

Wisconsin's Surface Water Quality Triennial Standards Review 2008-2011 - DRAFT Prioritized Topic List

WDNR 06/26/2008

Grouping		Topics	Comments
GROUP A Revisions/ development currently in process		Thermal Standards & Point Source Implementation Procedures	These topics are automatic high priority and will be continued in 2008-2011. They are not to be included in the ranking process.
		Phosphorus Water Quality Criteria	
		Toxic Substance Water Quality Criteria	
		Assessment Methodology	
		Use Designations - Process Review	
GROUP B Topics WDNR is already committed to addressing		Antidegradation	These topics are automatic high priority and will be begun in 2008-2011. They are not to be included in the ranking process.
		Mercury Variances	
		Outstanding & Exceptional Resource Waters - Process Review	
GROUP C* Priority topics to be addressed in 2008-2011 cycle as resources allow	C-1	Use Designations - Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top five during the WDNR internal ranking process. • Builds on efforts currently underway (in Group A) to update the Use Designation process; implementation of the new process will be needed once that effort is completed. • Use Designation Implementation is seen as being the primary building block needed for the three items listed as C-2. • Per EPA's recommendations, the top 4 topics in Group C are interrelated and can be addressed simultaneously if possible.
	C-2	Impaired Waters (303(d)) Listing Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top five during the WDNR internal ranking process. • This should be done concurrently with, or following, Use Designation Implementation. Per EPA's recommendations, the top 4 topics are interrelated and can be addressed simultaneously if possible. • The 303(d) coordinator position is currently vacant; filling this position is needed for development of the criteria.
	C-2	Use Attainability Analyses (UAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in top five during the WDNR internal ranking process. • Topic is a high priority for EPA. • This should be done concurrently with, or following, Use Designation Implementation. Per EPA's recommendations, the top 4 topics are interrelated and can be addressed simultaneously if possible.
	C-2	Outstanding & Exceptional Resource Waters - Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top five during the WDNR internal ranking process. • Builds on commitments (in Group B) to update the Outstanding & Exceptional Resource Waters process; implementation will be needed once that effort is completed. • This should be done concurrently with, or following, Use Designation Implementation. Per EPA's recommendations, the top 4 topics are interrelated and can be addressed simultaneously if possible.
	C-3	Applicability of standards to nonpoint sources & stormwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top five during the WDNR ranking process. • Topic is a high priority for EPA.
	C-4	Revisions to chlorides implementation rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top ten during the WDNR ranking process. • A draft of revised guidance is already completed for this topic, and therefore may take little time to complete.

<p>GROUP D** Priority topics that WDNR is not currently able to address due to specific barriers</p>	Bacteria Water Quality Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top ten during the WDNR ranking process, and is an important water quality issue. <p>BARRIER: EPA will be promulgating rules on bacteria in 2012. If the Department were to enact separate bacteria standards before 2012, this would result in conflicting regulations and the rulemaking process would need to be repeated. It could also result in permittees having to upgrade their systems multiple times to comply with changing regulations.</p>
	Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) - Determining reasonable potential for toxicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked in the top ten by WDNR. <p>BARRIER: WDNR and EPA disagree on whether a rule revision is needed to change how 'reasonable potential' for toxicity is determined. WDNR would prefer to focus on WET investigations rather than on setting additional WET limits required by EPA's proposed revisions. EPA's regulations only apply to Great Lakes dischargers.</p>
<p>GROUP E** Topics that are not a priority for addressing in the 2008-2011 cycle</p>	Biocriteria	<p>Issues that should be addressed but that did not receive high priority ranking in this cycle.</p>
	Blue-Green Algal Toxin Water Qual. Criteria	
	Dissolved Oxygen Water Quality Criteria	
	Exemption for certain substances (NR 106.10)	
	General review of variances in NR 104	
	Implementation of narrative standards	
	Methylmercury Water Quality Standard	
	Mixing Zones	
	Nitrogen Water Quality Criterion	
	Perfluorinated Surfactants (PFOS) Water Quality Criteria	
	Pesticide Water Quality Standards	
	Polybrominated Diphenyl (PBDE) Water Quality Criteria	
	Turbidity Water Quality Standard	
Wasteload allocations for WI & Fox Rivers		
5/10 Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) Policy		

Notes on Grouping Descriptions

* Group C: C-1 to C-4 correspond to the prioritized order for reviewing/developing these standards or guidance.

**Group D and Group E were interchanged with one another after the official guidance document dated 6-19-2008. In the initial guidance, Group D was identified as the category for lower-priority topics, and group E was the category for topics with barriers.