

Pretreatment Communicator

July 1995

Please see **Your Input**, page 2

Your Input Is Wanted

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input. Please let us know what you think about what we've included in this issue and if you have any ideas for additional sections or topics. ♦

NPDES Program is Delegated to Florida

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federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to begin the program May 1, 1995, the delegation will streamline the permitting process by eliminating duplication of federal and state permits required of wastewater facilities discharging into state surface waters (streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries).

DEP Secretary Virginia Wetherell said that the delegation is another effort to streamline Florida's permitting process. "Businesses

will no longer have to apply to both DEP and the EPA for surface water discharge permits," Secretary Wetherell said. "Our goal with this program, as with the entire streamlining process, is to make government more accessible to the consumer while not compromising environmental protection."

Construction permits, previously required before an operation permit could be issued, will also be eliminated. New facility construction and modifications to existing facilities will continue to be addressed in the wastewater permit.

The Department requested a phased delegation of the NPDES program encompassing permitting for discharges from domestic (sewage treatment plants) and industrial wastewater facilities and a pretreatment program. DEP plans to phase in authorization for permitting of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems, individual stormwater-only, stormwater general permits and federal facility permits by the year 2000.

DEP has prepared letters notifying NPDES permit holders in the state that authority for their permit has been transferred to DEP. The letters include an Order consolidating the NPDES permit with the appropriate state permit and a worksheet showing the proposed annual fee for the facility. In the event there is no state permit for discharge the order will simply transfer authority for the NPDES permit to the Department.

Annual fees will be determined based on the recently adopted Rule 62-4.052, Florida Administrative Code. Only those facilities discharging into state surface

waters are subject to the fee. The fees are designed to fund the cost of administering the program which must be self-supporting, as directed by the 1993 legislature. ♦

Who Are These Guys Anyway?

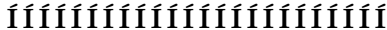
by Staff

We thought it would useful to let you know a little bit about each of us and our respective backgrounds. Many of you have gotten to know us through meetings dealing with pretreatment issues or you may have known us previously. We have also had the pleasure of working with a number of you individually, as we have already conducted a number of pretreatment compliance inspections and audits. Now... To find out who we are:

John Coates: Prior to relocating to Tallahassee and joining DEP, John worked as a Project Engineer with Law Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. in Kennesaw, Georgia. While at Law, he worked on and managed a number of projects related to UST, Superfund and RCRA regulations. Before working at Law, John earned a Masters Degree at the University of Florida (Go Gators!) and worked on a DEP funded research contract. Previously, he'd worked for the Jacksonville Electric Authority and attended undergraduate studies at Jacksonville University. John is enjoying working with each of the pretreatment programs and hopes you will contact him whenever he can provide assistance.

Gary Millington: Gary has been with the Department for

Reminders:



- Pretreatment annual reports and other correspondence should be submitted to DEP in Tallahassee now that delegation has occurred. Don't forget, annual reports that are due in August should follow the new guidelines and contain proof of publication for those facilities in SNC during the reporting year.
- Mark your calendars... Suzanne Flores (Jacksonville) says preparations are under way for a September Pretreatment Coordinators Meeting in Orlando.

TECHNICAL TIPS:

- Did you know that the Combined Wastestream Formula (CWF) has a lesser known counterpart, the Flow-Weighted Average Formula (FWA) that is used to calculate alternative discharge limits for categorical pretreatment standards. Unlike the CWF, the FWA can be applied where wastestreams are combined following the pretreatment system. This approach is not contained in a rule, but, is discussed by EPA in the preambles to the proposed and final versions of modifications to the federal pretreatment regulations. Those discussions can be found in the June 12, 1986 (51 FR 21454) and October 17, 1988 (53 FR 40562) Federal Registers. Please contact us if you would like assistance using the FWA formula for any of your industrial users.

approximately six years. Primarily his experience has been in industrial wastewater compliance and enforcement in DEP's South and Southwest District offices. Prior to working for the Department, he worked for Dow Chemical in Louisiana. Gary graduated from the University of South Florida with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. He looks forward to working with each of the pretreatment programs and is available to provide assistance as needed.

Robert (Bob) Heilman: The position of Pretreatment Coordinator in the Domestic Wastewater Section is Bob's latest

The Coordinator's Desk:

What Happens Now?

by Robert Heilman, P.E.

After about four years in the making, delegation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program from EPA to the State of Florida has been finalized. A major component of this delegation is the administration of the National Pretreatment Program. As the state Pretreatment Coordinator, I look forward to the challenges and the opportunities this delegation provides. Many of you have been involved in the pretreatment program for several years under the watchful eye of the EPA. With the DEP assuming the role of EPA, you might be wondering what you can expect from DEP oversight. At this point I can say there should be little change. We intend to continue the inspection and audit process using procedures similar to EPA. However, we are in the process of revising the EPA inspection and audit forms to comply with Chapter 62-625, F.A.C. Additionally, scheduling of our inspections and audits will deviate from that of EPA.

One proposed change will be the due dates for the annual reports. Currently, EPA requires annual reports on either February 1 or August 1. Receiving annual reports just twice per year will put a significant drain on the pretreatment staff at DEP and interfere with conducting our routine compliance inspections or audits. Therefore, we plan to adjust half of the submission dates to either May 1 or November 1. This will spread the submission dates of annual reports to four

times per year. It may take several years to adjust the schedules. Watch for date changes in your future draft discharge permits. In a related matter, you should have already received a copy of the revised Annual Report Instructions and Guidelines (Guidelines) dated May 5. If you have not received a copy of the Guidelines, please contact this office for a copy and we'll get you one. Please remember that, as of May 1 (the date of delegation), all pretreatment related correspondence should be sent to my attention here in Tallahassee.

Contrary to most DEP regulatory programs, the Pretreatment Program will be administered from DEP Headquarters; however, we are coordinating our activities with each of our six district offices. Your wastewater permit and pretreatment programs are inextricably tied together. If you have any questions regarding a pretreatment program permit issue, please contact one of us in the pretreatment program. We are available to discuss technical issues, as well as programmatic concerns at any time.

Finally, I hope you will take advantage of this newsletter. I believe the title "**Pretreatment Communicator**" says a lot. Too often, it seems regulatory agencies operate without appropriate communication with the public they regulate. This newsletter is one attempt to open the door for communication. Please take the opportunity to use this tool.♦

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We Are...

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assignment as a Professional Engineer in his almost nine years with the Department. As Pretreatment Coordinator, he is responsible for development and implementation of the state's pretreatment program. Bob's previous position with the Department included serving as Chief of the Bureau of Water Facilities Planning and Regulation and working in the Construction Grants Program where he inspected construction activities at many of Florida's municipal wastewater treatment systems. Prior to coming to the Department, he worked for eight years as a consulting engineer. Bob obtained a degree in Civil Engineering from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. ♦

Sludge?... Nobody Saw Any Sludge!

by John Coates

Most industrial wastewater treatment systems generate a range of solid waste streams which are commonly referred to as wastewater treatment residuals or sludge. Such sludge is typically subject to regulation as either a solid or hazardous waste under Chapters 62-701 and 62-730, F.A.C., respectively. For example, wastewater treatment sludge generated from electroplating operations is a listed hazardous waste, EPA hazardous waste number F006, under 40 CFR 261.31 unless otherwise excluded. In an effort to assure that sludges

generated by industrial pretreatment systems are disposed of in accordance with applicable federal or state requirements, the pretreatment regulations direct control authorities to notify their industrial users of any applicable requirements regarding disposal of sludge. This pretreatment program requirement at 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(iii) has been incorporated into the recently implemented state pretreatment rules as Rule 62-625.500(2)(b)3, F.A.C.

We are aware that a number of Florida's pretreatment programs are taking steps to notify their industrial users of these requirements (e.g., including specific conditions in your permits or checking waste manifest records during inspections). The Department has been asked by a number of individuals from pretreatment programs, environmental consultants, regulated industries, and other groups from within the Department to clarify what requirements pertain to the management and disposal of sludge generated from pretreatment systems in Florida. While this question is generally addressed above for solid and hazardous waste, we would like to find out more about how you deal with the management and disposal of sludge generated from industrial pretreatment systems. We are particularly concerned about how non-hazardous industrial sludges from pretreatment systems are currently managed. Consequently, we developed the questionnaire found on the last page of this newsletter. We ask that you complete the questionnaire and return it to The Communicator using the address on the front of this newsletter. If you would like

to fax your response, our telephone fax number is (904) 921-6385. Your input is important because any regulations promulgated by the Department could impact your pretreatment program. Please respond as soon as possible. We will attempt to summarize the results of this survey in the next issue of The Communicator. Thanks for your cooperation. ♦



So Joey, Did You or Didn't You Collect that Sample in June?

Regulatory Updates:

- The Metal Products and Machinery (MPM) proposed rule was published in the May 30, 1995 Federal Register, 60 FR 28210. This proposed rule is expected to substantially increase the number of facilities requiring discharge permits from local pretreatment programs. You are encouraged to formulate your comments on this proposed rule and submit them either individually or collectively. EPA must receive comments on the proposed rule by August 28, 1995.

Pretreatment Program Questionnaire, Page 1 of 2

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Pretreatment Program Name: _____

Survey Completed By: _____

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1. How many industrial users do you permit?
_____ categorical industrial users
_____ non-categorical significant industrial users
2. Of those permitted industrial users, how many generate industrial wastewater treatment sludges?

3. Do you now or do you plan to include notification statements for sludge disposal requirements in your industrial user permits?
• - n/a • - yes • - no
4. What industrial wastewater treatment sludge disposal mechanisms are being used by your industrial users? (Please check all that apply.)
• - don't know • - reclamation • - disposal at a solid waste management facility (e.g., landfill)
• - accepted at a domestic wastewater treatment facility • - disposal by land application
• - shipped to a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility
• - other, please describe: _____

5. Has your pretreatment program or domestic wastewater treatment facilities ever experienced a problem related to the improper handling or disposal of those sludges (e.g., sludges released to the collection system)?
• - don't know • - yes • - no
If yes, please describe the problem(s)?

6. Do you periodically review waste disposal manifests or take other steps to assure that industrial sludges are being disposed of in an appropriate manner?
• - n/a • - yes • - no
What are the other steps? _____

7. Does your pretreatment program ordinance contain any provisions that relate to the management or disposal of industrial wastewater treatment sludges?
• - n/a • - yes • - no
If yes, what are those provisions?

8. Would you like or do you think the Department should address this issue more thoroughly in Department rules (e.g., additional cross references to the existing requirements for solid or hazardous waste management and disposal)?
• - no opinion • - yes • - no
If yes, what would you suggest?

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