# 2017 National NPDES Program Managers Meeting

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**October 31, 2017 – November 2, 2017**

**Silver Spring, Maryland**

**Purpose:**

This meeting is intended to help support states and EPA to further identify challenges & barriers to NPDES program implementation, highlight opportunities for permitting authority program improvement & enhancement, showcase innovations, assist with analysis of training, guidance, tools, and other support material needs, improve administrative efficiencies, clarify roles and responsibilities, promote program streamlining, build stronger linkages to WQS & TMDLs, modernize permit terms and data management, revise program performance measures, identify program areas where targeted technical assistance would be most beneficial, and attempt to solve some of the most intractable NPDES Program issues. The target audience for this meeting is state and federal NPDES program staff.

**Attendees:**

The NPDES Program Managers meeting is a national event specifically organized by state and federal regulators for EPA and state program staff representatives. Attendees include:

* State program staff involved in managing the NPDES programs
* EPA Headquarter and Regional staff involved in NPDES program management
* Partnering state and federal agency staff that provide technical and/or regulatory assistance to the NPDES programs
* Invited guests

**Special thanks to:**

United States Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the 2017 National NPDES Program Managers Meeting Planning Committee – Janita Aguirre (EPA HQ), Allen Brockebrough (VA), Melanie Davenport (VA), Joseph Haberek (RI), Sarah Holcomb (NM), Sarah Hoyt (EPA HQ), Kathryn Huddle (LA), Scott Ireland (EPA R5), Amelia Letnes (EPA HQ), John Rebar (DE), Erin Sherer (OH), Ben Smith (NEIWPCC), and Ashley Ward (OH).

# **Tuesday, October 31, 2017**

**This meeting is only open to State and EPA co-regulators and invited guests.**

**7:30 AM Breakfast on Your Own**

**8:30 AM Registration & Sign-In**

**9:00 - 9:30 AM Welcome & Opening Remarks**

***Association of Clean Water Administrators***

Executive Director & General Counsel

Julia Anastasio

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Wastewater Management

Director, Permits Division

Deborah Nagle

**9:30 - 10:15 AM NPDES 101: Introduction to the Basics**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Environmental Engineer, Office of Wastewater Management

Dave Hair

**10:15 AM Break**

**10:30 - 12:00 PM National EPA Rule Updates**

**Small MS4 Remand Rule**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Attorney Advisor, Office of Wastewater Management

Greg Schaner

**NPDES eReporting Rule Implementation**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Team Leader, Office of Compliance & Assurance

Carey Johnston

**Waters of the U.S.**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Jurisdictional Team Leader, Associate Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

Donna Downing

**12:00 - 1:15 PM Lunch on Your Own**

**1:15 - 2:15 PM National EPA Rule Updates**

**Proposed NPDES Updates Rule**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Attorney Advisor, Office of Wastewater Management

Erin Flannery-Keith

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Wastewater Management

Environmental Protection Specialist

Sharmin Syed

***Association of Clean Water Administrators***

Deputy Director

Sean Rolland

**2:15 - 3:15 PM Electronic Tools: NPDES Application Forms, Permit Development, Tracking & Reporting**

***Florida Department of Environmental Protection***

Director, Division of Water Resources

Justin Green

***Washington Department of Ecology***

Water Quality Program

WA State Technical Permit and Policy Lead

Eleanor Key

***Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control***

Surface Water Discharges Section, Water Division

Program Manager I

Nicole Smith

**3:15 PM Break**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM Regional Breakout Discussions**

Tables will be set up by Region to allow participants from the same geographic area to discuss issues and challenges they face on a daily basis. Each table will report out the next day with a summary of the issues discussed.

1. Identify a speaker from your table to report out on the discussions.
2. Each participant at the table should identify and/or confirm their top **1** or **2** NPDES program challenge.
3. The group should discuss ways EPA HQ & Regions might be helpful in addressing some of these issues

**5:00 PM Meeting Adjourn**

# **Wednesday, November 1, 2017**

**This meeting is only open to State and EPA co-regulators and invited guests.**

**7:30 AM Breakfast on Your Own**

**8:30 - 9:30 AM Regional Breakout Session – Report Out & Discussion**

Representatives from each of the Regional Breakout Tables will share with the audience some of the challenges identified and discussed.

**9:30 AM - 10:30 AM NPDES Program Funding: Sharing the Costs**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Wastewater Management

Section 106 Coordinator

Robyn Delehanty

***Virginia Department of Environmental Quality***

Director of Administration

Valerie Thompson

**10:30 AM Break**

**10:45 - 12:00 PM State Capacity Building: How can EPA be Most Helpful?**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Wastewater Management

Sarah Hoyt

***New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission***

Environmental Analyst

Ben Smith\*

**12:00 - 1:15 PM Lunch on Your Own**

**1:15 - 2:15 PM Water Quality Considerations: Building Stronger Linkages to WQS and TMDLs**

***Washington Department of Ecology***

Municipal Unit Supervisor

Vince McGowan

***Kansas Department of Health and Environment***

Assistant Director, Bureau of Water

Tom Stiles

**2:15 - 3:15 PM Fact Sheets: Current Requirements & Proposed Options**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Wastewater Management

Environmental Protection Specialist

Sharmin Syed

***Virginia Department of Environmental Quality***

Water Permitting Division

Allan Brockenbrough

**3:15 PM Break**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM NPDES Program - Hot Topics Roundtable**

Facilitators:

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Deborah Nagle

***Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control***

John Rebar

1. *How can we streamline the permitting process without compromising on quality?*
2. *What are some of the more difficult challenges we are seeing with nutrients permitting?*
3. *How are states incorporating asset management into their permits?*
4. *If you were given absolute authority to change any aspect of the NPDES program, what would you change?*

**5:00 PM Meeting Adjourn**

# **Thursday, November 2, 2017**

**This meeting is only open to State and EPA co-regulators and invited guests.**

**7:30 AM Breakfast on Your Own**

**8:30 - 9:45 AM Variances: What are they and how do they work?**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Science and Technology

National Water Quality Standards Branch

Melissa Dreyfus

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Office of Science and Technology

National Water Quality Standards Branch

Gary Russo

***Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources***

Division of Water

Wastewater Section Chief

Jason Knutson

**9:45 AM Break**

**10:00 - 11:30 AM Program Oversight Updates**

**Permit Quality Review**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Attorney Advisor, Office of Wastewater Management

Erin Flannery-Keith

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

Information Management Specialist, Office of Wastewater Management

Elizabeth Ragnauth

**State Review Framework**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency***

##### Office of Compliance, Planning, Measuring, and Oversight Division

Elizabeth Walsh\*

**11:30 - 12:00 PM Reducing Your Permit Backlog – Tactics and Strategies**

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management**

Supervising Sanitary Engineer, Office of Water Resources

Joseph Haberek

**12:00 PM Program Wrap Up**

***Association of Clean Water Administrators***

Deputy Director

Sean Rolland