SP CURE Monitoring Committee Meeting – Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 13, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location: Thornton Wes Brown Water Treatment Plant
3651 E 86th Ave; Thornton, CO

1. **Introductions**
2. **Discuss/Approve August Meeting Minutes**

   Approved
3. **Confluence Updates**

   The group provided feedback on Confluence at the Confluence. The group enjoyed learning about water quality impacts of the USACE projects and agreed it was helpful to learn the history of how Regulation 85 came about (e.g. using the control regulation framework rather the traditional standards development process).
4. **Water Quality Workgroup Updates**
   a. **Water Quality Workgroups**

      PFAS and Biosolids (August 25 and October 4): The Division's final proposal for the regulation of PFAs in biosolids was shared on October 4th. A few changes were made since the draft based on stakeholder feedback, including CMF.

      The Division will be providing potentially covered entities (e.g. any entity that could prepare biosolids) with a notification of requirement to sample in 2023. Letters will be sent end of November 2022. Entities with annual sampling requirements will receive a letter by the end of 2022. The Division is planning to use existing authority under Reg 61 to require monitoring for wastewater treatment facilities who generate 30 dry tons (DT) or greater of biosolids per year. Analytical method 1633 will be required. If PFOS analysis is 50 µg/kg or greater, source identification actions will be required.

      The Division plans to post sampling results online and will have guidance for explaining/interpreting PFAS test results on the web page, along with the results. They are open to suggestions for guidance in this area. CMF plans to help support this process.

      Changes since the July 19 proposal:

      - Monthly sampling was changed to 3 samples per quarter.
      - PFAS analysis reporting due within 45 days after the lab analysis has been completed by the lab ("Report Date").

ANNUAL BIOSOLIDS PRODUCTION (dry short tons/year)	Clarifying Comments	PFAS Testing Frequency
< 30	If land application to own site or produce own Class A	once per year
	Sampling NOT required unless specifically designated based on non-domestic contribution potential for PFAS	NOT required unless specifically designated based on non-domestic contribution potential for PFAS
30 to < 319		once per year
319 to < 1,650		once per quarter
1,650 to < 16,500		once per two months
16,500 and greater		3 samples per quarter

b. Colorado Monitoring Framework

The Nutrients Task Force met on August 15 to discuss Reg 31/Reg 85 hearing and go over concerns with the Division's prehearing statement. The group drafted a responsive prehearing statement, which morphed into a support letter for a "stay" of hearing.

The PFAS Task Force submitted additional comments on the Division's proposed approach to regulating PFAS in biosolids. As mentioned in the workgroup updates, the Division incorporated several of CMF's comments. The letter focused on the following themes:

- CMF believes the monitoring frequency should align with the objective of this effort, which is exploratory in nature. If the Division must stick with the required frequency, more flexibility could be helpful (e.g. 3 samples per quarter vs monthly)
- Guidance/context to the public data page
- What is the Division's plan for documenting the details of the biosolids monitoring approach so that everyone has a common understanding of the goals and outcomes of this effort? CMF would be willing to help create such a document.
- Draft EPA Method 1633, Section 8.5.3 allows holding times of 90 days for biosolids samples with some preservation required. CMF asks that that the Division require meeting the laboratory holding time but not impose the arbitrary 7-day maximum requirement. Because of the long turn around times and concerns with sample contamination or other possible complications, facilities may want to collect two samples at a time, sending one sample to the laboratory and holding the other. That second sample could then be submitted to the laboratory for analysis if the first sample is invalid, lost, or contaminated in the laboratory.

c. Other Updates

10 Year Roadmap (August 17):[1] Topics included TMDL updates, Voluntary Incentive Program update, Lakes/nutrients updates, and the introduction of the

[1]https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uphRxXHpTPi2kJ1x6RUgyzUZChe2asTS

Integrated Report Storymap,[2] a slick new tool from Sarah Wheeler's group to illustrate the bi-annual Integrated Report.

5. Water Quality Control Commission Hearings

   a. **Regulations 38 and 31/85 Summary:** Based on stakeholder feedback, this hearing has been rescheduled for April 10, 2023 to allow the Division/Commission to consult with the state engineer and Colorado Water Conservation Board on injury to water rights issues, specifically reservoir operations. An additional motion also brought up concerns with the data and indicated that more time is needed to review all of the technical information. This effort, spearheaded by the Wastewater Utility Council, retained Jimmy McCutchan of CU Boulder to review the PPHS and identify concerns. A cost benefit analysis was also requested. Responsive statements are due 12/21/2022.

   The August 2022 criteria are listed below.

   Proposed criteria

   - Total phosphorus
     - 0.020 mg/L Aquatic Life Cold
     - 0.036 mg/L Aquatic Life Warm
   - Total nitrogen
     - 0.330 mg/L Aquatic Life Cold
     - 0.600 mg/L Aquatic Life Warm
   - Option for site-specific adjustment based on Secchi O/E

   Chlorophyll-a/ periphyton: Northglenn is sampling with regular frequency (reach out to Shelly or John).

6. **Discuss Next Steps for Arsenic Analyses**

   Erin showed the attached presentation. Arsenic data showed a strong correlation to streamflow, which suggests a strong non-point source correlation

   Questions/next steps:

   - Erin to follow up with Jon and his intern who are looking at impacts of bedrock on water quality in the South Platte
   - Erin to see if we locate a good geology GIS base
   - Is arsenic the same concentration regardless of flow? Let's take a look at this. This has not been QC'd.
   - Overall system loading? We could talk to Steve about this or someone with Barr Milton
   - It could be a good idea to run the mainstem loading and see what happens
   - For next steps, should we wait until the Division resolves their arsenic Plan to Resolve Uncertainty?
     - Mention when detection limits change
   - It could be beneficial to look at other loading study examples

7. **Round Robin!**

[2] https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2e3d68905e2e4d298d3613e4f78a3ef2

Iron (total and dissolved) and sodium (total and dissolved)

8. **Check-Ins**

   a. Colorado Data Sharing Network – Jordan

      Call for the Basin hearing. Just applied for a mini grant to get data uploaded to the DSN.

   b. Water Connection/Greenway Foundation Updates – No updates

9. **New Business**

   What is the appetite for an urban South Platte working group focused on water quality issues? After the Regulation 38 hearing this fall, the environmental groups and the regulated community are both interested in protecting urban streams but disagree on the appropriate path forward. It seems like good timing to have a broad conversation about our approach to the protection of urban streams (e.g. Reg 38 Hearing, Water Plan Update, Army Corps restoration project, SP CURE's discussions on partnerships). Who would be at the table? Would SP CURE be interested in spearheading this conversation? The group agreed to bring this up with the Board for discussion.

10. **Next Meeting Date**

    December 8, 2022 – In person potential joint holiday meeting with the Board

Meeting Attendees		
Present	Name	Organization
	Juliana Archuleta	Adams County
	Zach Trabold	City of Aurora
X	Nick Tino	Centennial Water and Sanitation District
X	Brian Tietze	Denver Environmental Health
	Al Polonsky	Denver Environmental Health
	Curt Bauers	FRICO
	Jim Dorsch	Metro District
X	Jordan Parman	Metro District
X	Santiago Ramirez	City of Thornton
X	Caleb Owen	City of Thornton
	Christine Johnston	Xcel Energy
	Eric Marler	Suncor Energy
	Ben Wise	South Platte Water Renewal Partners
X	Erin Donnelly	Coordinator - Brown and Caldwell

Minutes prepared by Erin Donnelly