



WWTF Workgroup Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2013 9:30 AM

Workgroup Members Present: Kim Laird (TCEQ), Chip Morris (TCEQ), Charlene Bohanon (GBF), and Katie McCann (GBF).

Discussion

Implementation Plan Update: Ms. Bohanon gave an update on the I-Plan draft – she is sifting through TSSWCB and TCEQ comments. The group brainstormed ideas for a more concise name for the I-Plan and a name for the stakeholder group working on this I-Plan since one wasn't created at the onset of this project. Ideas that were suggested include Galveston Bay Bacteria Reduction Plan and Galveston Bay Action Team. Ms. Bohanon will continue to discuss this with the other workgroups as well. Finally, the group reviewed comments received from City of Seabrook and discussed edits that need to be made or things that just need to be worded more clearly.

Management Measures Update: Ms. Bohanon shared an example of the H-GAC Bacteria Implementation Group's "At a Glance" annual summary of implementation activities and asked stakeholders what their thoughts were on doing this for this project. Those in attendance liked the idea.

Training – Two TEEEX Microbial Effluent Loading Workshops were held in 2012 and the first annual CMOM Houston will be held in March 2013, hosted by H-GAC. The group recommended continuing to offer these since there are still a lot of people to reach. In addition, Ms. Laird discussed the possibility of giving her 1 hour presentation on the same topics and then leading the group in an open discussion. She has seen great results from this outreach model. The group discussed the possibility of getting this abridged course approved for CEUs, however to go through TEEEX it must be 3 hours. Outlets for this type of training could be monthly operator meetings or an extended lunch at a facility. The ideal group size is around 10 people for this setup so there is more discussion. Ms. Laird also shared that the South East School will be held in Beaumont (April 2013), which is an operator school. All of the regions do a yearly school and the TCEQ compliance group presents to all of these schools.

Guidance document – The document is currently on TCEQ's website and will soon include a photo gallery (March 2013?). The TCEQ Small Business group is finalizing a postcard that summarizes the bacteria limit rules and when enforcement will begin. These will be printed out and sent to all permit holders. Ms. Laird will ask if they have a regular mailing schedule to determine if the Workgroup needs to do any of the mailings. The group recommended having these materials on hand at all meetings/presentations/workshops.

Sampling and enforcement – Ms. Bohanon discussed the possibility of offering to process Enterococci samples periodically for plants for free as a non-regulatory check-up. Small facilities may only be required to have facility sampled quarterly, so this could help them figure out if they have any problems to address. Enforcement on bacteria won't start until at least September.

FOG – Ms. Bohanon gave a brief update on progress with establishing a regional FOG campaign. The Policy/Outreach Workgroup and various watershed coordinators have chosen to move forward with adopting the Cease the Grease campaign from City of Dallas Water Utilities. Ms. Laird mentioned that cities should be easy to get

onboard because new regulations state that as long as a facility has a FOG program in place they can't receive a violation for FOG-related SSOs.

Next meeting: TBD