



## Meeting Notes

### Drinking Water Advisory Group

September 19, 2022

*Note: Presentations are linked on the agenda item title. Handouts are linked in the notes section.*

Agenda Item	Notes
<p><b>2. ODW Update</b> Holly Myers, Office Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Busy with staff recruitment and filling vacancies. Have hired 28 staff members since June 2021.</li> <li>◆ Improving interagency relationships across the state. Two new workgroups               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Interagency climate change resiliency workgroup. Led by Ecology.</li> <li>○ Interagency groundwater workgroup. Mike Means leading.</li> <li>○ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tribal partners.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Implementing HEAL act June 2023. Liaison for each office. Grant funding over \$12 million needs environmental justice review. Reassess in 2025 for needed changes.</li> <li>◆ PFAS: working with Ecology, other agencies. Staff throughout DOH working on YTC. No MCL from EPA yet.</li> <li>◆ Interagency communication and collaboration with Ecology. Updating MOU with Ecology.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Legislative and Rule Update</b> Brad Burnham, Policy &amp; Rules Section Manager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Revenue Report to Ways &amp; Means. Governor releases first budget. Agencies learn which proposals Gov wants to work on.</li> <li>◆ Slight expected increase in revenues. Discussions about potential recession.</li> <li>◆ ODW Proposals (new or increasing work):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Assisting struggling systems—increase funding for WSRP, \$5-10 million for multi-year projects.</li> <li>○ Contamination systems and individual well owners with treatment for certain contaminations. Helping with Point of Use (POU) filtration to homes, for small systems, etc. Treatment or alt DW sources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Continuing work proposals:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase operator permitting staff. \$500K annually.</li> <li>○ Increase consolidation grant funding. \$800K annually. \$50K grants</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ DWSRF Proposals:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase construction loan state match.</li> <li>○ Increase loan cycles and amounts allowed.</li> <li>○ Increase our work related for technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Most proposals address spending the “extra” money. Two increase money for WSARP and alternative treatment for this with Group B and private wells.</li> <li>◆ Policy Proposals</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work with Ecology</li> <li>○ Emergency response planning. Staff member deployed. Work split up. Cybersecurity. EPA reviewing.</li> <li>○ Filling one position on Policy Planning team.</li> <li>◆ Rulemaking:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Onsite non-potable sources. Staff from ODW and Division. Extensive rule, need to cover all bases. Pub comment period soon.</li> <li>○ Lead and Copper. Meeting later today.</li> <li>○ HEAL act work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Capacity development strategy. Not revised for several decades. Used in-house to support utilities, WSs. Working doc for our operations, goals. A way for EPA to understand our mission and vision, follow regs, support PWSs. Completed public comment, thanks for feedback. Important to hear from you. Back with EPA for final review and comments. Finalize after EPA responds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Comment from Mike Means:</b> Clarify decision packages. We're getting authority from the legislature to spend additional money coming into state, for example SRF loans. The other two are about increasing funding for WSRP, listening to you in this group, how to move forward. So we're asking for funding. Will coordinate with you going forward. Small and private wells with contamination/alternative water supplies: support for private wells and small systems who don't have federal support or resources.</p>
<p><b>4. WAWARN: How to Get Involved</b> Brad Burnham</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Discussion with you to receive information. How can ODW help with WAWARN?</li> <li>◆ State model of national program. Supported by EPA and other national associations.</li> <li>◆ If you've been thinking about WAWARN, website and resources at <a href="http://WAWARN.org">WAWARN.org</a> and EPA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Comment: David Brown/Yakima:</b> Apply some set aside money to support WAWARN. Evergreen Rural Water may use interns to host site. David is retiring and won't be able to host anymore. Need to continue membership without disruption or new signups. In talks with Evergreen State College to host and work with them.</p> <p><b>Comment, Scott Smith:</b> WASWD might also be a good option to investigate for hosting and administration</p>
<p><b>6. <u>UCMR5—</u> <u>Coordinating Federal Sampling with State PFAS Sampling</u></b> Derrick Dennis, Water Quality and Data Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Collect data for national occurrences of unregulated contaminants. Helps determine if regulation needed. Will propose rule if needed.</li> <li>◆ Flow of SDWA regulatory processes. EPA process.</li> <li>◆ Break down between very small (&lt;3,300), small (3,300-10,000), and large (10,001+).</li> <li>◆ PFAS: SBOH approved regulations in 2021.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community and non-transient non-community (NTNC) systems must take initial samples during the 2023-25 compliance period.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ UCMR5 results count toward test.</li> <li>◆ Funding extended to 2023.</li> <li>◆ 1,555 sources from 952 water systems. Only 15 sources exceeded SAL.</li> </ul> <p><b>Question/comment Elizabeth Raney:</b> I think WAC 246-290 indicates that voluntary sampling results collected prior to Jan 1, 2023, will count toward the required PWS system sampling for 2023-2025. Is this still true? <b>Reply Mike Means:</b> Yes. Allows grandfathering the data. If you voluntarily sampled, it may count as long as it meets lab standard.</p> <p><b>Comment Elizabeth Raney:</b> The U.S. Dept of Energy is requiring sampling in the next few months under EPA 537.1 and I was wondering if we should submit results to the state. <b>Reply Mike Means:</b> If they meet state minimum requirements. <b>Reply Derrick Dennis:</b> If this is data related to UCMR 5, data uploaded by lab to EPA CDX data exchange, then PWSs verifies.</p> <p><b>Question Sean Bauer:</b> Does EPA share results with DOH? How do you get the information from sampling. <b>Reply Derrick Dennis:</b> We don't have direct access to it, but we can access their portal. We probably won't have access until the lab and the system verify the information. Sampling period is 2023-25, so we do have time to get sampling done.</p> <p><b>Comment Andy Tuchscherer:</b> The existing process of the lab sending PFAS results to DOH isn't user friendly. Please keep us updated if the process changes.</p> <p><b>Comment Doug Greenlund:</b> Will PFAS testing schedules be part of the WQMS? <b>Reply, Derrick Dennis:</b> Yes. We plan to include it. We are working to get the samples spread throughout three year cycle on systems, so labs aren't inundated in one year.</p>
<p><b>7. <a href="#">LCRR Implementation—Specific for Inventory Feedback</a></b> Sheri Miller, Deputy Director of Operations; and Brad Burnham</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ State revision rule came out in 2016 and is being changed again.</li> <li>◆ We hope to have a draft available summer 2023.</li> <li>◆ We know that the lead survey line inventory requirement will not change. This will be for community and non-transient noncommunity systems and will require you to communicate with those on your systems.</li> <li>◆ Service line is from water main to customer's plumbing.</li> <li>◆ Classification categories: Lead, Galvanized Requiring Replacement, Non-lead, and Unknown.</li> <li>◆ Must treat "Unknown" as if it had lead in it.</li> <li>◆ Identify lead gooseneck or pigtails in your inventory.</li> <li>◆ Location identifier, classification of purveyor or customer owned, basis of classification for each portion.</li> <li>◆ Basis of classification categories: historical records, installation date, service line diameter, service line repair, field inspection, state approval is required for statistical analysis, models, sampling, interpolation, or emerging methods.</li> <li>◆ <b>Question from Jorgan:</b> Do we have to go into the building? <b>Answer:</b> Only to the building plumbing, so not inside the building.</li> </ul>



- ◆ **Question from Jeff J:** Lead solder that may be present; will that be included in the inventory requirements? **Answer:** that would be something to note, but not required. When you replace it you'll want to take it out. It may come up later. Qualify those things for any funding so that you can replace them.
- ◆ **Question Scott Smith:** For field inspection, any guidance or approval needed for representative inspections instead of each service line (i.e. looking at 10 percent of subdivision constructed at the same time)? **Answer:** Will most likely need to talk to our staff, but we are also still trying to confirm what we will allow.
- ◆ **Question Virpi Salo-Zieman:** If the inventory does not consider copper pipes with lead solder, how do you plan to identify Tier 4 sampling sites? **Answer:** We are still working on that. If you have sites that you want to inventory, track all of those pipes with lead solder and include them in your inventory.
- ◆ **Question Benjamin Sharbono:** What is the minimum size of company/system before this is required? **Answer:** No minimum size, but it's all COMM and NTNC systems regardless of size.
- ◆ **Question Culley Lehman:** A Group A water system is fifteen or more, who is responsible if five to seven say no trespassing? **Answer:** We'll have guidance on how to get customers to give you the information. You can do a survey with an inventory checklist, talk to the customers, and may need to work with them. Could also look at their side of the meter to see what the line starts with. There may be times you won't get the information you need.
- ◆ You will need to submit intake form containing summary of inventory and inventory methods. Detailed inventory in readable electronic format. Recommend use of EPA's inventory.
- ◆ You will need to update your inventory on a regular basis as new information becomes available.
- ◆ **Question Doug Greenlund:** Do you mean no less than annually? **Answer Sophia Petro:** No more than annually for those on standard monitoring. The minimum update frequency would be every three years based on the current LCRR.
- ◆ Inventories must be publicly available.
- ◆ Next steps for us: create a publication to share and update our website. Also, will do internal trainings and then have some external trainings/webinars.
- ◆ **Question Tyler Clary:** When is it anticipated that the guidance will be finalized? **Answer:** Hoping this month. We will update after hearing comments and questions from this meeting.
- ◆ **Question Cheri:** Do you have any dates of when you will have the webinar and state guidance? **Answer:** Hope to have a webinar ready for February.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ <b>From Jorgan Peadon:</b> Is there a way to get lists of some of the bigger systems that have done it already and are willing to help answer questions? <b>Answer:</b> Yes, we're working on that, too.</li><li>◆ <b>Question Culley Lehman:</b> Is there any investor owners or WUTC on your guidance counsel. Will there be/is tariff violations to complete this? <b>Answer:</b> No, but we will look into this.</li><li>◆ Added to the WRAC page.</li><li>◆ E-mail questions to <a href="mailto:LCRRassistance@doh.wa.gov">LCRRassistance@doh.wa.gov</a>.</li><li>◆ <b>Comment Dan Sander:</b> It may make sense to have different field inspection policies based on which decade the services may have been installed. <b>Answer:</b> Yes, it is something that we need to look at and it also goes along with the question for the neighborhood and looking at representative of it.</li><li>◆ <b>Question Jeff Johnson:</b> If you know of a city or county that banned specific material, can you use that to help with your inventory? <b>Answer:</b> Yes, you should be able to do that.</li></ul>
<p><b>8. Designating Utility Workers as First Responders</b> Randy Black, Lakewood Water, representing Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ This discussion is coming from what has happened in the past during emergencies and how can DOH help you.</li><li>◆ We are partners and our common goal is to serve good water and to serve all citizens in Washington.</li><li>◆ <b>Comment David Brown, City Yakima:</b> National WARN through Kevin Morley at AWWA has been trying to get Water and Wastewater designated as first responders with a national credential system.</li><li>◆ Covid showed how important staff are in emergency responses. Raised the question of how we can protect them.</li><li>◆ We heard that Pierce County gave out PPE equipment to emergency and first responders only. Water and Wastewater personnel were not considered as emergency or first responders, so they could not get any.</li><li>◆ Since then we've been working to change this to include water and wastewater personnel, not just those who repair phone lines and water mains, but also the essential personnel who run the systems.</li><li>◆ Need a way to identify these personnel, so that they have credentials to show law enforcement, county, and any other agencies who may block them.</li><li>◆ <b>From Jacqui:</b> Didn't we get that designation back in 2015? <b>Answer:</b> Water and Wastewater personnel are listed as essential on one list, but it wasn't really effective; not everyone followed it and it doesn't help at the national level.</li><li>◆ How much do we communicate with our local fire and police? Make them aware of what you do and how you can help them, and they help you.</li><li>◆ <b>Comment David Brown City Yakima:</b> This is ongoing and reflected in how water/wastewater was treated with this year's Cascadia Rising.</li><li>◆ <b>Chris McCord:</b> He did work on doing some credentialing for folks on the water side, but we also worked on some of the power side too.</li></ul>



<b>9. Agenda Ideas for Next Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Lead Inventory—Continue to include this in future DWAG meetings.</li><li>◆ Funding (reoccurring topic). How can systems get money, what do they need to do, and what is out there for systems.</li><li>◆ FPHS update.</li><li>◆ Know of any locations or existing meetings/conferences where ODW could do a workshop or discussion.</li></ul>
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