

Minutes of the July 13, 2017 Meeting
Small Water Systems Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
Advisory Board

A regular meeting of the TAC Board was called to order by Chairperson Serena DiMagno at 9:05 AM in Room 105 of the Rachel Carson State Office Building. The purpose of the meeting was to present information and review the draft final-form Disinfection Requirements Rule regulation language (Annex A).

The following Board members were present:

Stan Brown, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC)
Doug Crawshaw, American Water Works Association (AWWA)
Serena DiMagno, Water Works Operators Association of Pennsylvania (WWOAP)
Tom Essig, RCAP Solutions
Elam Herr, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS)
Lauren Gross, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors (PAR)
Mary Roland, State Board for Certification of Sewage Treatment Plant & Waterworks Operators (SBCSTPWWO)
James Steele, Pennsylvania Home Builders Association (PBA)
Judith Tutino, Rural Utilities Services (RUS) – *via webinar*

The following Alternate members were present:

Chip Bilger, Water Works Operators Association of Pennsylvania (WWOAP) – *via webinar*
Robert Boos, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PIIA)
Christine Caldara Piatos, Center for Rural Pennsylvania (CRP)
Jennifer Case, Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA)
Lisa Daniels, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Ashley Everette/Erin Gannon, Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA)
Sharon Fillmann, American Water Works Association (AWWA)
Mary Gaiski, Pennsylvania Manufactured Housing Association (PMHA)
Joel Jordan, Pennsylvania Rural Water Association (PRWA) – *via webinar*
Mike Kelly, Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED)
Larry Miller, Pennsylvania Home Builders Association (PBA)
Sukhwindar Singh, RCAP Solutions – *via webinar*
Curt Steffy, State Board for Certification of Sewage Treatment Plant and Waterworks Operators (SBCSTPWWO)

The following Organizations were not represented:

County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP)
League of Women Voters, Pennsylvania
Pa. Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD)

Members/alternates from 17 organizations were present, so a quorum was achieved.

The following DEP staff were present:

Jeff Allgyer, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Kevin Anderson, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Ed Chescattie, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Bill Cumings, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel
Sabrina Haydt, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Dawn Hissner, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Hayley Jeffords, DEP Policy Office
Wendy Lloyd, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Nichole McDannell, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Bill McNamara, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Gerald Miller, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Joanne Nardone, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Non-Members present at the meeting:

Frank Medora, Aqua Pennsylvania
Melanie Horvath, Pennsylvania American Water
Alison Aminto, Philadelphia Water Department
Rita Kopansky, Philadelphia Water Department
Dennis O'Connor, Philadelphia Water Department

Chris Swailes, Suez Water
Matt Walborn, Western Berks Water Authority
Eric Ross, Milliron & Goodman
Yasmin Snowberger, Public Utility Commission

General Advisory Board business:

Two items of general business were introduced prior to new business:

- The updated internal list of members with contact information was emailed to the group prior to the meeting. The list will be cleansed of contact information and posted to the website. Please provide any edits to the contact information to DEP (Dawn Hissner).
- The draft minutes from the January 5, 2017 TAC Board meeting were presented for discussion. The section regarding the election of vice chairs and committee chairs was discussed and the group agreed to revisit the election at the next meeting (Aug 24). Mary Gaiski (PMHA) made a motion to approve the January 5, 2017 minutes as presented; James Steele (PBA) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice majority vote.

Draft Final-form Disinfection Requirements Rule Presentation

- DEP reviewed the power point presentation describing public comments received on the proposed rule, revisions made in response to the comments, the data that was collected as a part of the public comment period, data pulled from PADWIS (the Safe Drinking Water data system), and data from EPA's Third 6-Year Review document, all of which the Department is using to support the final Disinfection Requirements Rule package. A copy of the presentation was posted on the TAC website prior to the meeting. The data submitted by water systems during the public comment period is publicly available as part of the eComment website and will be part of the final-form rulemaking package. Web links will also be provided for EPA's ECHO site (so that water systems and the public can use the site to see PA and national data) and to EPA's Third 6-Year Review document.
 - EPA's ECHO website:
 - Main page: <https://echo.epa.gov/>
 - Data Trends: <https://echo.epa.gov/trends/comparative-maps-dashboards/drinking-water-dashboard?state=National>

- Third 6-Year Review:
 - Main page: <https://www.epa.gov/dwsixyearreview/six-year-review-3-drinking-water-standards>
 - Data: <https://www.epa.gov/dwsixyearreview/contaminant-occurrence-and-related-data-six-year-review-drinking-water-standards>
- DEP also presented a document with details regarding the data reported to PADWIS demonstrating the ability of most systems in PA to meet the proposed requirements. The document will be provided to the TAC members and posted to the Disinfection Requirements Rule website.
- Additional data requests from the TAC board included a copy of the final report (when completed) of the Distribution System Study that was conducted by the Department during the summer/fall of 2016; this will include the HACH method that was used to achieve quenched residual measurements during the study. This report will also be posted to the Disinfection Requirements Rule website. The members also requested a copy of the spreadsheet of the sample results from DEP's Distribution System Study (with specific PWS identifiers removed).

TAC Board Discussion of draft Final-form Annex A – Disinfection Requirements Rule

- TAC members requested DEP to review the next steps in the regulatory development process.
 - DEP obtains TAC's comments and completes the final-form rulemaking package (which includes an updated Order). The package then goes through necessary approvals in DEP, the Governor's Office and the Attorney General's office before it goes to EQB. If passed by EQB, the package goes to IRRRC for approval prior to getting published in the PA Bulletin as a final rule.
 - TAC members requested a delay in developing formal comments on this language until the next meeting (August 24, 2017) to will allow the members to seek comments from their constituents regarding the changes to the rule. DEP agreed. Robert Boos requested that the TAC members share any comments from their constituents with all the Board members/alternates (via email).
- DEP explained the changes made to the proposed Annex A language and answered questions. A summary of the discussion follows:
 - Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC) is required for Bottled, Vended, Retail and Bulk Hauling (BVRB) water systems to maintain primacy with the federal regulations. The federal regulations require systems using purchased surface water sources to maintain a detectable disinfectant residual in the distribution system OR to maintain HPC counts below 500 (as an alternate compliance criteria). BVRB systems that purchase water remove the residual prior to bottling, so HPC is the only compliance option available to them. However, in order to meet state requirements, DEP requires a secondary disinfection of some sort such as ozone or UV (these disinfection methods cannot maintain a residual).
 - The Annex A language should clarify that total chlorine would be the accepted disinfectant residual monitoring required for blended water systems (water treated with both chlorine and chloramines).
 - Online chlorine analyzers will be allowed to fulfill the sampling requirement in the distribution system.
 - TAC requested clarification on how compliance will be determined if the disinfectant residual is measured more than once at the same location within the same month and at least one of the measurements is below the minimum value (e.g. will the lowest value be the compliance value or will multiple values be averaged?).

- DEP's PADWIS system will be programmed to calculate compliance each month. A suggestion was made to also have the data system publicly store (on DWRS?) the details of individual sites that are out of compliance each month to aid water systems in tracking whether an investigation could be triggered.
- The nitrification control plan does not need to be submitted and approved by DEP. It would be reviewed during sanitary surveys and DEP would request revisions (if necessary).
- During the public comment period, DEP received mixed comments on the monitoring frequency for small water systems (serving a population up to 3,300) that take less than four samples per month for RTCR and how compliance is going to be computed for these systems. DEP would like TAC to provide a recommendation on which of the 2 options should be used:
 - Allow these systems to collect only the same number of residual measurements as required coliform samples specified but compliance will be based on each measurement (i.e. any low sample will be a violation).
 - Require these systems them to take at least four residual measurements per month and the violation will be based on more than one measurement out of compliance (what is currently proposed).

Public Comments

- No additional public comments were received.

Adjourn

Robert Boos made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed by a voice majority and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.