**NSC Technical Subcommittee Call Minutes – September 17, 2019**

**Participation [by regions]:**

3: Jeremy Hancher **– PA**

4: Donovan Grimwood – **TN**; Jessica Dalton – **FL** and Melissa McGee-Collier & Trayce Moore-Thomas – **MS**

5: Renee Bashel & Jennifer Feyerherm – **WI**; Mark Stoddard - **IN** and Emily Ohde - **MN**

6: Carolette Wright, Kurt Wilson, Ella Barbe, Linda Piper & Marissa Jimenez – **LA**; Rosanne Sanchez – **NM** and Dianne Wilkins - **OK**

7: Allison Crowther & Lynelle Ladd – **KS**; Christine Paulson – **IA** and Belinda Fowler - **NE**

8: Alex Helling & Christine Hoefler – **CO**; Cristy Jones, Rheanna Kautzman & Jim Semerad – **ND** and Brian Hall & Colin Mckee - **WY**

10: Belinda Breidenbach – **ID** and Jim Plosay & Hunter Mallinger - **AK**

**EPA presenters:** Catherine Tunis, Jesse Pritts, Jeffrey Speir, Tim Elkins, Chris Williams and Amy Hambrick

**EPA:** Laura Mckelvey, Rhonda Wright and Paula Hoag

George Cushnie, **National Center for Manufacturing Sciences**

**Other (?):** Paul, ‘My Trinh’, ‘JHowar07’, ‘CWilli14’ and ‘BG 31240’

**August minutes:** approved as is

**Tech-Subcommittee:** <https://nationalsbeap.org/sbeap/resources/subcommittees/technical>

***This presentation was recorded and will be posted to the SBEAP Technical Subcommittee web page; the PowerPoint presentation created by Jesse Pritts will also be posted***

**Oil & Gas Compliance Assistance**

**Environmental Compliance Information for Energy Extraction**

[**https://www.eciee.org**](https://www.eciee.org)

**Catherine Tunis, EPA** facilitated the presentations. She is with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of Compliance, Monitoring, Assistance, and Media Programs Division.

**Topics Who Estimated Time**

1. Update on EPA’s Produced **Jesse Pritts** 20 minutes

Water Management Activities

(PowerPoint presentation)

National Produced Water Study – **May 2019** draft, public comment ended **July 1, 2019**

1. Water Enforcement 10 minutes
   1. UIC **Jeff Speir and Tim Elkins**
   2. Wetlands, SPCC **Jeff Speir**
2. Air Enforcement **Chris Williams** 15 minutes
   1. Storage Vessels
   2. New Owner Audits
   3. Gathering/Boosting
   4. Gas Plants (LDAR, etc.)
3. Air Regulations **Amy Hambrick** 10 minutes
   1. New Air Regs—Recently proposed policy package
   2. Proposed Amendments to OOOOa

**Q & A**

**Q1:** what types of contaminants were found from disposal of O&G wastewater at POTWs in Pennsylvania? What were of most concern?

**A1:** bromides were a primary concern as bromides can cause formation of harmful disinfection by-products in downstream drinking water treatment plants. Chlorides can inhibit biological treatment processes at POTWs, and a variety of constituents (metals, radium) can potentially accumulate in biosolids.

**Q2:** is there a resource to see how many injection wells are registered in a particular state?

**A2:** Yes--EPA collects information on well inventory: <https://www.epa.gov/uic/uic-injection-well-inventory>

**Compliance Assistance Resources:**

1. [Produced Water Study](https://www.epa.gov/eg/study-oil-and-gas-extraction-wastewater-management)
2. [Unconventional Oil and Gas Extraction Effluent Guidelines](https://www.epa.gov/eg/unconventional-oil-and-gas-extraction-effluent-guidelines)
3. [Storage Vessels](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/oilgascompliancealert.pdf) Compliance Alert
4. [LDAR](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/ldarguide.pdf) Best Practices Guide
5. [LDAR Compliance Alert](https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyNET.exe/500003SW.TXT?ZyActionD=ZyDocument&Client=EPA&Index=1995+Thru+1999&Docs=&Query=&Time=&EndTime=&SearchMethod=1&TocRestrict=n&Toc=&TocEntry=&QField=&QFieldYear=&QFieldMonth=&QFieldDay=&IntQFieldOp=0&ExtQFieldOp=0&XmlQuery=&File=D%3A%5Czyfiles%5CIndex%20Data%5C95thru99%5CTxt%5C00000016%5C500003SW.txt&User=ANONYMOUS&Password=anonymous&SortMethod=h%7C-&MaximumDocuments=1&FuzzyDegree=0&ImageQuality=r75g8/r75g8/x150y150g16/i425&Display=hpfr&DefSeekPage=x&SearchBack=ZyActionL&Back=ZyActionS&BackDesc=Results%20page&MaximumPages=1&ZyEntry=1&SeekPage=x&ZyPURL)
6. [New Owner Audit Program for Oil and Gas](https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/new-owner-clean-air-act-audit-program-oil-and-natural-gas-exploration-and-production)
7. [Small Business Guide for Oil & Gas Extraction](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-08/documents/2016-compliance-guide-oil-natural-gas-emissions.pdf)
8. [Energy Extraction Initiative webpage](https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/national-compliance-initiative-ensuring-energy-extraction-activities-comply) (phased out in FY2020)
9. [Unconventional Oil and Gas Home Page for EPA](https://www.epa.gov/uog)
10. [Oil and Natural Gas Air Pollution Standards Home Page](https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-industry)
11. [Proposed Policy Amendments – 2012 & 2016 NSPS](https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-industry/proposed-policy-amendments-2012-and-2016-new)
12. [Links to Civil Cases and Settlements](https://cfpub.epa.gov/enforcement/cases/)
13. Upcoming alert regarding pigging operations

**Bios**

**Jesse Pritts** is an **environmental engineer** with the US EPA’s office of water. He is the lead on the Agency’s Clean Water Act regulatory activities related to oil and gas extraction wastewater management under the effluent guidelines program. His presentation will cover several recent and ongoing projects related to this topic.

**Jeffrey Speir** is an **Attorney-Adviser** in the Office of Civil Enforcement of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. His work focuses on judicial enforcement of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and the Underground Injection Control Part of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Jeff earned a B.A. from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Prior to law school, he worked with an advocacy organization on the application of environmental regulations to the energy industry.

During law school, he gained experience with our Nation’s regulatory, species protection, clean air, and clean water laws through participation in civil actions with non-governmental organizations. Jeff received a J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon, earning a certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law. He is a member of the Oregon State Bar.

**Tim Elkins** is an Environmental Scientist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Region 5 Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch (WECAB). After completing his graduate work in Environmental Science at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Tim joined EPA Region 5 in January 2011.

Tim has worked with CWA/NPDES enforcement, Underground Injection Control (UIC) permitting, and currently leads a small team of inspectors and enforcement officers who implement UIC permits and federal regulations. The Team is primarily responsible for enforcing all UIC requirements in the State of Michigan.

Under Tim’s leadership, the Team received the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance’s 2015 “Best Practice Award for Creative and Innovative Practices in the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program” for Region 5 UIC Targeting and Inspections. Tim has also been a member of the UIC National Technical Workgroup since 2013 (Chair: 2016-17), which aims to improve consistency amongst state and federal UIC programs.

**Chris Williams** works in the Stationary Source Enforcement Branch in the Office of Civil Enforcement.  He regularly coordinates with regional and state counterparts to perform Clean Air Act (CAA) inspections of stationary sources, including oil and gas facilities, and provides support for follow-up enforcement and compliance assurance activities.

Chris has worked for EPA since 2015 and worked as a consultant for industry prior to his career at EPA. Chris received his BS in **Chemical Engineering** from The Ohio State University.

**Amy Hambrick** works in the Sector Policy and Program Division of the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards. She works on air regulation development for the oil and natural gas sector and the waste incineration sector. Amy has been with EPA since 2006 and has worked in both Regional and Headquarters offices over the years.

**Future topics:**

* **October 15:** Environmental Impacts from Cannabis production and distribution – Kaitlin Urso, CO
* **November 19:** Surface Coating MACT updates overview & discussion on recordkeeping/reporting, David Darling, American Coatings Association
* **December 17:** to be determined

**Next Call: October 15, 2019**

1 pm CST (2 pm EST) (3rd Tuesday of month)