

REPORT OF THE NPDES SUBCOMMITTEE

- Conference Call held Jan 27
- All states and EPA HQ represented – Paul Novak Chair.
- Reviewed 2009 Standards Revisions – no implementation issues except for ammonia.
- Update on 2010 Expedited Review.
- Mercury
 - Reported on 2009 fish tissue results and proposed 305b assessment of impaired water bodies.
 - Significant discussion on how states would be treating FGD discharges (as “New” or as “Existing”).
 - USEPA is revising its effluent guidelines for power plants.

FGD Mercury Discharges

- WV raised concern that they have denied additional loadings of Hg from new scrubbers because of the “New Source” requirement in ORSANCO’s mixing zone language.
- Other states indicated they go thru antideg and new source reviews but would ultimately grant additional discharge.
- Not an issue for some states yet.
- Committee had general discussion that the issue of “New Source Performance Standards – BAT”.
 - EPA currently working on new Effluent Guidelines.

Ammonia

- Implemented a 1 mg/L instream criterion to be applied at water intakes.
- States requested that ORSANCO develop implementation guidance, and include guidance in ORSANCO's standards.

Permit Reviews

- ORSANCO reviews NPDES permits for compliance with its standards.
- Recently seems as though we have not been receiving some draft permits for review.
- Staff requested that states' permitting staffs be reminded that ORSANCO should receive all draft permits.
- ORSANCO staff has begun implementing a tracking system to help ensure that all drafts are being received.

Additional Item

- Committee reiterated that it is interested in ORSANCO developing a Maximum Temperature Criterion that would protect human health inside a mixing zone due to exposure from contact.
- The Committee noted that this issue is not included in the expedited review and wants to ensure that the issue remains in consideration.

QUESTIONS?

Paul Novak, Chairman
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency