

## *Association of Clean Water Administrators*

# **2019 National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop**

**Washington Marriott Wardman Park  
September 17 - 19, 2019  
Washington, DC**

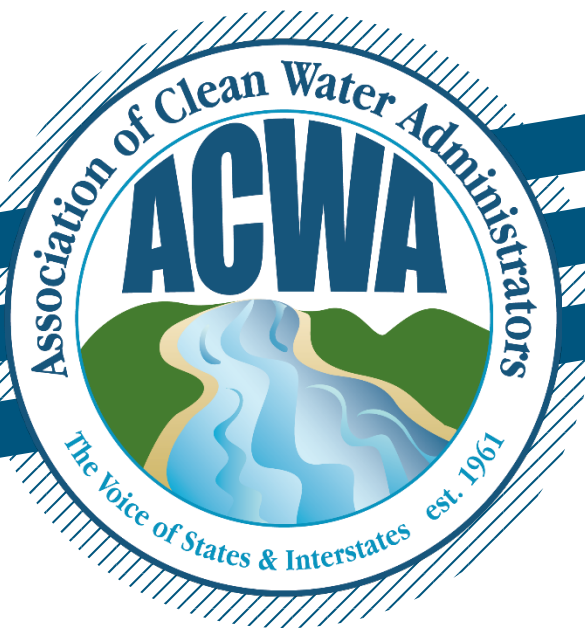
### **PURPOSE**

The 2019 National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop is intended to help support states and EPA showcase permit writer innovations, assist with analysis of training, guidance, tools, and other support material needs, improve administrative efficiencies, clarify roles and responsibilities, build stronger linkages to WQS & TMDLs, modernize permit terms and data management, discuss program performance measures, and identify program areas where targeted technical assistance would be most beneficial.

### **ATTENDEES**

The National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop is a national event specifically organized by state and federal regulators for EPA and state program staff representatives. Attendees include:

- State and EPA staff involved with drafting NPDES permits
- State and EPA staff involved in managing NPDES programs
- Partnering state/federal agency staff that provide technical/regulatory assistance to the NPDES programs
- Invited guests



### **SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

Emilee Adamson (VA), Reuel Anderson (NE), Christina Chiapetta (NY), Kimberly Corts (LA), Todd Franklin (LA), Wendy Hieb (IA), Gary Kelman (MD), Eleanor Ott (WA), Amelia Letnes (EPA HQ), Jeff Navarro (OR), Mayr Ann Nelson (ID), Elizabeth Ottinger (EPA R3), Racheal Pepe (NJ), Stephen Schnurbusch (OR), Danielle Stephan (EPA HQ), Tom Stiles (KS), and Kevin Weiss (EPA HQ).

This meeting is only open to States, EPA co-regulators, and invited guests.

<b>7:00 AM – 8:00 AM</b>	<b>BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN</b>
<b>8:00 AM – 9:00 AM</b>	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
<b>9:00 AM – 9:15 AM</b>	<b>MEETING LOGISTICS &amp; WORKSHOP WELCOME</b> Sean Rolland, ACWA Sally Gutierrez, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>9:15 AM – 9:45 AM</b>	<b>FEDERAL NPDES PRIORITY INITIATIVES</b> Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>9:45 AM – 10:15 AM</b>	<b>PERMIT WRITER RESOURCES</b> <i>EPA to discuss all of the resources they have available for permit writers. Including policies, trainings, webcasts, etc. There will be a discussion about what works best, what is needed, etc.</i> Kevin Weiss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>10:15 AM – 10:30 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>10:30 AM – 11:00 AM</b>	<b>NPDES PERMIT WRITERS CLEARINGHOUSE</b> <i>EPA to discuss new clearinghouse, how it is organized, how it will be populated, etc. Next Steps?</i> Amelia Letnes, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>11:00 AM – 11:30 AM</b>	<b>UPDATED APPLICATION FORMS</b> <i>EPA to provide a general update and how to access? What steps are states taking to update their own forms?</i> Susanna Bains, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>11:30 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>INTEGRATED PLANNING UPDATE</b> <i>EPA to discuss recent updates to the CWA. Next steps for EPA?</i> Chris Kloss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA
<b>12:00 PM – 1:30 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</b>
<b>1:30 PM – 2:30 PM</b>	<b>DEVELOPING HIGH-QUALITY FACT SHEETS</b> <i>How have your fact sheets evolved, what were the drivers, what are some dos and don'ts, what have been finding as it relates to risk/rewards?</i> Elizabeth Eddy, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA Kathy Shreve, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Carol Paden, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality



**2:30 PM – 3:15 PM**

**WRITING AN NPDES PERMIT IN IMPAIRED WATERS**

*What approaches are permitting authorities taking? Where are you facing the most stakeholder pushback?*

Danielle Stephan, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Bryant Thomas, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

**3:15 PM – 3:30 PM**

**BREAK**

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**WQS VARIANCES AND NPDES PERMITS – COORDINATION ACROSS PROGRAMS**

*How can coordination between the water quality standards (WQS) and permitting programs during the development, submittal, and implementation stages of WQS variances help to ensure a successful process and achieve the desired environmental outcomes?*

Shari Barash, Office of Science & Technology, USEPA  
Melissa Dreyfus, Office of Science & Technology, USEPA  
Manjali Vican, Office of Science & Technology, USEPA  
Margo Griffin, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Jason Knutson, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Tom Stiles, Kansas Department of Health & Environment

**5:00 PM**

**WRAP UP AND ADJOURN**

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

This meeting is only open to States, EPA co-regulators, and invited guests.

**7:00 AM – 8:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

**REGISTRATION**

**TRACK 1: 316(b) CWIS**

**9:00 AM – 9:45 AM**

**STATE EXPERIENCE DEVELOPING A PERMIT**

*Rhode Island will discuss their experience developing a permit including peer review comments, coordination with other programs, and working with facility consultants. The rest of the session will be focused on responding project management and how to handle complex comments.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Sam Kaplan, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**9:45 AM – 10:30 AM**

**BTA DETERMINATIONS**

*States and EPA will discuss implementation, highlight challenging areas, discuss development of a checklist, consider typical costs for common technologies.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Colleen Kimble, New York Department of Environmental Conservation



**10:30 AM – 10:45 AM**

**BREAK**

**10:45 AM – 11:30 AM**

**IMPINGEMENT BTA PERFORMANCE STUDY**

*States and EPA will discuss implementation, monitoring requirements, alternative approaches, etc.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

**11:30 AM – 12:15 PM**

**BPJ FACILITIES**

*States and EPA will discuss implementation, national numbers, development of a checklist, ESA implementation challenges, etc.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Curt Linderman, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

**12:15 PM – 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

**1:30 PM – 2:15 PM**

**DE MINIMIS**

*States and EPA will discuss how determinations can be made, the amount and type of data utilized, thresholds, alternative approaches for making the case, etc.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Randall Thompson, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Christy Clark, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

**2:15 PM – 3:00 PM**

**CWIS FACTSHEET**

*States and EPA will discuss implementation, highlight challenging areas, discuss interesting, complicated, and or unique fact sheets.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

**3:00 PM – 3:15 PM**

**BREAK**

**3:15 PM – 4:00 PM**

**FACILITY CLOSURES**

*States and EPA will discuss short and long-term requirements, how to handle planned closures, potential development of a checklist, etc.*

Sean Ramach, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

**4:00 PM – 4:45 PM**

**REGULATORY UPDATES**

*States will discuss some of their biggest challenges, definitions that need improvement, other ways the rule could be improved.*

Jason Knutson, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**4:45 PM – 5:00 PM**

**WRAP UP AND ADJOURN**



# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

## TRACK 2: PROGRAM CHALLENGES

**9:00 AM – 9:45 AM**

### **COLLECTION SYSTEMS**

*How are states managing these systems? What role does asset management play?*

Sean Rolland, Association of Clean Water Administrators

Eleanor Ott, Washington Department of Ecology

Phil Argiroff, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

**9:45 AM – 10:30 AM**

### **TECHNOLOGY BASED LIMITS FOR NUTRIENTS**

*Approaches that states are using. Where could you use support?*

Danielle Stephan, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Joseph Haberek, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**10:30 AM – 10:45 AM**

### **BREAK**

**10:45 AM – 11:45 AM**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF AMMONIA CRITERIA**

*How have states been dealing with challenges? Are there resources that could help?*

Shari Barash, Office of Science & Technology, USEPA

Patrick Ducey, Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy

**11:45 AM – 12:15 PM**

### **PEAK FLOW MANAGEMENT**

*Update on Proposed Rulemaking*

Chris Kloss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Lisa Biddle, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

**12:15 PM – 1:30 PM**

### **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

**1:30 PM – 2:15 PM**

### **CSO POLICY & PRESUMPTIVE APPROACH**

*Review of Workgroup Process Map*

Chris Kloss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Shari Barash, Office of Science & Technology, USEPA

**2:15 PM – 3:00 PM**

### **DESIGN FLOW**

*How is it defined in your state? What challenges has this definition created?*

Lisa Biddle, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

Meg Parish, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Donette Barreto, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

**3:00 PM – 3:15 PM**

### **BREAK**

**3:15 PM – 4:00 PM**

### **PFAS/PFOS: THEY ARE EVERYWHERE!**

*What approaches are states taking to manage these pollutants? Do you feel confident you have identified all of the sources of pollution? Is your state thinking about permits?*



Jan Pickrel, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Sarah Longworth, Environmental Council of States  
Phil Argiroff, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

**4:00 PM – 4:45 PM**

**ANTIBACKSLIDING – REAL WORLD EXAMPLES**

*EPA to Provide Overview, States to Share Examples Where the Issue has Presented Program Challenges*

Nizanna Bathersfield, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Loretta Carstens, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

**4:45 PM – 5:00 PM**

**WRAP UP AND ADJOURN**

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

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**7:00 AM – 8:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**PERMIT STREAMLINING INITIATIVES**

*States and EPA discuss streamlining processes & tools, expedited renewals, use of general permits, etc.*

Kevin Weiss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Mindi Cross, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

**BREAK**

**10:15 AM – 11:45 AM**

**NPDES EREPORTING RULE**

*Are permitting authorities putting requirements in permits? What the biggest challenges to meeting the Phase II deadline? How are states using compliance and inspection data to reissue permits?*

Carey Johnston, Office of Enforcement & Compliance Assurance, USEPA  
Christopher Henninger, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

**11:45 AM – 12:15 PM**

**PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

EPA to discuss new measures, States can share measures they use  
Kevin Weiss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA  
Jeff Navarro, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

**12:15 PM – 12:30 PM**

**MEETING WRAP UP AND ADJOURN**

Sean Rolland, ACWA  
Sally Gutierrez, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA



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