

Land Management Division Updates

Erik J. Waiss

North Platte

17th of May, 2016



Division Name Change

- **The Waste Management Division is now the Land Management Division**
 - All other sections and units remain the same

- **Kara Valentine**
 - New Deputy Director of Air & Land divisions
 - Started early 2016



Waste Related Staff Changes

Grand Island Field Office is now open

- Currently staffed by Nick Weaver
- Holdrege office remains open

Norfolk Office

- Michaele Oleson had departed
- Terry Johnson is her replacement

North Platte Office

- Heath Wilkinson transferred from the Lincoln office
- Michael Gude new hire

Scottsbluff Office is Still Open

- New staff is expected in June

Planning and Aid Unit

- Ruth Johnston has taken the role of Unit Supervisor
- Mike Wegher is the new Technical Assistant



Division Supervisors

David Haldeman – Land Management Division

- **Bill Gidley** – Waste Management Section

 - **Jeffery Edwards** – Compliance Unit

 - **Morgan Leibrandt** – Permits Unit

- **Mike Felix** – Remediation Section

 - **Tom Buell** – Superfund/VCP Unit

 - **Ed Southwick** – RCRA/Federal Facilities Unit

- **Ruth Johnston** – Planning and Aid Unit



“To examine the status of solid waste management programs operated by the department and make recommendations to modernize and revise such programs.”

- Introduced, passed and signed during 2016 legislative session
- Focused on the grant programs
- Bill amends the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act



Solid Waste Management Study in 5 parts

- Whether existing litter and waste reduction and recycling programs should be amended or merged.
- A needs assessment of recycling & composting programs.
- Methods for public-private-nonprofit partnering.
- Recommendations regarding existing funding sources and possible new revenue sources.
- Revisions to waste grant programs (T133 & T199) in a proactive manner



Avian Influenza Response

Avian Influenza outbreak in 2014-15

- May 11, 2015, H5N2 in Dixon County
- “Conduct Avian Influenza abatement operations in the safest, efficient, humane manner possible while making every effort to contain the virus to impacted sites.”
- 4.8 million birds euthanized in Nebraska and then composted on-site to eradicate virus



Avian Influenza Response

NDEQ list of Concerns

- Disposal of Carcasses
- Disposal of Personal Protection Equipment and other waste materials generated on-site
- Wastewater Management
- Storm Water Management
- Burn Permits
- Protect the Environment



Avian Influenza Response

Composting

- Goal – Biological Heat Treatment, but not finished compost.
- Euthanized poultry with bedding and woodchips into windrows 6-8ft high and 12-15ft wide.
- 14-day initial composting to attain 131°F for 72 hrs



Avian Influenza Response

Lessons Learned

- Preplanning helpful – Bury, Compost or Other?
- Disease Expert Approval, Motivated Producer, Materials, Manpower and Expertise.
- Indoor preferred, but outdoor composting may be necessary
- Outdoor Site Conditions –
 - More area needed than first estimated
 - Run-on/Run-off controls



Avian Influenza Response

Lessons Learned (cont)

- Biosecurity
 - PPE use during compost operations – clear protocols
 - Movement of Wastes and Materials
 - Disinfection of Equipment
 - Clean Areas vs. Dirty Areas
- Compost Turner – Makes a better “finished” compost, but may be limited by space
- Compost use? – Land Application as a Soil Amendment preferred, but:
 - Nitrogen content (too much wood content)
 - Aesthetics of protein compost



Online Grant Applications

- <http://deq.ne.gov>
- Click on “Financial-Grants” tab and select “Distribution of Aid”, choose your grant and click through the info and instructions.

← → ↻ deq.ne.gov

Official Nebraska Government Website

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Welcome to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality's mission is to protect the quality of Nebraska's environment – our air, land, and water resources. We enforce regulations and provide assistance, but to fully accomplish this vital mission we need your assistance. We encourage you to work with us to ensure future generations can use and enjoy the precious natural resources we enjoy today. More information is available by going to [Monthly Metrics](#), [Annual Report](#) and [Your Environment](#).



Online Grant Applications

Ruth Johnston now leads Planning & Aid

- Call Mike Wegher for technical assistance at (402) 471-3388

Grant Deadlines:

- Litter Reduction & Recycling – Early September, Check our Website!
- Waste Reduction & Recycling – February 1
- Scrap Tire Grants – February 1 (just awarded)



Coal Combustion Residuals – TVA



Source: Associated Press, TVA Kingston, Dec 22, 2008



Coal Combustion Residuals-Nebraska

Nebraska facilities are generally:

- Smaller (3-50 acres); federal avg. is 50 ac. for surface impoundments , 120 ac. for landfills.
- Less numerous (7); nationally there are 735 active CCR surface impoundments , 310 CCR landfills
- One incised impoundment is at or below grade – no diking as in TVA Kingston, all others are landfills

The good: 1) the hazard threat in Nebraska is nowhere near that of other states and 2) we have an existing FFCA permitting program.

The bad: Nebraska facilities must still comply with many new federal requirements.



New CCR Regulations – the Basics

- CCR “means fly ash, bottom ash, boiler slag, and flue gas desulfurization materials generated from burning coal for the purpose of generating electricity by electric utilities and independent power producers.” 40 CFR § 257.53.
 - Nebraska’s definition for Fossil Fuel Combustion Ash is slightly broader and includes a few physical plants and ethanol plants.
- EPA chose management of these materials under RCRA Subtitle D (SW regs); not Subtitle C (HW regs). This is also Nebraska’s current regulatory approach.
- EPA “strongly recommends,” but will not require state adoption.
- NDEQ has met with utility stakeholders and they are interested in state adoption.
- Nebraska plans to begin process of full adoption this year.



Superfund Fund Lead Transfers

- Columbus 10th Street (January 2016)
 - 1,400 gpm groundwater extraction system
 - Approx. 90 monitoring wells
 - Residential VI mitigation systems
- Ogallala PWS (December 2016)
 - Groundwater monitoring only
- Hastings 2nd Street (July 2017)
 - Groundwater extraction system
 - Groundwater monitoring



Remediation Section Update

NPL Listing

- IA-NE Light and Power (Norfolk FMPG) finalized (PRP Lead site)

Brownfields

- Taryn Serwatowski new Coordinator
- Continue to do Phase I and IIs
- Asbestos cost share cleanup
 - 50% up to \$10,000



RCRA Corrective Action

RCRA Corrective Action Authorization

- Allows NDEQ to be the lead agency in matters such as permit issuance, technical oversight, project management, and enforcement.
- Existing sites will continue to work with both NDEQ and EPA Region 7 in coordination.
- Future sites will work increasingly more with NDEQ than EPA Region 7.
- Regulatory program & requirements are the same under NDEQ or EPA Region 7 lead.
- Regulations necessary for Corrective Action Authorization were passed in March 2016 and are being reviewed by the Attorney General's Office.
- If/when approved, Nebraska can submit its program revision application to EPA.



Thank you for your time.

Questions, Comments?

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