



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

Thursday, April 23, 2015 || 9:00am – 3:00pm || Hancock Ag Research Station

Attendees: Carrie Laboski, Pat Murphy, Joe Bragger, Matt Zoschke, Tony Smith, Todd Schaumberg, Sue Porter, Nikki Wagner, Andrew Craig, Sara Walling, Laura Chern, Gini Knight.

Updates since Broad Review

The 590 Broad Review occurred from March 23 to April 20th. A Live Meeting was held at the NRCS State Office to announce the release of the standard, summarize the revisions, and answer any questions on Friday, March 27th. More than 40 people attended the live meeting.

During the broad review, we received more than 50 pages of comments from 38 different entities. There were responses from the farmers, agronomists, water quality specialists, and county conservation departments. Given the onset of spring, it was mentioned that it was a difficult time for farmers to comment on the draft standard. Although the revisions have been slowly released since last fall, the team wants to make sure there is significant opportunity for stakeholders to comment. To ensure appropriate opportunity to give feedback, the team decided to release the draft standard for review again from July 31 to August 31. The team will work diligently to get through as many comments as possible by July 31 and then release a newly revised standard. A new target date for the release of the new standard will be in the November of 2015.

Begin Review of Broad Review Comments

Upon reviewing the comments, it was noted that several reviewers misinterpreted some of the language. We need to emphasize that all standard users should familiarize themselves with the definitions section to fully understand the standard language.

The team reviewed comments through Criteria V.A.1. and made revisions as appropriate.

The team will focus on Winter Spreading Plans at the next meeting.

Key points to address in the discussion include:

- Tillage as a risk factor and mitigation tool.
- Type of manure applied; liquid vs. solid
- Allowing an exemption to producing a winter spreading plan, if operation does not conduct any winter spreading or has appropriate storage as of Dec 1.
- Consider simplicity of NR 243 table.
- Look further into using SnapPlus and PI. The PI is a predictor, but does not take into account all factors.

The team also reconsidered soil sampling frequencies for low-input operations to sample at longer intervals than every four, but at least once during their rotation not exceeding eight years. The team understands the benefits in sampling at the same point within the rotation. This idea will remain in the 'parking lot' for now and should be considered as part of a 590 EZ process.

Action Items

May 20 at Hancock Ag Research Station

- Gini will create a press release to announce the second broad review.
- Carrie and Pat will work on language to include in V.A.1.j. Draft - "Supplemental Nitrogen may be applied if the crop exhibits visible or documented deficiency symptoms as a result of extreme weather conditions. Nitrogen applications shall be limited to the minimum application of additional necessary to obtain a crop response."
- Sue will contact Laura Ward Good for clarifications.
- Gini will make a note for future reviews to emphasize that all italicized words have definitions. Reviewers should carefully look at definitions to fully understand the standard.
- Pat will explore the idea of having a meeting with water quality leaders to address the latest thinking on what are the key drivers in water quality.

Next Meeting Agenda

- Review clarifications from comments on V.A.1.g. & h.
- Review winter spreading language in V.A.2., Plans & Specs, & Tech Note.

Timeline

- May 20 - Review comments. Focus on Winter Spreading
- Jun 17 – Review comments, focus on Criteria A & B, Nitrogen Mgmt
- Jul 23 – Review comments, focus on the rest of standard.
- **2nd Broad Review time frame:** July 31 – August 31
- Aug 13
- Sep 9

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