Task Group on High Strength Wastewater

Teleconference Meeting Summary DRAFT

November 14, 2019

Participating members:

University of Minnesota	Heger, Sara
Bio-Microbics, Inc.	Bell, Jim
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Bastian, Robert
Anua	Bishop, Colin
Texas On-Site Wastewater Association	Chelette, Randall
Barnstable County Department of Health and...	Heufelder, George
Eliminite	Knuteson, Amanda
Norweco, Inc.	Meyer, Jim
Geomatrix, LLC	Potts, David
Florida Department of Health	Roeder, Eberhard
North Carolina State University	Rubin, A.
NSF International	Steiner, Sharon
Hoot Aerobic Systems	Suchecki, Ron
Consultant - User	Wirth, Joelle
Indiana State Department of Health	Wright, Denise

Participating observers:

Infiltrator Water Technologies, LLC	Ervin, Sheryl
Geomatrix, LLC	Henderson, Jason
Eliminite	Kallenbach, Tom
NSF International	Snider, Jason

Discussion

S. Heger welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. J. Snider took roll and read the anti-trust statement. Fifteen of the 23 voting members were present (65%) which did represent a quorum.

S. Heger began by reminding the group that a motion at the 2019 Joint Committee meeting had charged the group with moving forward to develop a standard with both “uncontained” and “contained” systems. She explained that the task group had previously developed the Generic Test Plan for High Strength Wastewater as an initial draft, but the group had struggled with the lack of language or evaluation methods for systems where soil treatment was part of the system. To help answer this question, she proposed the group discuss where measurement of each type of system should take place.

D. Potts suggested that the group consider clogging of leach fields as an issue, and that BOD removal did not solve all problems in the field. C. Bishop noted that treatment and dispersal may need to be segmented, and that if dispersal were considered, wetting and drying, and dosing regiments would need to be considered. D. Potts recommended the group review the Daniels-Bouma paper. S. Heger stated that clogging was not part of the pass/fail criteria in other WWT standards. The group discussed the possibility of a separate protocol to test for clogging. G. Heufelder and C. Bishop agreed that with uncontained systems, the test methodology needed to determine how the effluent is collected in a manner that is representative of how the system is performing. C. Bishop suggested the testing “draw a line” to define the test vessel.

B. Bastian asked if the treatment and dispersal units could be tested as separate pieces. S. Heger agreed this was a sound approach. A. Rubin proposed different treatment levels dependent on the treatment boundary (at dispersal, after dispersal).

The group spent some time discussing how to collect a sample from an uncontained system. C. Bishop noted that the Open Cell Bottom Technology Task Group had developed a test to determine collection points, but the test had not been completed yet.

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S. Heger summarized the two options before the group: either testing the effluent after treatment but with no soil dispersal or including soil dispersal in the treatment with checks for ponding.

A. Rubin stated that a unit designed to disperse to soil will need to be tested for soil clogging. C. Bishop asked if a treatment train test would be an option. D. Wright asked the group to also consider how scale up would apply.

It was suggested a small sub group be formed to determine how to define clogging. A. Rubin, and D. Potts volunteered, and someone from the public health category will be added if available.

Action items

J. Snider to create subgroup on NOW and populate roster
J. Snider to send straw poll to group regarding where measuring will take place.
Next teleconference date January 31, 2020 2:00 pm EST