Clean Water Act Regulatory Issues in a Pandemic

Friday, March 20, 2020
Today’s Moderator

Susan Sullivan
Executive Director
New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission
Today’s Speakers

• Melanie D. Davenport, President, Association of Clean Water Administrators; Director, Water Permitting Division, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

• Shellie Chard, WEF Government Affairs Regulatory Subcommittee Chair; Director, Water Quality, Oklahoma DEQ, Oklahoma City, OK

• Fred Andes, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg, Chicago, IL
Melanie D. Davenport
Director, Water Permitting Division

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Shellie Chard
Director, Water Quality

Oklahoma DEQ
Small System Assistance During COVID-19

Shellie R. Chard
Water Quality Division Director, Oklahoma DEQ
Regulatory Sub-committee Chair, WEF Government Affairs Committee
President, Association of Safe Drinking Water Administrators
Early Actions

- Activate agency emergency response team and operational protocols
- Engage with state emergency management
- Engage with Strategic Alliance
- Start conversations with technical assistance providers
- Modify SoonerWarn
- Dedicated page added to website
Intermediate Actions

- Internal – establishing protocols to move to near 100% teleworking
- Daily calls with Division Directors
- Directors daily calls with managers
- Twice daily calls with ORWA
- Letter posted on social media and websites on impacts to regulated community
Permitting, Compliance and Enforcement

- All permit conditions remain in effect
- All order deadlines remain in effect
- Enforcement discretion will be used and will be critical
- All water and wastewater system to contact DEQ through established dedicated numbers and email or directly contact District Engineers
Most Important Agency Function...
Questions?

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Thank you!