

MINUTES

RMWEA/RMSAWWA Joint Water Reuse Committee

May 9, 2006 – 1:00 pm

Plum Creek Wastewater Authority, Castle Rock, Colorado

Action Item Summary

- Update committee on Reg 84 form updates at July meeting (Wes)
- Send draft salinity guidance documents to Jenny for distribution (Nicole)
- Review and comment on draft salinity guidance documents by mid-June (all interested Committee members)
- Check to see if Dr. Qian's quarterly reports can be posted to the Committee's website (Nicole)
- Set meeting with WQCD to review revisions to Monitoring Policy (John)
- Send phosphorus studies & information to WQCD (Steve)
- Contact WQCD regarding where/how to exempt in-plant effluent use (Jerry)
- Check with Dave Akers to see if WQCD will request any Reg. 84 changes in 2006 (Wes)
- Investigate "go-by" public education materials from various sources (Tim F.)

1. Attendees

Claudia Cummins, Sarah Ladenburger, Wesley Carr, Trisha Culp, Tim Friday, Matt Hayes, Greg Straight, Nicole Adams, Paul Pigeon, Jörg Drewes, Steve Lohman, Georgene Porter, Amy Woodis, Tim Grotheer, Jerry Raisch, Bob Dye, John Rehring

2. Reuse Regulation-Related Forms

- Wes indicated that the forms have not been updated to reflect the fall 2005 changes to Reg. 84.
- Group discussion concluded that the forms are useful and should be updated, though there is no need to do so immediately.
- Wes will update the group with the status at the July committee meeting.

3. Salinity Subcommittee

- Nicole updated the group on the status of the subcommittee's activities. The group has drafted several guidance documents that could be useful to a broad range of people, such as reuse treaters/users and other waters with high salinity. Much of the material has been compiled from a variety of sources.
- Nicole is seeking feedback on the draft guidance documents. She will send it to Jenny Fifita for email distribution to the Committee for review and comment.
- Dr. Qian's study is ongoing through about mid-2007. Nicole will check to see if the study's quarterly reports can be posted to the Committee's website.

4. WQCD Policies

- Steve, Claudia, Tara, and John have made draft edits to the Monitoring Policy. This group will finalize their suggested changes, then set a meeting to review it with WQCD staff in about mid-June.
- Changes may also be needed to the Agronomic Rate Policy, to clarify that unless required for a specific basin (e.g., Cherry Creek Basin), phosphorus does not need to be monitored as part of an agronomic rate determination. Information Steve has collected suggests that phosphorus is tightly bound into soils, such that it could not pass to groundwater. Surface water is protected via the no ponding/runoff requirements of Reg. 84.
- The Cherry Creek Basin group is looking at the interactions between Regs 61, 72, and 84, but no changes to Reg. 84 are anticipated relative to phosphorus or agronomic rate.
- Steve will coordinate with Brian Good and WQCD on this issue, including sharing information he's gathered to date. WQCD is planning to discuss the issue internally on 5/26/06.

5. Reg. 84 Triennial Review

- Several issues have been raised related to Reg. 84 language. The group discussed the need to modify Reg. 84 as part of the 2006 Triennial Review of the reg.
- Jerry noted that the Commission hearing is scheduled for October 2006, meaning that the Committee's proposed changes would need to be finalized by June 2006 for submittal to the Commission. This would be an extremely tight timeline, and it may therefore not be possible to make changes to Reg. 84 this year.
- The group discussed possible changes that might be desirable, whether in 2006 or later (possibly the next triennial review, 2009). One issue relates to in-plant use of treated effluent at WWTPs (e.g., chemical feeds, washdown, etc.), which is not specifically addressed in any current regulation. Jerry and Metro will contact WQCD to discuss whether such uses should be exempted via Reg. 61, Reg. 84, or some other venue.
- Jerry also noted that there are multiple "sub-categories" of authorized uses in Reg. 84. If we expect to keep adding uses on a frequent basis, we might want to consider moving the specific applications out of the reg, and into a policy. Wes stated that he's had a few requests for authorization of agricultural reuse and car washing. However, these applications are not widespread enough to warrant re-opening Reg. 84 this year.
- Wes will check with Dave Akers to determine whether WQCD plans to request any changes to Reg. 84 as part of the 2006 Triennial Review.
- The group concluded that we should start working on 2009 Triennial Review changes to Reg. 84 in late 2006 or early 2007.

6. Public Education and Outreach

- The Reuse Workshop subcommittee has finalized the program for the 8/10/06 Workshop at Colorado School of Mines. The Workshop will be advertised in Rumbles, and registration will soon be available via the RMWEA website. Frank Johns is working on getting approval for Training Units. Committee members are

encouraged to “spread the word” about the workshop with those who may be interested in attending.

- The group discussed the need for, and potential “audiences” for, other public education materials. Several participants indicated that they have intermittent needs for materials for both new reuse systems and for existing ones, both in terms of educating users and the general public.
- Good “go-by” materials are likely available from other sources and other utilities. Tim Friday offered to further investigate existing materials from other utilities and the California Section of the Water Reuse Association. Greg Straight will help with this effort. All Committee members are encouraged to share any insights they may have on the potential audiences and uses for public education materials, along with assessing existing materials. The group should also re-visit the existing Reuse Committee tri-fold brochure to determine how well it suits the need for public education materials.
- Wes noted that the Colorado State Legislators need to be informed about the need for a reuse program at WQCD. The group discussed this issue, and concluded that there is support from treaters, but that WQCD should take the lead in working with the legislature to establish funding for a WQCD reuse program. Wes will suggest approach that back to his management (Janet Kieler and Dave Akers).

7. Miscellaneous

- Wes noted that Rumbles is looking for reuse photos as part of an ongoing photo contest. Wes submitted a recent winning entry of biosolids and was awarded a cash prize. Information is available at RMWEA.ORG, or in Rumbles.
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2006 at 1:00 pm in the Lowry Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Aurora Municipal Center.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.