

**Water Audit
Regulatory Panel Advisory (RAP) Meeting #4**

**Tuesday, August 23, 2022
Third Floor Conference Room
DEQ Central Office
1111 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219**

Start – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

- RAP Members
 - Drew Blackwell, Cavanaugh & Associates
 - Steve Herzog, Hanover County Public Utilities
 - Alan Johnson, City of Danville Water & Wastewater
 - David Jurgens, City of Chesapeake Public Utilities
 - Michael Kearns, Sussex Service Authority
 - Jennifer Rogers (Dominion Energy), Virginia Manufacturers Association
 - Julie Shortridge, Virginia Tech Extension
- DEQ Staff
 - Jutta Schneider, Director, Division of Water Planning
 - Scott Kudlas – Director, Office of Water Supply
 - Brandon Bull – Water Policy Manager
 - Elizabeth Gallup – Guidance & Regulation Coordinator, Water Planning Division
- Members of the Public
 - Traci Goldberg, Fairfax Water

Welcome and Introductions:

Scott Kudlas opened and welcomed everyone to the fourth and final meeting of the Water Audit RAP. He followed with an overview of the agenda and a review of the discussion during the last meeting.

Surface Water Proposed Regulation Discussion:

Mr. Kudlas reviewed the general structure of the proposed amendments to the surface water withdrawal regulations with an explanation of how they were modeled after the proposed groundwater regulation amendments. He emphasized which portions of existing requirements contained in the groundwater regulations were not carried over to the surface water regulations so RAP members would be aware of those differences. He also explained the removal of the definition for American Water Works Association (AWWA) due to its use in one requirement where it was also defined.

Group review of the proposed surface water regulations focused on user type as done for the proposed groundwater regulations. RAP members were in general agreement with the language contained in the proposed surface water regulations relating to public water supply and no revisions were made. There was a point of clarification relating to the frequency of the requirement to conduct and report water loss audits for commercial and industrial users, and after a brief discussion by the group, staff revised

both groundwater and surface water regulations to state that the water loss audit is to be conducted once every three years. There was discussion related to agricultural users focusing on the water loss audit reporting frequency. This was also resolved to the satisfaction of the RAP.

The discussion regarding the proposed surface water regulation wrapped up with a discussion of changing the definitions of water loss and water loss audit to incorporate the term withdrawal. RAP members agreed with this change and stated that it made the definitions of those terms consistent with what is already reported in their withdrawal reports to DEQ. After reviewing the proposed surface water amendments to require water loss audit plans and leak detection and repair plans, the RAP was in agreement with the language in the proposed regulation.

Economic Impact Requirement Discussion:

Ms. Gallup explained the economic analysis of proposed regulations that DEQ must complete and provide to the Office of Regulatory Management following issuance of the Governor's Executive Order 19. RAP members discussed their views on the potential costs and benefits of implementing the proposed new requirements.

Public Forum:

Mr. Kudlas opened the floor for public comments.

One member of the public provided comment. Ms. Goldberg stated that she supports the incorporation of the leak detection and repair plan being used to inform the water loss audit plan, supports the change of inserting the term withdrawal instead of supply into the water loss definition, and maintains her support of a three-year water loss audit submission requirement for public water suppliers. She also offered her thoughts on costs and benefits related to the proposed regulations.

Next Steps:

Mr. Kudlas thanked the RAP members for their effort and participation. He closed out the meeting with an explanation of the next steps of the regulatory process that occur after the conclusion of the RAP.

Meeting ended at 12:05pm