviewing the information available and draft an NPDES Permit which has been scheduled for adoption by Summer of 2019.		
Attachments/ Links:	Signed Suction Dredge Mining Stat		
Contact Person	Renan Jauregui (916) 341-5505 Renan.Jauregui@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

ITEM	6	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING TEMPLATE LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS OPERATOR CERTIFICATION, STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOPS) AND UPDATED O/M MANUALS**	Jim Fischer State Board	10:50-11:10 (20 mins)
Purpose	Present background information on WWTP operator certification requirements (Title 23), and the need for updating plant standard operating procedures (SOPs) and O&M manuals.		
Desired Outcome	Obtain feedback/decision for considering improving existing permit template language for operator certification, SOP and O/M manual updates.		
Background	Adequate operations and updated O&M documentation/SOPs are industry standard and vital for ensuring consistent compliance. However, the Office of Enforcement inspectors continue to see inadequate SOP documentation and/or outdated O&M manuals across the state. For most facilities, there is not a direct mechanism to require updates to SOPs and O&M manuals to ensure proper operations and maintenance. The Office of Enforcement will present a few examples of problems seen including enforcement actions. This will also include examples of existing permit language used by some regions related to operator certification, SOPs and requirements for		

	updating O/M manuals which could provide support for updating the statewide template.
Attachments/ Links:	(a short PPT will be shown and provided for uploading to the DWQ/NPDES training website on intranet)
Contact Person	Jim Fischer - jim.fischer@waterboards.ca.gov (916) 341-5548 Angie Noorda - angie.noorda@waterboards.ca.gov (916) 341-5445.
Notes	
Decisions	
Action Items	

ITEM	**7**	**Assigned to:**	**Time**
Title of Topic	**NPDES QA UPDATE**	Dania Jimmerson (RB5) Armando Martinez (SB)	11:10-11:25 (15 mins)
Purpose	Update NPDES staff on progress and inform of upcoming meetings/deliverables		
Desired Outcome	Information sharing		
Background	The NPDES Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPrP) was published in August 2017. The goal for the NPDES QA group is to develop Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP) for the different aspects to the NPDES program. Data problem screening surveys were sent earlier in 2018 to develop a list of common NPDES data problems staff are facing. The NPDES QA group has compiled these data problems and has categorized them into 10 tables. The NPDES QA group will develop solutions for these issues and will draft a report to management detailing the issues and solutions developed by the group. The report will be the basis for ongoing planning.		
Attachments/ Links:	NPDES QA Implementation Proj		
Contact Person	Dania Jimmerson (916) 464-4742 Dania.Jimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov Armando Martinez (916) 341-5586 Armando.Martinez@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

ITEM	**8**	**Assigned to:**	**Time**
Title of Topic	**UPDATE ON THE BACTERIA PROVISIONS**	Lark Starkey State Board	11:25-11:45 (20 mins)
Purpose	To inform the NPDES Roundtable of adopted provisions		
Desired Outcome	Information sharing		

Background	On August 7, 2018 the Bacteria Provisions for REC-1 waters were adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board.
Attachments/ Links:	TMDL Roundtable Presentation_10.18.
Contact Person	Lark Starkey – (916) 324-6655 lark.starkey@waterboards.ca.gov
Notes	
Decisions	
Action Items	

ITEM	**9**	**Assigned to:**	**Time**
Title of Topic:	**CYANIDE DISCUSSION: CONTINUED FROM JULY NPDES RT MEETING**	All	11:45-12:00 (15 mins)
Purpose:	Continue discussion to resolve handling elevated cyanide effluent results from POTWs		
Desired Outcome:	Resolve or discuss approach to resolve what appears to be a common issue to many regional boards.		
Background:	Action Items from previous Roundtable: 1. Jayne Joy – Will reach out to CASA to see if the study was done and if they can share the results. Ask for data on the types of CN. 2. Milasol Gaslan – Will look into SAP study and share the results. 3. Katy will share the result of RB1 and RB4 monitoring in the October RT meeting RB7 has a limit based on free cyanide – RB9's Limit is based on total cyanide RB2 set the limit based on total cyanide and included a footnote that weak acid dissolution method can be used. The result showed reasonable potential. The discharger asked for a time schedule to try an alternative method. RB granted the time schedule order allowing monitoring using a different method. It will be helpful to have data on total CN or free or acid dissolved to see the difference. At the April 2018 NPDES roundtable, R1 asked R7 for a brief update on cyanide issue they previously dealt with. R7 facility conducted a study to determine if it was source issue or lab issue and verified it was not a source issue and concluded that it was probably a lab issue. Better lab procedures/protocol implemented appeared to work for the larger facilities although still an issue for smaller facilities. R4's LA County Sanitation District obtained ELAP certification for an alternative CN analytical method that didn't require sample preservation. They found that sample preservative may be causing cyanide generation. Alternative method requires analysis to be conducted within a short time. City of Thousand Oaks is doing studies regarding cyanide to determine: if chlorination maybe generating it, if it may be related to contact time, and where in the process cyanide might be generated. R5 Stockton facility doing analysis of unpreserved sample within 15 minutes; study of preserved and unpreserved sample will provide evidence that it is false positive,		

	R2 stated cyanide was found to be a by-product of chlorination. R7 suggested perhaps State Board can take this up and set up a workgroup. Defer to next NPDES RT. Topic originally brought up by RB1 in April RT meeting. Coming up with an approach to handle cyanide limits and monitoring requirement in respect to reporting approach, and long-term monitoring solution. Identify sources. Update on studies, next quarter meeting.
Attachments/ Links:	
Contact Person:	
Notes:	
Decisions:	
Action Items:	

Lunch
12:00 – 1:00 PM

ITEM	10	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**NPDES SIGNIFICANT NONCOMPLIANCE**	Matthew Buffleben and Erin Mustain	1:00-1:30 30 mins
Purpose	To update the Roundtable on the status of the SNC Project		
Desired Outcome	Information Sharing and input from the group on approach from a permitting perspective.		
Background	**<u>Goal</u>** In its Strategic Plan, U.S. EPA identified a new priority - to increase compliance over the next five years by focusing enforcement efforts toward areas with significant noncompliance (SNC) issues and selected the NPDES program for initiating this effort. The Office of Enforcement (OE) created a baseline report in April of this year. At that time, 28% of all NPDES facilities were in SNC and 48% of minor facilities were in SNC. OE staff has been working with DWQ and OIMA to investigate systemic and data quality issues. Our initial goal was to resolve as many of the data issues as possible before engaging the regions. The number of facilities/permits[1] in SNC has come down a bit, mostly for major dischargers. **<u>Resolving SNC</u>** EPA has stated the following are ways to get a facility off the SNC list: • Facilities can resolve their SNC status by promptly returning to compliance with permit limits and monitoring and reporting requirements.		

[1] EPA focuses on permits and many of our permits regulate more than one facility.

	• The State or U.S. EPA can resolve SNC by placing the facilities under a formal enforcement action with requirements and deadlines for returning to compliance. • Once the facility returns to compliance, the SNC status is resolved. **Current Process/Strategy** **Task:** Identify system and data errors in both the State and federal databases. **Status:** This is ongoing and we are trying to resolve these so that they do not recur. **Task:** Address Failure to Report violations **Status:** In progress. OE staff created a list of facilities not submitting DMRs that did not appear to have been properly notified of the requirement. We drafted a memo to EPA asking for time to notify, train, and allow the dischargers to comply. This was granted and we have notified the dischargers and provided a link to the recorded trainings and guidance documents. **Task:** Validate Compliance Schedule violations **Status:** In progress. We identified the root cause on the system-side of this issue and are working with OIMA. We plan to discuss the programmatic side of the issue on in the NPDES Roundtable. **Task:** Prioritize the facilities in SNC with effluent violations by economic benefit, length of time on SNC, environmental justice and/or location within a disadvantaged community, and impact to drinking water resources. **Status:** Not started. **Task:** Coordinate with EPA on adding acceptable requirements and deadlines to our enforcement penalty orders with compliance projects. **Status:** OE has brought this up to EPA and they are amenable to it. We need to work out the details of the language EPA wants in those Orders. **Task:** Where necessary, work with the Regional Boards to issue Cease and Desist Orders (CDOs) or Time Schedule Order (TSOs) to address ongoing effluent violations. **Status:** Not started. **Task:** Explore possible funding options with U.S. EPA and the Division of Financial Assistance for facilities that require major upgrades to return to compliance **Status:** Not Started.
Attachments/ Links:	
Contact Person	Erin Mustain (916) 445-9379 Erin.Mustain@waterboards.ca.gov
Notes	
Decisions	
Action Items	

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ITEM	11	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**EPA UPDATES**	Becky Mitchell EPA Region 9	1:30:-1:40 (10 min)
Purpose	(1) Provide updates regarding EPA's review of permit backlog and NPDES commitments in EPA performance grant (i.e. CWA 106 grant) (2) Coding permits into ICIS		
Desired Outcome	Information Sharing		
Background	1) ***Provide updates regarding EPA's review of permit backlog and NPDES permit commitments in EPA's***: On September 25th, EPA R9 management participated in the joint DMC/MCC Meeting of Regional Board Executive Officers, Assistant Executive Officers, and State Board in Sacramento. EPA R9 management discussed permit backlog and in-kind NPDES support. 2) ***Coding permits into ICIS:*** Request information regarding how State has decided to proceed with coding permits into ICIS.		
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Becky Mitschele (415) 972-3492 mitschele.becky@epa.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

ITEM	12	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RECYCLED WATER POLICY**	Laura McLellan State Board	1:40:-2:10 (30 min)
Purpose	Information Sharing		
Desired Outcome	Information Sharing		
Background	Staff is proposing amendments to the Recycled Water Policy to increase statewide consistency in the permitting of recycled water projects and to update Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) monitoring requirements for potable recycled water projects. Staff will provide a summary of the proposed amendments, a brief history of the project, and the timeline for bringing these amendments before the State Water Board.		
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Laura McLellan, 916-319-8288, laura.mclellan@waterboards		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

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ITEM	13	Assigned to:	Time
Title of Topic	**WRAP UP**	Afrooz Farsimadan State Board	2:10-2:15 (5 mins)
Purpose	Conclude meeting		
Desired Outcome	Summarize action items from this meeting, potential agenda items for future meetings, and confirm future meeting date.		
Background	Discuss next quarterly meeting location and decide whether teleconference or face to face. Decide on note taker.		
Attachments/ Links:			
Contact Person	Afrooz Farsimadan (916) 341-5544 Afrooz.Farsimadan@waterboards.ca.gov		
Notes			
Decisions			
Action Items			

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