

TACWA REGULATORY SUMMARY		May 21, 2021	
ITEM		COMMENT	LINKS
1	WEAT Nutrient Group	One more session planned; group planning to prepare a white paper to address next steps.	
2	N-steps Online	Tech support for people developing numeric nutrient criteria;	N-STEPS Program Nutrient Pollution Policy and Data US EPA
3	Nutrient contamination in water bodies	Development of User Perception Survey Best practices for visual evaluation of nutrient pollution	Development of User Perception Surveys to Protect Water Quality from Nutrient Pollution: A Primer on Common Practices and Insights Nutrient Pollution Policy and Data US EPA
4	Biosolids contaminants	Biennial review of biosolids contaminants for 2018-2019	Microsoft Word - Biosolids Biennial Report No8.docx (epa.gov)
5	EPA Biosolids website	updated	Biosolids US EPA
6	Numeric nutrient criteria for lakes and reservoirs	Working on final publication; hoping to release within months	Draft Ambient Water Quality Criteria Recommendations for Lakes and Reservoirs of the Conterminous United States: Information Supporting the Development of Numeric Nutrient Criteria Nutrient Pollution Policy and Data US EPA
7	Draft chloride criteria	States have identified chloride as high priority; last update was 1988; need to look at several ions and impact on toxicity. Database of toxicity studies; working with ORD to develop a modeling approach ; hoping to develop draft criteria in 2021	Water Quality Criteria US EPA
8	Aquatic life criteria for metals	Develop a simplified modeling approach for bioavailability and toxicity for multiple metals in the aquatic environment; will start model development soon for Lead; Zinc; Nickel; Cobalt	Water Quality Criteria US EPA

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9	Biosolids risk assessment	Modeling approach for determining risk associated with pollutants in biosolids. Presenting approach to SAB soon. Chemical prioritization methods; biosolids screening tool; probabilistic risk assessment framework for biosolids that fail screening.	
10	PFAS	EPA Council on PFAS has been created by EPA (See below). PFAS action plan published in 2019; Building on work previously undertaken on PFAS. Beginning to work on water quality criteria; working on laboratory methods for detecting PFAS – up to 40 different chemicals in wastewater and expect full method validation by summer 2022. Examining available information about PFAS in surface water discharges to identify industrial sources for potential regulation. focused on five industrial point source categories, airports organic chemical manufacturers paper and paper board manufacturers, textiles and carpet manufacturers, and metal finishers; looking at industries and how it is being treated within industries. Working on PFAS in fish tissue; Biosolids and PFAS	Memo: EPA Council on PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) US EPA
11	PFAS testing for wastewater	EPA has directed that WW plants need to test for PFAS for states that have an approved method for testing wastewater. In states where EPA has primacy, such requirements are starting to creep into NPDES permits. If method is approved this Summer, this will start to put pressure on States to follow the lead.	Analytical Methods for PFAS in Environmental Media EPA Research to Support States US EPA
12	Coliphage criteria	Planning to draft criteria for coliphage; viral indicator; easy to monitor for viruses using coliphage. Draft for public comment in 2022.	Water Quality Criteria US EPA
13	EPA Construction General Permit	Publication of the draft 2022 CGP; NACWA is reviewing but not planning to comment unless there is some compelling reason to do so	EPA's Draft 2017 Construction General Permit (CGP) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) US EPA
14	Environmental Justice Taskforce	NACWA board has created a task force to address environmental justice needs; just getting underway; more to come; NACWA Water Quality Committee will likely be involved in working with this issue.	

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15	2021 Methods Update Rule	Awaiting publication in Fed Register	mur_2021_final_fact_sheet_march_2021.pdf (epa.gov)
16	Staffing changes at TCEQ of note	Erika Crespo, Assistant Director Water Quality Division (David Galindo's replacement)	
		Matthew Udenuwu, Permitting Section Manager (Yvonna Miramontes' replacement)	
		To be named soon, Pretreatment Coordinator (Erika's replacement)	
17	Anti-degradation	TCEQ has requested Appeals Court reversal of District Court Ruling on Dripping Springs to uphold the PFD for denial. Still in process. Recommendation for denial of the Port of Corpus Christi brine discharge permit by SOAH. TCEQ has remanded the case back to SOAH on a couple of issues. Regardless of the outcome, antidegradation policy in Texas is something we should keep an eye on.	