

DWTU Task Group on Nitrate
Teleconference Meeting Notes
October 30, 2014

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Participants

Regu Regunathan, chair (ReguNathan and Assoc); Gary Hatch (Hatch Global Consulting Services); Shen Huang (Community Water Center); Martin Jessen (Pionetics); Shannon Murphy (TST Water); Klaus Seeger (Seeger & Assoc); Mike Blumenstein and Monica Leslie (NSF)

Discussion

R. Regunathan called the meeting to order. M. Leslie took attendance and read the anti-trust statement. It was noted that a quorum had been reached.

The group discussed the protocol draft submitted by G. Hatch. R. Regunathan reported that WQA will be able to do some testing within the next month. M. Blumenstein reported that R. Herman didn't agree with the idea of doing R & D testing to determine operational procedures. The focus should be on determining how to evaluate RO systems or other potential technologies that may be used to treat high nitrate levels. R. Regunathan stated that he generally agrees with this principle, but in this case there is a need to provide some input to the group who came to us. However, if we can get S. Murphy's group, WQA, and Coway to do some additional testing, this may provide sufficient information. S. Murphy reported that he sent four samples to WQA and they will test these units at the criteria discussed last week. R. Regunathan requested that Coway consider redoing the test using this proposed protocol as well. G. Hatch stated that he will contact Pentair to see if they would be able to participate as well. M. Jessen stated that Pionetics can participate as well. They will also work through WQA.

K. Seeger asked for clarification regarding the TDS of the influent. R. Regunathan explained that high turbidity is not typically part of the test, because there is a prefilter component on the RO system that is not being tested.

The group reviewed S. Murphy's informational paper on RO systems that can assist with the improvement of treating elevated levels of nitrates. S. Huang stated that she will review it again, but in general this should be very helpful to consumers. It was suggested that this information could be housed on both NSF and WQA websites. The group agreed to review it further and make any additions or edits by the December meeting.

S. Murphy asked for clarification on the units to be tested to this protocol. They have a 50 gallon membrane and put a smaller flow restrictor on it to achieve a 15% recovery rating.

The next teleconference was scheduled for **Dec 16th, at 11:00 AM ET**. The meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

1. M. Jesssen and S. Murphy will send units to WQA for testing to the study protocol.
2. G. Hatch will contact Pentair for participation in the study.
3. WQA (and possibly Coway) will conduct testing to the protocol.
4. The task group will review the informational paper for consumers and provide feedback before the next meeting.