

Sewage Collection and Treatment Regulation (9VAC25-790) – Amendments
1st RAP Meeting
February 27, 2024, 10:00 am
DEQ Piedmont Regional Office

Minutes

10:00 AM

- Introductions, Sign-in Sheet

<i>Attendance</i>			
<i>RAP Members</i>		<i>Other Attendees</i>	
x	Joseph Bryan – VA DEQ	x	Azra Bilalagic – VA DEQ
x	Erica Duncan – VA DEQ	x	Rebecca Rochet – VA DEQ
x	Laura Galli – VA DEQ	x	Meghan Mayfield – VA DEQ
x	Kevin Parker - HRSD	x	Jeanette Ruiz –VA DEQ
x	Jeff Stiff - DCWA	x	Emanuel Morgan – VA DEQ
x	Steven Herzog – Hanover County		
x	Ann Zimmerman – Loudoun Water		
x	Adrian Joye – Fairfax County		
x	Tim Castillo - ACSA		
x	Pamela Pruett – ESC LL		

10:10 AM

- A brief presentation on the role and purpose of the RAP was provided. The SCAT Regs Amendments are driven by the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase III WIP – Initiative 53.

10:20 AM

- DEQ initiated discussion asking the RAP members if their localities are currently tracking septic system connections to sewer lines. RAP members described different methods for tracking them; several localities don't track at all. There's currently no regulatory mechanism from the local health departments to keep track of abandoned septic systems that have connected to sewer. Concerns were also shared regarding illegal connections to sewer lines, which are not tracked.
- RAP members inquired about the end goal of this initiative, and whether the goal is specific to provide the yearly count of septic system connections taken off-line and connected to sewage collection system to support the TMDL Program. Additionally, would the reporting of the location of abandoned septic systems be required?

- HB 1052 was discussed: this Bill is currently under review and would include reporting requirements for health departments to localities regarding onsite sewage systems. It was recommended that DEQ review this Bill to ascertain its potential implications on the amendments to the SCAT regulation.
- RAP members shared that they would support amendments that would require them to provide annual reporting, as long as the rationale is clearly communicated and understood. They also believe that the method for tracking connections to the sewage system should be left to the localities to determine.
- A discussion was brought up as to whether the SCAT regulation is the most appropriate regulation for this type of reporting, since the amendments would apply specifically to localities located in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, in support of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed TMDL program.

11:30 AM Summary of RAP decisions

- RAP members reached consensus on the following action items:
 1. DEQ will meet internally with the TMDL Program to better identify possible reporting requirements and their frequency to better support the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase III WIP – Initiative 53.
 2. DEQ will review HB 1052 to better understand potential future reporting requirements and how to incorporate them into this effort.
 3. RAP will meet again on March 28th.

12:00 PM Meeting Adjourned