

2019 NATIONAL NPDES PERMIT WRITERS WORKSHOP



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



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), Mary 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).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

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

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM MEETING LOGISTICS & WORKSHOP WELCOME

Sean Rolland, Association of Clean Water Administrators Sally Gutierrez, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM FEDERAL NPDES PRIORITY INITIATIVES

Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM PERMIT WRITER RESOURCES

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.

Kevin Weiss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM BREAK

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM NPDES PERMIT WRITERS CLEARINGHOUSE

EPA to discuss new clearinghouse, how it is organized, how it will be

populated, etc. Next Steps?

Amelia Letnes, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM UPDATED APPLICATION FORMS

EPA to provide a general update and how to access? What steps are states

taking to update their own forms?

Susanna Bains, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM INTEGRATED PLANNING UPDATE

EPA to discuss recent updates to the CWA. Next steps for EPA?

Chris Kloss, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM DEVELOPING HIGH-QUALITY FACT SHEETS

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?

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 Vlcan, 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

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 Longsworth, 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

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

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

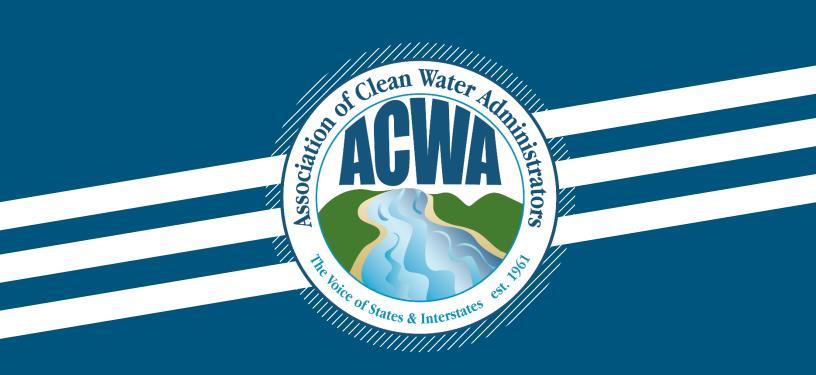
Sean Rolland, Association of Clean Water Administrators Sally Gutierrez, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA

NOTES





SPEAKER BIOS



Amelia Letnes

Amelia Letnes has been with the USEPA for nearly 15 years, working on issues related to the NDPES permitting program. She is currently the national expert on water quality trading, and also works on issues related to nutrients permitting and state program oversight. She received her BA in International Studies from Muhlenberg College and her MA in Political Science from Lehigh University.

Andrew Sawyers

Andrew D. Sawyers is the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC. He oversees the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, the Clean Water Act's mechanism for the permitting of municipal and industrial discharge into surface waters of the U.S. As the Director of OWM, Andrew is also responsible for multiple technical and financial assistance tools for the development and maintenance of the country's wastewater infrastructure, including WIFIA, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and EPA's Water Finance Center. He previously worked for the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration where he managed the state's Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs and the Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. Andrew has a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in Geography and Environmental Engineering.

Bryant Thomas

Bryant Thomas works with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality in the Northern Regional Office. He is a native Virginian and obtained both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Virginia universities (JMU and VA Tech). He oversees several water quality programs for the VDEQ regional office, including surface water monitoring, WQ assessment, TMDL and TMDL implementation plan development, and regional VPDES permitting.

Carey Johnston

Carey Johnston started with the U.S. EPA in 1995 and now works in EPA's Office of Compliance, Washington, DC, where he focuses on water pollution. Currently, his spends most of his time implementing a rulemaking that will require Clean Water Act permittees and regulators to use existing, available information technology to electronically report information and data related to the NPDES permit program in lieu of filing written reports. Carey has an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Virginia and a graduate degree in Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech. He is also a licensed Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In his personal time he likes to volunteer as a mentor in Boys Scouts and as a stream monitor for Arlington County counting benthic macroinvertebrates and E. Coli colonies.

Carol Paden

Carol Paden is an engineering manager at the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ). She received her B.S. in Industrial Engineering and Management from Oklahoma State University in 1981. Carol worked for Western Electric/AT&T Technologies/Lucent Technologies for 20 years before she went to work for ODEQ in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. Carol has worked in the NPDES program for 16 years. She can be contacted at Carol.Paden@deq.ok.gov

Chris Kloss

Chris Kloss is the Chief of the Municipal Branch in the Water Permits Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Water. He oversees the national wet weather permitting programs concerning stormwater, combined sewer systems, and sanitary sewer systems. He is also responsible for programs assessing the potential for green infrastructure and integrated planning to be used in environmental protection and compliance programs. His responsibilities require collaborating with a broad swath of federal, state, local, industry, and environmental groups. Chris has a Master's degree in Environmental Policy from the University of Maryland School of Public Policy, an M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech, and a B.S. in Biological Resources Engineering from the University of Maryland.

Christy Clark

Christy Clark is a lifelong resident of Louisiana. She received her Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in December 2008 and began working as a permit writer in the Water Permits Division of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in May of 2009. In August of 2017, she was promoted to Senior Scientist and Technical Advisor for the Water Permits Division.

Colleen Kimble

Colleen E. Kimble leads the Energy Unit within the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Fish and Wildlife. During her 12 years with the Department, her responsibilities included assessing aquatic impacts from energy project development, with her primary focus on steam electric, industrial and commercial facilities. Colleen received her AAS from SUNY Morrisville, and her BS from Cornell University. Colleen is a member of the New York Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, and the Albany Chapter of the Women's Energy Network. When Colleen isn't working, she spends time with her family, hunting, fishing, hiking, and showing her dog.

Curtis Linderman

Curt Linderman is a Guidance & Regulation Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). A 40-year veteran of the agency, Curt develops State regulations and implementation guidance on emerging water resource management policies and technical issues. He is a subject area expert on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting in Virginia, tax exemption certifications of pollution control equipment, water permit fees, and State engineering design standards for wastewater collection and sewage treatment systems. He previously managed various water supply and water quality management planning, permitting, and resource assessment programs for the Virginia DEQ's Piedmont Regional Office. Curt holds a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Bucknell University and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Richmond. He is a licensed Professional Engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Danielle Stephan

Danielle Stephan has a Bachelor of Science in Integrated Science and Technology with a concentration in environmental science and biotechnology from James Madison University. Danielle has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency for the past 15 years in the Office of Wastewater Management. She is a teacher and presenter at various trainings for the NPDES program including the water quality standards academy and the NPDES basic permit writer's course. She has been involved with a variety of implementation issues related to the administration of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program. She is the national expert on Watershed-based Permitting Approaches and Permitting for Nutrient Pollution in NPDES permits.

Elizabeth Eddy

Liz Eddy is a Biologist in the Water Permits Division's National Program Branch. She manages Program and Permit Quality Reviews from HQ, including development of PQR tools and templates, and provides assistance to Regions in completing PQRs. She has a BA in Environmental Science and MS in Oceanography.

Jan Pickrel

Jan M. Pickrel is the National Pretreatment Program Coordinator at EPA and coordinates a diverse set of activities involving industrial wastewater programs, including technology-based effluent guidelines and categorical standards, biosolids, water security and emergency response planning, and emerging contaminants of concern. She has taught many courses on the pretreatment program across the nation, both in person and via webinar. Prior to coming to EPA in 1997, Ms. Pickrel worked for 13 years in Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (VDEQ) Northern Virginia Regional Office, where she served as the Pretreatment Coordinator and Industrial NPDES Coordinator in the region's Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program. During her tenure at VDEQ, she had also served as the Chief Regional Geologist and has extensive experience in land application of biosolids, ground water and surface water investigations, and oil spill remediation efforts.

Jason Knutson

Jason Knutson is the Wastewater Section Chief at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and has been with DNR for 5 years. At DNR, he has been closely involved in thermal regulation, 316(b) implementation, and the state's PFAS regulatory strategy. He also co-chairs the ACWA Steam Electric/Cooling Water Intake Structures Workgroup along with Mike Moe from Oklahoma. Prior to his time at DNR, Jason worked on Water Quality projects abroad in Bolivia, India, Ghana, and Nicaragua. Jason holds a Master's in Civil and Environmental Engineering from MIT and a Bachelors from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

Joseph B. Haberek

Joseph Haberek graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a BS in Chemical Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Rhode Island. 5 Years of Industrial experience in the plastics coating and textile industries in process and environmental engineering. Has been with the Department of Environmental Management since 1997 in the Office of Water Resources working on NPDES Permitting, Industrial Pretreatment, and Water Quality. Currently the Supervisor of the RIPDES Program, which oversees the Pretreatment Program and all NPDES permitting in Rhode Island, except the Construction General Permit.

Kathy Shreve

Kathy Shreve has worked for the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for 19 years, spending equal time in the Underground Injection Control Programs and the Wyoming Pollution Discharge Elimination System Programs. A geologist by training, she has a Bachelor's of Science degree from Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, LA, and a master's of science degree from Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX. Kathy currently performs permit writing, permittee training, and water quality modelling assignments for the surface water section of DEQ.

Kevin Weiss

Kevin Weiss is the Chief of the NPDES National Program Branch. The National Program Branch works with EPA Regional Offices to provide oversight of states authorized to implement the NPDES permit program to ensure states have adequate program capacity and integrity. The Branch provides technical and policy support to implement the NPDES permit program, including working with EPA Regions and authorized NPDES states to translate water quality standards into permit limitations.

Loretta Carstens

Ms. Loretta Carstens earned a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville in 1995. She started working for the Arkansas Department of Energy and the Environment, Division of Environmental Quality in the Office of Air Quality in February 1996 as an air permit writer. In August 2000, she went to work for a private consulting firm in Little Rock. In April 2001, she obtained her Professional Engineer license. In October 2001, she returned to the Division of Environmental Quality to work as a permit writer in the Office of Water Quality.

Manjali Vlcan

Manjali Gupta VIcan is the Team Leader for the Uses and Antidegradation Policy Team and has worked for EPA for 20 years, 19 years with the water quality standards program. Prior to EPA, Manjali sold water treatment solution systems domestically and internationally for a private company out of Watertown, MA. She received her B.A. in Environmental Studies-Science from Washington University in St. Louis and her M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University. Manjali is originally from Bloomington, MN and currently lives in Alexandria, VA. Representing both, she is a loyal Minnesota Vikings and Washington Capitals fan. Outside of work, she enjoys spending quality time with her husband, two daughters and her friends and family.

Margo Griffin

Margo Griffin is an Acting Unit Manager within the Permits Section of the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Margo holds a BS in Biological Sciences from Cornell University and a MS in Environmental Sciences and Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). She has over 28 years of experience in the environmental science arena, including 18 years at CDPHE focusing on environmental regulatory permitting and compliance assistance. Margo is currently focused on overseeing the effort to update and renew Colorado's Dewatering General Permit Program.

Meg Parish

Meg Parish is the Clean Water Permits Section Manager for Colorado's Water Quality Control Division. She was previously the First Assistant Attorney General for Water Quality and Radiation at the Colorado Attorney General's Office. She has significant experience successfully defending state discharge permits in administrative and state courts. She has previously worked as an environmental attorney with Hogan Lovells and Earthjustice and a community organizer in Kentucky. She is a 2006 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. She has been doing Clean Water Act work, in one way or another, since 2000.

Melissa Dreyfus

Melissa Dreyfus is a Biologist in the Standards and Health Protection Division in the Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water at the U.S. EPA. She joined EPA as a Presidential Management Fellow in 2008 in the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation where she specialized in community involvement and public health communication. Melissa has been with the Office of Water since 2016 and focuses on work such as WQS variances, the WQS Academy, and the WQS Handbook. Melissa received an MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health from the George Washington University and a BA in Biology from Colgate University.

Mindi Cross

Mindi Cross is a Senior Environmental Scientist and Specialist for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. She has over 20 years in experience in multi-media environmental compliance and enforcement. She has worked in hazardous, special and solid wastes, air quality, safe drinking water, groundwater and surface water programs. She has been involved in all levels both conducting field inspection, developing and managing enforcement cases, and managing the work of other environmental professionals. She has been a key member in rule writing efforts, agency enforcement policies and procedures, and has been a point of contact with for working with legislative staff. Her current responsibilities include managing high profile Clean Water Act and other multi-discipline enforcement cases, drafting Clean Water Act point-source permits, and assisting with the development and implementation of agency enforcement policies and initiatives. She has been point-of-contact for the Arizona Attorney General's Office for both civil and criminal environmental enforcement cases. Ms. Cross is a graduate of Gannon University in Erie Pennsylvania with a B.S. in Biology with an emphasis of Environmental Studies. She has been at Arizona Department of Environmental Quality since October 2002.

Nizanna Bathersfield

Nizanna Bathersfield is an attorney with the Water Permits Division in the Office of Wastewater Management in U.S. EPA's Office of Water. Nizanna began her career with EPA as a staff attorney with EPA's Office of Administrative Law Judges. Currently, she works on NPDES state program, permit development and implementation issues. She has served as part of the training team for the NPDES Permit Writers' course and as the Special Assistant for the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water. Nizanna received her J.D. from Georgetown University's Law Center and her M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University. She graduated from the George Washington University with a B.A. in Psychology and minor in Biology.

Patrick Ducey

As a permit writer and limits modeler for four years, Patrick has worked with all types of municipalities and industries to protect water quality and serve the citizens of Nebraska. After obtaining a B.S. and M.S. in geology, Patrick worked at an engineering consulting firm and the Indiana Geological Survey before starting at the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. Permitting experience includes POTWs, pretreatment, industrial dischargers, CSOs, general permits and MS4 coordination. Patrick is dedicated to finding new ways to correctly model water quality-based limits, improve permit quality, and aid in compliance.

Phil Argiroff

Phil Argiroff has worked for Michigan's water pollution control agencies for 31 years. He is currently the Assistant Division Director of the Water Resources Division (WRD) of the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). Previously he was Chief of WRD's Permits Section, and before that did engineering design review and was a District Supervisor in EGLE's Southeast Michigan District Office for 20 years. He started working for EPA Region 5 in 1984. Phil has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering and an MS degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Michigan, and is a P.E. in Michigan.

Randall Thompson

Randall Thompson is an environmental engineer in the Industrial Wastewater Permitting Section at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, where he has 23 years of experience. He has a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Clemson University and is a registered professional engineer in South Carolina.

Sally Gutierrez

For the last 18 months Sally Gutierrez has served as the Acting Director of the Permits Division, within the EPA Office of Wastewater Management. Prior to this role, Ms. Gutierrez was most recently a member of the executive leadership team in the Office of Research and Development serving as the Director of the Environmental Technology Innovation Cluster Development and Support Program, and before that the Director of the National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) and Director of the Water Supply and Water Resources Division. Prior to joining EPA in 2000, Ms. Gutierrez administered water programs for the State of Texas environmental agency in the areas of drinking water, water monitoring, wastewater permitting, dam safety, water rights and utility rates.

Sam Kaplan

Sam Kaplan graduated from Cornell University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and completed a Graduate Certificate from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Environmental Engineering. Registered Professional Engineer (mechanical) in the State of Rhode Island. 4 years total of industrial experience in the automotive industry (Lean manufacturing and design) and as a consulting engineer (design). 1 year of experience as a homeland security consultant at the Rhode Island Department of Health. Has served at the Department of Environmental Management since 2004 in the Office of Water Resources working on NPDES Permitting, Permit Enforcement, Section 316, and Lean Government (RIDEM Lean Team member since 2012). Currently an Environmental Engineer II in the RIPDES Program.

Sarah Longsworth

Sarah Grace Longsworth is a Project Manager at ECOS. She previously interned at ECOS and joined the staff in May 2016 as the Administrative Assistant, then Project Associate. Sarah Grace supports committees related to PFAS and toxic chemicals management, environmental science policy, sustainable materials management, and ECOS Results. She also manages the website, newsletter, and registration for ECOS meetings. A native of Bethesda, Maryland, Sarah Grace graduated from Wake Forest University in 2016 with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Environmental Science.

Shari Barash

Shari Barash currently serves as the Chief of the National Branch in EPA's Standards & Health Protection Division in the Office of Water. She has been a Chemical Engineer with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington D.C. since 1991. For the past 15 years, she has worked on the development and implementation of policy, regulations, and guidance for the review and approval of state and tribal water quality standards under the Clean Water Act and in the last four years Shari has also managed the National Beach Advisory, the National Fish Advisory, and the National Fish Tissue Contaminant Programs. Prior to her work in the Standards and Health Protection Division she worked on national technology-based effluent guidelines regulations for industries such as Pesticide Manufacturing, Metal Products & Machinery, and Meat & Poultry Products. Ms. Barash received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Susanna Bains

Susanna Bains joined the Environmental Protection Agency in 2015. As a member of the Sustainable Systems Team in the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, she was involved in Capacity Development activities aimed to build and maintain the capacity of drinking water systems, including asset management and financial planning. Since joining the Office of Wastewater Management in November 2018, she has worked on projects to improve the NPDES permit issuance process, outreach involving the updated NPDES application forms, water quality trading, and other activities to support the NPDES program. Susanna earned a B.S. in Biology from Samford University and an M.A. in Environmental Resource Policy from George Washington University.

Tom Stiles

Tom Stiles is the Director of the Bureau of Water at KDHE, overseeing the Public Water Supply, Underground Injection Control, NPDES permitting, TMDL, water quality standards and monitoring programs for the State of Kansas. Prior to his stint at KDHE, he spent 16 years with the Kansas Water Office as a hydrologist and assistant director, where he established the minimum streamflow and water assurance programs and oversaw development of the Kansas Water Plan. Stiles serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA), as well as acting as co-chair of its Permitting and Compliance Committee. He spent a number of years as co-chair of ACWA's TMDL and Watershed Committee, where he helped formulate EPA's National TMDL Vision. He is a past chairman of the Interstate Council on Water Policy and the Western States Water Council Water Quality Committee. Stiles received his B.S. in Watershed Science at Colorado State University and his M.S. in Forest Hydrology from the University of Minnesota.

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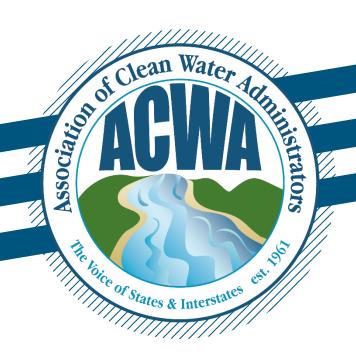
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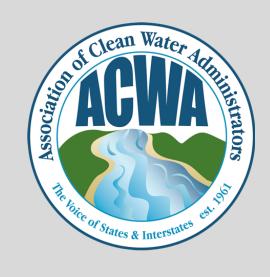
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