



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 AGENDA

Friday, October 24, 2014 || 9:00am – 3:00pm || Hancock Ag Research Station

Welcome/Updates

NRCS has given a 590 briefing to the Ag Coalition, NRCS State Technical Committee, NRCS management and field staff to begin sharing the concepts of proposed revisions. They received several questions and suggestions, and overall positive or neutral feedback. NRCS staff reminded us that any time there is a criteria, there has to be a record of it being completed. The standard will have to be reviewed with this in mind. For future cost-share programs, funds may only be available for actual implementation not planning of practices. EQIP is only supposed to pay for implementation not planning.

Review O & M, Definitions, Air Quality criteria, and additional concerns.

- The team considered recommendations from DNR staff regarding air quality criteria. Many suggestions were incorporated into the draft.
- The team discussed research summaries and the use of gypsum in P management. There are still some concerns within the group as to all the benefits and impact of gypsum. Part of gypsum is a sulfate leachable nutrient, which could have negative impacts later. They decided to include a consideration regarding the use of gypsum.
- The definitions were reviewed and revised.
- Setbacks around potable drinking wells were discussed again. There are advocates to increase the setback to 100' to match DNR rules. Other counties also have implemented the 100' setback and it's working okay. There are disagreements on whether increasing the radius from wells by an additional 50' would take away a significant amount of land. Farmers agreed it would be more difficult to implement. There was discussion about whether the additional 50' would further reduce groundwater contamination or surface water runoff. There is not specific science that shows that increasing the setback distance from 50' to 100' would provide greater protection. We can assume that is true. There are advocates for not changing the standard without specific science as backup. In the end, the team voted to keep the potable drinking water well setback at 50'.

Tech Note – Winter Spreading

The team was briefed on the concepts behind the winter spreading plan process in the Tech Note. The winter spreading group's goal is to provide guidance on making the best management decisions for winter spreading and what factors play a role in determining low-risk areas to spread. The general concept was approved with the acknowledgement that much more work needs to be done to make the winter spreading assessment clear. Matt, Andrew, and Gini will work on clarifying the concepts in the Tech Note.

Review of team's initial concerns

The team reviewed the list of initial concerns and criteria they created at the first meeting that needed to be addressed if they were to do a good job of revising this standard. Each team member selected three points from the list that still need further work. The responses will be compiled and presented to the team as a gauge for future priorities.

Initial Review

The team approved that the drafts could go out for initial review with the proposed changes discussed at the meeting. Everyone was encouraged to take another look at the standard and Tech Note and provide additional feedback before it is sent to the initial reviewers. The team agreed to send the documents to 18 initial reviewers by email with instructions and cover letter. Their comments will be due back by Nov 20th. We request that the reviewers do not distribute the documents to others.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Nov 25th at Hancock Ag Research Station

2015 Meetings Scheduled: Jan 20, Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 23, May 20, Jun 17

Timeline

- Oct 31 to Nov 20 – Initial Review
- Nov 25 – Review results of initial review. Consider revisions.
- Dec 17 – Review results of initial review. Consider revisions.
- Jan 20 – Prepare draft for broad review.
- Feb 18 – Prepare draft for broad review. Release for broad review in late Feb - Mar. Develop training and outreach plan.
- Mar 18 /Apr 23 – Final drafting
- May 20/Jun 17 – Release of final standard

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