



Pretreatment Communicator

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Department Notes



My name is **Sharon Sawicki**, and I am the administrator of the Department's Domestic Wastewater Section in Tallahassee. I want to take this opportunity to provide an update on the State's Pretreatment Program and to let you know about some staffing changes. As most of you probably know by now, Dawn Templin resigned as the State's Pretreatment Coordinator and moved to a position in the Department's Pensacola District Office. We are in the process of recruiting a new Coordinator. Until a replacement is found, I will help manage the Program along with **Sam Jenkins**, **Charlotte Cope**, and our new Pretreatment Program inspector **John Palenchar**. John joins the Department after recently graduating from the University of Florida with a Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering. As a result of John's joining us, we have rearranged our inspectors for some of the programs. However, in general John will be the new inspector for the programs that Hsiang-Chou Yu-Huffman inspected.

Also, I want to provide a brief update on the revisions to the pretreatment rule which became effective on May 10. The revisions include a variety of both optional and required changes. Among other
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RIP: Clean Water Act Awards

In 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), suspended the Clean Water Act Awards program for a year while they revamped the coveted awards program. This program previously recognized outstanding municipal wastewater treatment, pretreatment program excellence, exemplary biosolids management, as well as stormwater management and CSO control program excellence. Florida programs have been well represented with four pretreatment excellence award recipients:
2008—St. Johns Co. Utilities
2007—JEA
(Continued on page 3)



Notes *(con't from 1)*

things, the rule revises certain definitions, adds certain requirements for industrial user (IU) permits, requires a Plan of Study prior to local limits development, revises certain reporting requirements for Control Authorities (CA) and IUs, includes optional changes for CA sampling and inspections, and allows the use of Best Management Practices as a pretreatment standard. As a result of the revisions, it is expected that most CAs will be required to update their Sewer Use Ordinance and Enforcement Response Plan. Within the next few weeks, the final rule will be posted at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/legal/Rules/rulelistnum.htm>.

As we move forward with implementing the rule revisions, I am sure there will be questions. Each inspector will work with you over the next year to let you know about each revision that impacts your program. If you have questions about the revisions or your pretreatment program in general, please feel free to contact our pretreatment folks here in Tallahassee at (850)245-8605.

The Department looks forward to working with you this quarter.

A Message From the President

Thea Parslow
FIPA President



It is a pleasure to extend greetings to you as I begin my term as president of the Florida Industrial Pretreatment Association. My sincere thanks extend to Mark Mathis, our immediate past president, for his leadership and commitment over the past two years. I am privileged to serve at such an exciting and significant time.

Oil from the spill in the Gulf has started showing up on Florida beaches. It is likely, in fact probable, that the Gulf oil spill will be the largest in history. The impact of the Gulf oil tragedy to the environment is difficult to project. You can bet that the impact will reach far and wide. It is certain that tighter regulations for oil drilling and exploration in the Gulf will follow.

Speaking of regulations, a move is afoot by House Democrats to return the Clean Water Act to its state prior to 2001, to restore its enforcement authority. Considering the May 2010 FDEP rule changes, this is as good a time as any for Florida Pretreatment Programs to start the review process of local ordinances for revision to align with newly adopted Rule 62-625 F.A.C.

If your utility does not have an industrial customer award program in place perhaps you should think about creating such a program. A lot of businesses are doing the green thing these days. Keep in mind that a little recognition often goes a long way. Businesses proudly display their environmental award plaques in a lobby or common gathering place for the public to see that have been doing a great job protecting the environment. The good news is that you do not have to start from scratch in developing an awards program. Actually all you have to do is ask around a little bit and you are sure to find utilities with awards programs in full operation. One thing that I really like about FIPA is that members willingly share information. So be sure to take the time to recognize and award your industrial customers. Consider this as an opportunity for utility officials to receive positive press too.

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Training Update

The next FIPA Workshop and Certification Course will be hosted by the City of West Palm Beach and is tentatively scheduled for the week of November 8th.



RIP (con't from 1)

2005—Broward Co.

1991— City of St. Petersburg

The EPA has recently unveiled its new recognition program; *The Sustainable Water Leadership Program (SWLP)*. Under the SWLP, the EPA “...aims to provide an incentive for utilities to improve the performance of water and wastewater systems across the nation. By recognizing sustainable water systems, EPA is emphasizing important aspects of utility management...” The new incentive program seems to be taking a more holistic approach to evaluating utilities with a goal to incentivize sustainable operations of our nation’s water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. This means no specific award for pretreatment excellence. However, pretreatment programs should be highlighted in the application package to be used as part of the utility’s evaluation.

Criteria for recognition will focus on the *Ten Attributes of Effectively Managed Water Sector Utilities*, endorsed by water sector stakeholders and the EPA. The ten attributes are:

- Product quality

- Employee and leadership development
- Financial viability
- Community sustainability
- Stakeholder understanding and support
- Customer satisfaction
- Operational optimization
- Operational resiliency
- Infrastructure stability
- Water resource adequacy

For more information on the EPA’s Sustainable Water Leadership Program, please visit their website at www.epa.gov/owm/mtb/intnet.htm



Message (con't from 2)

My what an enthusiastic and diverse group elected to your Association’s Board of Directors. The Board met in Jacksonville to plan our Fall workshop. We are anticipating a workshop somewhere in the southern region in November 2010. I am proud to announce to you that the Board unanimously approved the agenda item nominating Mr. **Dan Parnell** the Life Member Award. Congratulations, Dan! This award is the highest honor that FIPA bestows on a member. Criteria to be eligible for the Life Member Award include:

Be a FIPA member in good standing

Have served 1 full term on the FIPA Board

Hold no FIPA office at the time that life membership is conferred

Have made significant contributions in promoting the Industrial Pretreatment Program including any or all of these:

- o Publication of written Pretreatment related articles
- o Served as instructor for any Industrial Pretreatment related certification course with FIPA, or FWPCOA

- o Contributed meaningful presentations at FIPA workshops
- o Organized FIPA workshops
- o Assisted other programs in the initial stages of development

The Board also began discussing ways to develop a program guide for recycling FOG on a residential level. Ms. **Linda Fielder**, North Region Coordinator was elected to chair this new committee. I encourage you to join this committee because I know within FIPA we have great creativity. Please don’t wait for someone to ask. We need you and your ideas. Just drop Linda or myself a line to let us know that you are interested in the residential FOG recycling committee.

We have many exciting times ahead as we begin this new year. Please plan to attend FIPA events in your area, and stay in touch with friends and peers through our online community on facebook, and at www.fipaonline.com. I look forward to serving you for the next two years.



Focus on Effluent Guidelines



Under the Clean Water Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is required to perform annual reviews of industrial categories. The EPA performs two types of reviews:

1. Existing categorical industries with effluent standards are reviewed for potential modifications.
2. Industries without existing categorical limits are reviewed for potential development of new effluent guidelines.

In December 2009, the EPA published its 2009 review and 2010 review plan. The agency did not identify any existing categorical industries for rulemaking. However, it will continue studying categories previously tagged for review:

1. Steam Electric Power Generating—An existing categorical industry under 40 CFR part 423, these guidelines will be revised through further rule making. While most steam electric power plants discharge directly to receiving streams, there are a few POTWs receiving this wastewater.
2. Healthcare Industry—The agency's interest here seems to have congealed around the disposal of unused pharmaceuticals at health care establishments. The EPA will be working with various stakeholders to develop industry wide best management practices for pharmaceutical disposal.
3. Organic Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibers (part 4??) and Inorganic Chemicals (part 4??)—These existing categorical industries continue to undergo evaluation for potential revisions.
4. Airport De-icing and Construction & Development—New categories for which EPA is currently developing standards.

Remember: EPA could establish or modify categorical limits for direct discharges only. Those categories without pretreatment standards do not affect pretreatment programs. For more information on effluent guidelines: visit: www.epa.gov/waterscience/guide/index.html

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Pretreatment
Association**
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