

On-Site Wastewater Technical Advisory Group

March 14th, 2019
Kittitas County Courthouse
County Commissioners Chambers
Ellensburg, WA

Meeting Summary

MEETING ATTENDEES

Core Group Members Present

David Jensen, P.E. - Jensen Engineering
Bob Monetta, Windermere Real Estate –
Methow Valley
Eric Evans, Kitsap Health District
Eric Knopf, Indigo Designs
Justin Hartmann, Certified Prof. Soil
Scientist, Wahkiakum County H. D.
Dave Hilton, Okanogan County Health
District
Dave Lowe, Lowridge Technologies

Core Group Members Not Present

Season Long, Cowlitz County H. D.

Guests

Mike Moren, P.E.
Tom Bruusema

DOH Staff

Leslie Turner
Lisette Anson
Randal Freeby

INTRODUCTION:

The meeting began at 10:05 AM on March 14, 2019. There was a brief discussion by DOH proposing the idea of having a Chair position and SOP for the TAG. DOH proposed that, the role of the chair could be the same as the retired TRC Chair. The TAG voted to adopt the same language for Chair and SOP that was used for the retired TRC Chair. The TAG nominated and voted to appoint Bob Monetta for TAG Chair.

SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

WAC Revision Update:

DOH discussed the evolution of the WAC Revision. The Revision is being worked on by the ORRC (On-site Rule Revision Committee), which is composed of stakeholders, industry professionals and citizens group/advocates. DOH shared their timeline and shared the progress that has been made. The Chair requested to review the proposed language, however, DOH explained that information as not available yet. Any issue papers presented to the ORRC can be found on the DOH rule revision website.

NSF 245 vs ETV testing:

Due to a conflict of interest, Dave Lowe was not able to discuss or vote on this topic.

DOH explained that this topic was brought up because of the open rule revision. DOH explained the current standard for propriety treatment product nitrogen testing. Currently, companies applying to be on the registered list as meeting TL N must have their products tested following the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Technology Verification (EPA's ETV) standards. DOH is looking to remove the requirement for the ETV testing for nitrogen reduction because the EPA concluded their operations of the ETV program in March 2014.

DOH invited speaker, Tom Bruusema, formerly of the NSF, gave a presentation explaining the difference in standards that the EPA ETV program required and what NSF/ANSI 245 requires. Mr. Bruusema explained that a product can be tested under NSF Standard 245 without Standard 40 as a prerequisite. Alkalinity and temperature are tested for Standard 245. DOH asked whether the state should adapt NSF 245 testing which has a duration of 6 months for ongoing sampling or 2 rounds of NSF 245 for one year. The ETV test was a one year test. The TAG recommended to adopt the six month NSF 245 test for nitrogen reduction assignment.

Nitrogen Reduction Credits:

The TAG thinks that Nitrogen Reduction Credit should be a table for general purposes on each of the RS&Gs. A suggestion was made for a Nitrogen Reduction table for public domain systems be available on the DOH website eventually when values are verified through research and review. The TAG would like DOH to further research this.

DOH Recirculating Gravel Filter and Woodchip Bed:

The issue is can recirculating gravel filter and woodchip bed be registered as meeting treatment level N? The general consensus was that recirculating gravel filter to wood chip bed TL N is pending final approval of the RS&G and to update the RS&G with O&M information.

WRAP UP:

The Chair of TAG asked for at the next meeting that information be provided on how COMMWA's law will effect O&M. The TAG requested that information presented to the group be sent 2 weeks prior to meeting vs 4 weeks prior to meeting.