

**Sewage Treatment Systems Technical Advisory Committee
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: BWC/OSOSH
13430 Yarmouth Drive
Pickerington, Ohio

TAC Members in Attendance:

Manufacturer Representative & Committee Chair: Chris Mandich
OEHA Registered Sanitarian & Vice Chair: Dan Lark, Lake County General Health District
Manufacture Representative: Zak Sherman
ODH Director of Health Representative & TAC Secretary: Rachel Townsend
Designer: David Chronister
AOHC Health Commissioner: Julianne Nesbit, Clermont County Health Commissioner
Ohio EPA DSW Engineer: Brian Hall
Academic: Karen Mancl
Professional Engineer: Walt Sandefur
ODA Soil Scientist: Matt Lane
Installer/Service Provider: Chas Kaiser
Ohio Townships Association Representative: Gary Salmon

Absent:

Public Representative: Christopher Schraff
AOHC Health Commissioner: Kim Cupp, Fulton County Health Commissioner

Guests:

Aleks Yakhnitskiy: Ohio EPA
Don Carabin: Norweco Inc
Jesse Shamp: Frost Brown Todd
Kaitlyn Benson: Ohio Department of Agriculture
Dewey Conrad: Ecological Tanks Inc.

Other ODH participants:

Dusten Gurney
Kyle Bianco
Mike Laubert
Audrey Blakeman

Welcome and Introduction:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman Chris Mandich. Meeting attendees were introduced.

Selection of TAC Chair & Vice Chair

Chris opened the floor for discussion and any potential volunteers/nominees. Zak Sherman nominated Chris Mandich to continue serve as the Chair of the committee, seconded by Dan Lark. All in favor, motion so moved. Dan Lark offered to serve as Vice Chair to the committee. Julianne

Nesbit made a formal motion to designate Dan Lark as vice chair, this was seconded by Chris Mandich, all were in favor, motion approved

TAC Appointments Update

Gary Salmon has been formally appointed by the Governor's office to represent the Ohio Township Association through 2019 to fulfill the vacancy when Perry Brock's trustee term expired. Karen Mancel and Matt Lane have been formally reappointed by the Governor's office through 2021. Other members' term expirations were read.

Approval/modification to the agenda

Chris Mandich asked if any modifications to the agenda needed to be made. Walt Sandefur wanted to discuss small flow onsite systems and treating high strength waste. Brian Hall wanted address the committee regarding the OEPA NOI for the household general NPDES permit and the requirement that a proposed discharge from household STS for new home construction must directly discharge into waters of the state with a drainage area greater than 5 square miles. Chas Kaiser wanted to converse with the committee about emails received from Tangent Company. Chas motioned to modify the agenda, seconded by David Chronister, all in favor, motion approved.

Approval of May 8, 2018 Minutes

Chris asked for any comments regarding the draft minutes from the May meeting. Dan Lark made a motion to approve the minutes. Julianne Nesbit seconded the motion. All were in favor.

TAC Draft Annual Report

Open discussion was held regarding the TAC draft annual report. The annual report is required by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3718.03(G). TAC did not receive any formal applications in 2018. ODH program staff worked with multiple manufacturers and reviewed submitted applications, but none ever made it to TAC for review. Committee members did elect to make some minor editorial changes regarding some phrasing in the standards and guidelines section of the report.

Demonstration of the Draft Calculating Spreadsheet for Product Data

Walt Sandefur and members of Ohio EPA have been working on a spreadsheet to help simplify and standardize the data submission portion of product applications. Walt specifically credited Dale White of OEPA, now retired, for helping progress the worksheet forward. This will allow a manufacturer to simply enter the data points into the spreadsheet where the incorporated functions of the spreadsheet could then analyze all submitted data with regard to the standard(s) being sought by the applicant. Currently, the spreadsheet is utilizing a 90% confidence interval for submissions with less than 96 data points. The spreadsheet also includes an influent sheet in case the TAC would like to include that later on.

Conversation centered around the requirement that testing and data demonstrate consistent performance within the range of temperature and conditions the system would be exposed to while operating in Ohio. Specific conversation was had regarding the challenges with ammonia data, with separate discharge standards for the summer (May 1-October 31) and winter (Nov 1-April 30) seasons and how many separate data points should be collected in each season to be able to confidently demonstrate compliance with the separate seasonal standards. Ideally, TAC would like to see an even split of data points (half in summer, half in winter) but the winter data would be more telling as it becomes more difficult to remove ammonia as the temperature drops. Additional challenges were also noted such as the geographic location of testing facilities, temperature thresholds and mild winters, waiting lists at test facilities, inclusion or exclusion of startup data, etc.

TAC members also discussed how to best incorporate additional items into the spreadsheet as well such as rounding rules, multiple data points for the same day, non-detect data points, influent data and analysis, etc. Once a few minor modifications are made the spreadsheet will be given to ODH to review and pilot test. The spreadsheet will serve as a tool for product submission, not an appendix to the standards and guidelines. Once the spreadsheet is finalized the formulas and cells of the document will be locked, instructions drafted, and it will be available for use.

Field Data Discussion

Currently, Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) 3701-29 requires that pretreatment components approvals be renewed every 5 years. Information submitted for renewal may include additional field or test data. TAC members discussed what “wish list” items should be included in renewal applications. The only substantial real time, in ground, Ohio field data that has been collected from approved pretreatment components (post 2007) is the data compiled by OEPA for NPDES discharging systems. One conclusion drawn from the data is that we need more information to see how these systems are actually performing in the field (compared to a controlled environment). Broad “wish list” categories were discussed (range of temperature and weather, flow and usage conditions, number of sites, frequency, parameters seeking approval for, chain of custody, data analysis, etc.) with input from TAC members. Many challenges and concerns with field data collection were also identified by TAC members such as, but not limited to, 1) cost, 2) was system designed, installed, operated, maintained properly, 3) inconsistencies from house to house because of different lifestyles, 4) how to weigh differences in field data versus testing data versus OEPA collected data, etc.

The discussion then evolved into whether or not these “wish list” items were realistic to expect a manufacturer to be able to collect and submit for a product renewal application, and would they actually address the problem of underachieving systems. There was discussion of alternative ways to ensure the systems are performing as designed and tested. TAC members discussed and queried what other states have done regarding the matter. A few examples were noted from different manufacturer’s experiences and what little information could be obtained from the SORA listserv. Many TAC members were adamant that strict enforcement of operation and maintenance requirements should be the first step; compounding the sentiment that if the systems are not actively under service contract and maintained properly then no amount of field data is going to solve any problems. Revisions to draft rule 13 of O.A.C. 3701-29 (to stagger product renewal applications) should be posted for public comment in the near future. (Karen Mancl, Matt Lane, and Kaitlyn Benson all exited the meeting during this agenda item).

This discussion will continue at the February TAC meeting as field testing requirements for product renewal are developed by TAC.

High Strength Waste and Small Flow Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems

Walt addressed the committee regarding high strength waste and small flow systems. The rules (OAC 3701-29) state that when the waste strength for a STS is expected to exceed typical residential sewage strength use of additional treatment components approved by the director shall be included in the design prior to dispersal. If a county has assumed authority over small flow systems, they must use approved pretreatment components and if the flow is to be less than 1,000 gallons per day, Ohio EPA cannot permit the system installation. To date, no manufacturer has made application for a product to reduce high strength waste to residential strength waste. The TAC does not currently have criteria for a high strength waste reduction standard. Table A-1 of O.A.C. 3745-42-05 (and other

literature) indicates the waste strength for restaurants and other venues would normally exceed residential waste strength.

Ohio EPA Notice of Intent for the General HSTS NPDES Permit

Brian Hall informed TAC members of a newly created Ohio EPA mapping tool (interactive website) to help identify streams with drainage areas greater than 5 square miles to be used to evaluate potential projects for new home construction. There has been some confusion regarding this eligibility criteria in the general permit. Any discharge from a HSTS (except for a replacement or updated system meeting the eligibility criteria) to any waters of the state with a watershed drainage area of less than 5 (five) square miles at the point of the proposed discharge is not eligible for coverage under the General Household Permit. The mapping tool will help stakeholders determine if a proposed discharge location can meet this requirement.

Tangent Company

Members of the TAC committee have received emails and from Tangent Company and inquiries from stakeholders regarding the use of their (Tangent Company) Landsaver membrane biological reactor. Tangent Company currently has no approved STS products for use in Ohio. A brief summary of the Special Device Approval granting Tangent Company permission to install a STS prototype at two different locations for the purpose of data gathering was discussed.

Additional Updates

Chris Mandich asked for any additional updates. No additional updates at this time.

Next meeting:

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2019 at BWC/OCOSH.

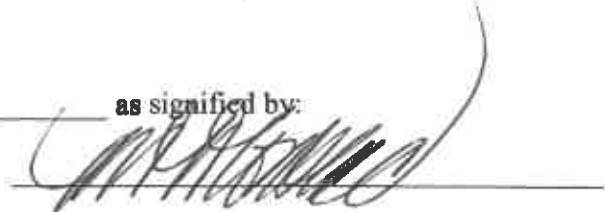
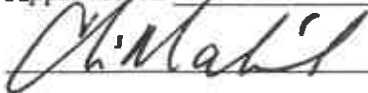
Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made by David Chronister and seconded by Chas Kaiser. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Approved on

2/12/2019

as signified by:



Chris Mandich, TAC Chairperson
Dan Lark TAC Vice Chairperson

Rachel Townsend, Secretary