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REPORT OF THE NPDES SUBCOMMITTEE

Committee Agenda

- ⦿ Subcommittee met on June 2, 2015.
- ⦿ 4 states and EPA Region 5 represented.
- ⦿ Agenda:
 - Updates to Subcommittee
 - proposed standards revisions/comments
 - mercury variances requests received by ORSANCO
 - BacT TMDL
 - ORSANCO's review of draft permits and status of permits on file at ORSANCO.
 - 316(b) Rule Implementation Issues and Role ORSANCO
 - Region 5 Update Regulations Affecting Power Plants

Proposed Revisions

- ⦿ **Mixing Zone Prohibition for BCCs - Replacing the October 2015 deadline with “as soon as practicable” and transferring its determination to the states.**
 - Region 3 has historically interpreted “as soon as practicable” to mean 2 years.
 - Region 5 has historically interpreted as 3 years or less.
- ⦿ **Total Mercury Water Quality Criterion**
 - States implement total mercury criterion differently.
 - Most states no mixing zone: 12 ng/L criterion implemented as monthly avg limit with higher daily max number depending on modeling procedures
 - Streamlined variances as annual average – usually 12 ng/L

Other Issues

● ORSANCO Permit Reviews

- Staff working with states to ensure permit files up to date and receiving new draft permits.

● Bacteria TMDL

- Staff provided a status report on the Region 5 bacteria TMDL for the Ohio River.
- Questions remain regarding what, if any, permit implications there may be resulting from the TMDL.
- Any impact on CSO's, MS4s?

Other Issues

● Cooling Water Intake Structures

- Background:

- Federal Rules Effective 2014
- Address Adverse Environmental Impacts From Impingement and Entrainment of Aquatic Organisms
- Affects Approximately 544 power plants and 521 manufacturing facilities nationally
- Rule requires comprehensive reports and studies
- Entrainment – Director makes site specific determination BTA
- Impingement – Preapproved technologies and/or performance standards

- ORSANCO Role

- Issues Specific to Ohio River and Ohio River Facilities
 - ORSANCO comment on biological studies
 - maintain repository reports/studies and individual state decisions on 316(b) Issues
 - NPDES Subcommittee - forum for discussion

Other Issues

- ◎ Region 5 Update Regulations Affecting Power Plants
 - New ELGs for Steam Electric Power Plants Expected This Fall
 - 316(b) CWIS Appeals Consolidated Into One Appeal

Questions??