



# Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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## 590 Nutrient Management Standard Team

### DRAFT MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 || 9:00am – 3:00pm || Hancock Ag Research Station

Attendees: Sara Walling, Sue Porter, Terry Kelly, Andrew Craig, Matt Zoschke, Tony Smith, Todd Schaumberg, Carrie Laboski, Nikki Wagner, Pat Murphy, Laura Chern, Gini Knight, Laura Ward Good, Paul Zimmerman (as a substitute for Joe Bragger).

#### Updates

NRCS has the data for the 5' to bedrock map. We will contact the National Geological Survey for a 50' to bedrock map that pertains to a Consideration. DNR are still working on confirming their ability to provide maps of community wells. They have received verbal confirmation that the data is available, but have not seen the actual maps. For broad review, maps of all new restricted areas must be provided. DATCP staff are working to provide comparison maps of the current restrictions and the proposed restriction areas.

#### Reviewed Criteria B and revised standard as appropriate.

The new proposed restrictions within 1000' of community wells will encompass approximately 20,700 acres. DNR is working accessing the data layers for 1000' of community wells. Planners and agronomists will have to have access to this information if the standard proposes restrictions around these wells. Training will be provided to agronomists and planners to locate these wells, particularly if they are not documented on the maps. However, it will not be possible to enforce the restriction if the wells are not located on the maps.

The team decided to include a statement about vertical fractures being a pathway for nutrients to get to groundwater in the Considerations section.

The group discussed the comments on the section that limits fall commercial N application on specific soils that are prone to N leaching. There was discussion about eliminating all fall commercial N application. This practice is rarely used in most of the state, and many agronomists do not promote fall commercial N application because there is no very little if any agronomic benefit because the N is lost by the spring. This practice has a high environmental cost and very low agronomic benefit, and some coops and farms still do this in the western part of the state. The team agreed to keep the restriction of fall commercial N on soils with less than 5' to bedrock due to the reasons listed above.

The team clarified the options for applying manure on W soils. W soils have more organic matter than other soils and less capacity for leaching than R and P soils. More flexibility was provided on W soils in the standard because of the difficulty in getting on those soils in the spring. For the broad review, we would like to provide a

summary of the research and more background on the impacts of ammonia and its differences in solid vs. liquid manure. The team also clarified the rate restrictions. The comments provided mixed opinions on the proposed date change marking the deadline for winter manure application. The team agreed to keep the date change to October 1, because the standard also allows for options to test the soil temperature and not abide by the date.

The team considered all comments for Criteria B and crafted draft responses. The main discussion points are stated above.

### **Winter Spreading Risk Assessment discussion continued.**

The winter spreading risk assessment was revised since the last meeting and simplified. There was still some concern that the risk assessment was too complex and required additional restrictions not previously relayed in the standard. There was concern that the limitations of manure application on slopes greater than 6% without additional mitigation practices would eliminate many farms in the southwest from complying with the standard. The winter spreading risk assessment is a planning tool to help farmers and haulers prepare for emergency situations. Farms may need to split fields to be able to apply on certain areas of fields. If the areas or fields are high risk, the winter spreading plan offers mitigation practices that still allow spreading if needed. The team is also discussing whether it is appropriate to distinguish between solid and liquid manure in the winter spreading plan.

### **Setbacks to GW during winter**

It was also brought to the group's attention to discuss the setback distance from direct conduits to GW during frozen or snow-covered conditions (no effective incorporation). In December when considering initial review comments, the team decided to include a 50' from *all* direct conduits to GW, and eliminate the 200' upslope of direct conduits to GW unless effectively incorporated. In the winter, a greater distance than 50' from wells and other direct conduits is needed to maintain reasonable water quality protections.

The current standard requires no nutrient applications on **areas contributing runoff** within 200 ft upslope of direct conduits to GW when nutrients cannot be effectively incorporated within 72 hrs. During most of the winter period when ground is frozen or snow-covered, incorporation is not possible and the 200 foot upslope area setback applies to winter spreading. It was recommended to keep this current language as a winter spreading prohibition and include concentrated flow channels that discharge to perennial or intermittent streams as also needing a setback.

### **Additional section for high risk areas for manure applications**

NRCS proposed language in the Criteria that limits manure application in proximity to direct conduits to groundwater and wells. They will determine the best location for this section and provide a definition for manure or manure components.

### **Action Items**

- Schedule meeting to review comments and revise the Tech Note. Feb 12<sup>th</sup> at UW Soils Dept.

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<b>DATCP</b>	<b>WDNR</b>	<b>NRCS</b>	<b>UWEX</b>	<b>County LCDs</b>	<b>WI Land+Water</b>
Richard Castelnuovo (608) 224-4608	Gretchen Wheat & Mary Anne Lowndes (608) 264-6273	Pat Murphy & John Ramsden (608) 662-4422	Ken Genskow (608) 262-8756	Perry Lindquist (262) 548-7867 & Bruce Olson (608) 785-9867	Jim VandenBrook (608) 441-2677

- Pat will be meeting with John to discuss progress and key topics. Pat will work on creating a winter spreading example using an existing farm.
- Andrew will create a winter spreading plan example using a farm from Lafayette County.
- Sara will work with DATCP and NRCS staff to create maps that show current N restricted areas with an additional 5' to bedrock layer and a cropland layer.
- Laura will work with DNR authorities to determine if we can have access to maps/data that shows 1000' to community wells.
- Pat will revise the additional section defining additional restrictions of manure application to high risk areas.

### Review Action Items and Next Meeting Agenda

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at Hancock Ag Research Station

- Updates on access and creation of appropriate maps.
- Review and revise Criteria C, D, Considerations, Operations & Maintenance, Definitions.
- Review winter spreading examples and Tech Note language.

### Timeline

- Feb 18 – Review Criteria C, D, Considerations, O & M. Continue working on Winter Spreading language. Update on status of Technical Note.
- Mar 18 – Finalize changes and prepare draft documents for broad review.
- Potential Broad Review time frame: Mar 27 to Apr 20
- Apr 23 - Review comments and revise draft standard and tech note.
- May 20 - Review comments and prepare final drafts.
- Jun 17 – Release of final standard

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