

Proposed Strategy: PFAS in Wastewater in Wisconsin

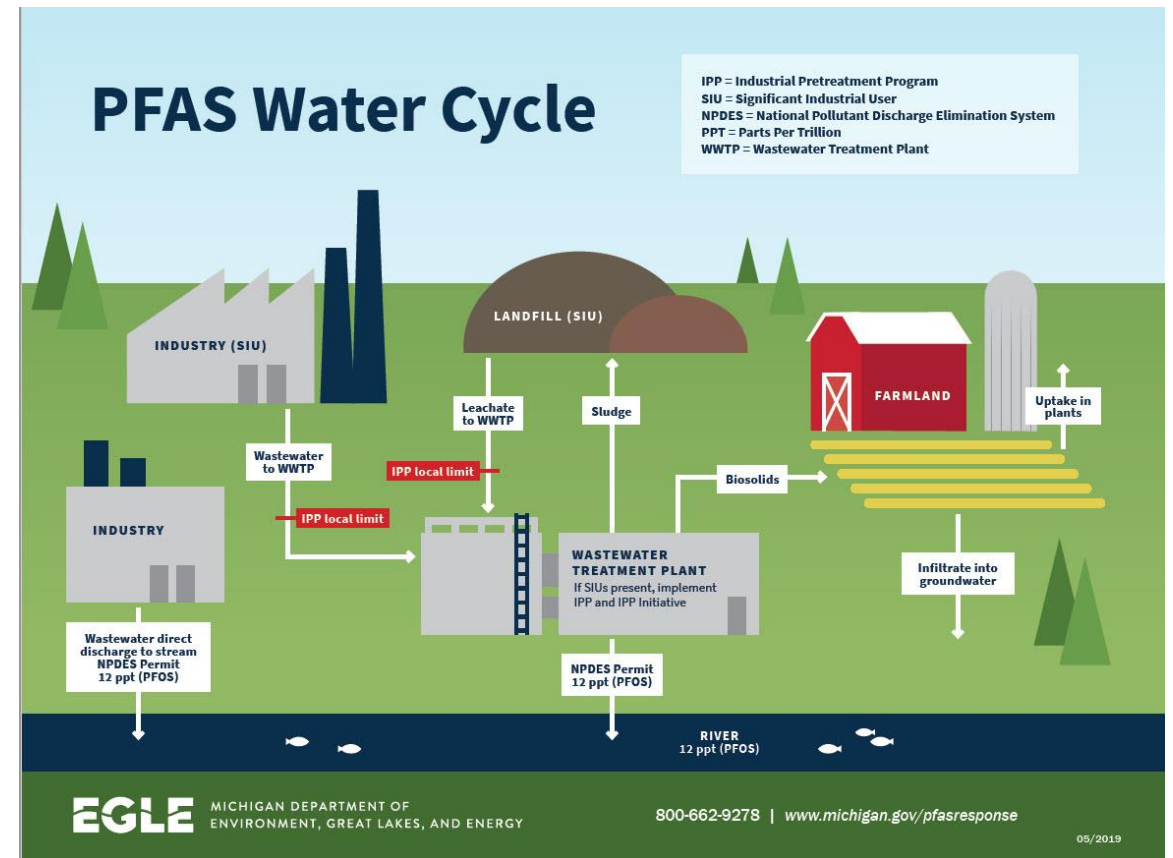
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Topics

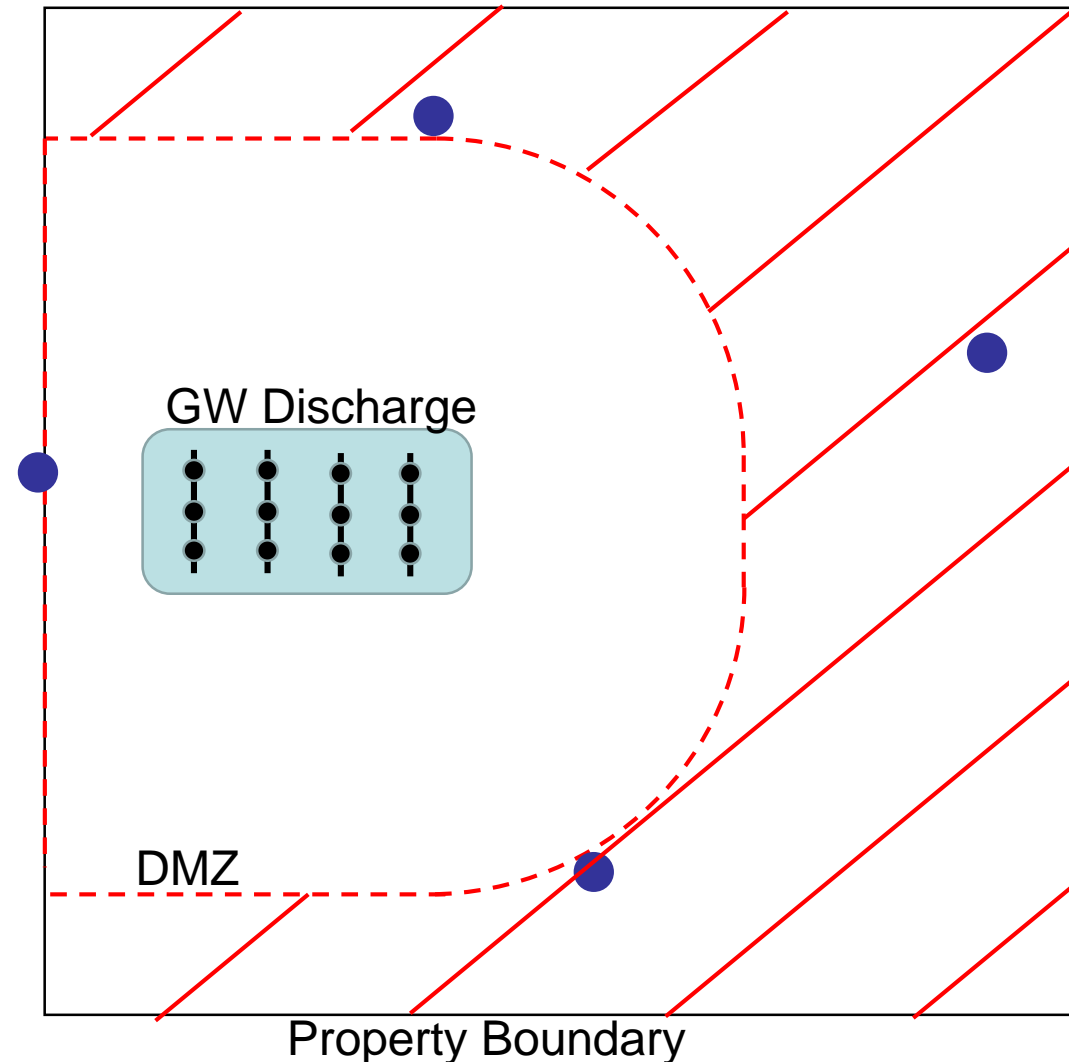
- Groundwater Standards
- Water Quality Standards (Surface)
 - Triennial Standards Review
 - Standards Development Process
- Lab Certification
- Scoping Extent of Contamination
- Emphasis on Addressing Sources
 - Pretreatment
- Biosolids





Groundwater Standards

- Currently no numeric standards
- DHS evaluating potential PFAS GW Standards
 - Enforcement Standards
 - Preventative Action Limit
 - (Different than MCLs)
- Would apply outside DMZ
- Upon recommendation, DNR may begin rulemaking to adopt
 - Drinking/Groundwater Program
 - Implications for WPDES





Surface Water Quality Standards

- Currently no numeric surface water quality standards
- WQS apply in waterbodies
- WQS are used to calculate effluent limitations

The diagram shows a teal-colored wavy line representing a water body. A green box labeled 'Facility' is positioned on the right side, with a red arrow pointing to a red dot on the water body. A dashed blue line extends from the red dot to the left, and a blue hatched area is shown below the water body, connected to the facility by a blue line.

Facility

Triennial Standards Review – Priorities for 2018-2020

A

- Antidegradation
- Bacteria Criteria Revision
- Biocriteria
- Chloride Variance Streamlining
- Designated Uses Process Revision
- P Assimilative Capacity in GLs
- P Site Specific Criteria
- Wetlands Floristic Assessment
- Numeric Benchmarks

C

- Aquatic Life Criteria Revisions

E

- P Criteria for 2-Story Lakes
- Arsenic Variance Process

B

- Cyanobacteria
- Human Health Criteria Revisions
- Mercury MDV
- Outstanding/Exceptional Resource
- Water Process Revision
- PFOS/PFOA**

D

- Ammonia
- Arsenic
- Chloride
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
- Copper
- Nitrate/Nitrogen

- A:** In Progress
- B:** New Priorities
- C:** Priorities, but limited progress expected
- D:** Barriers to progress
- E:** Not Priorities



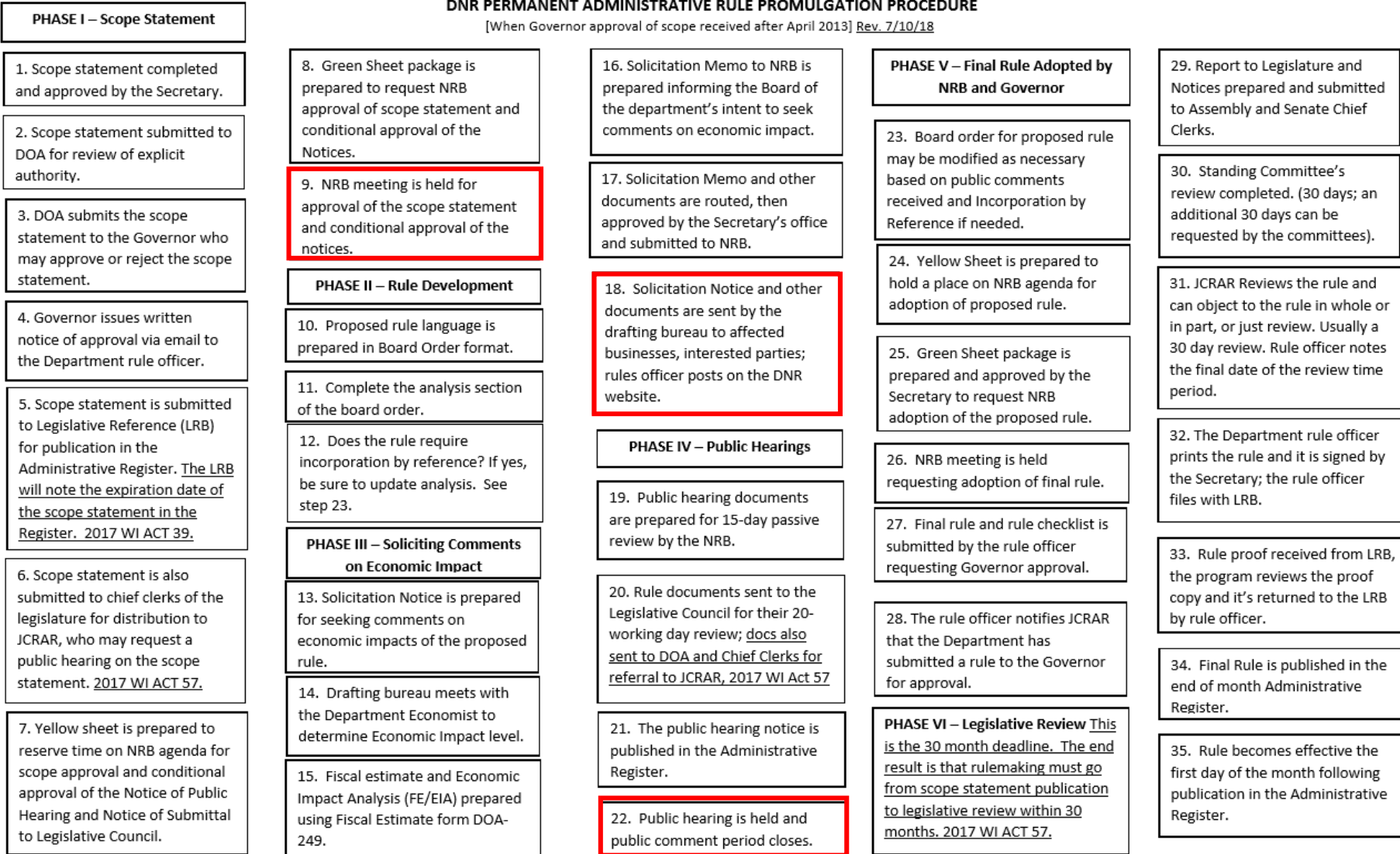
DNR beginning preliminary Stages of drafting a Statement of Scope

Rulemaking Process

Currently here →

DNR PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE PROMULGATION PROCEDURE

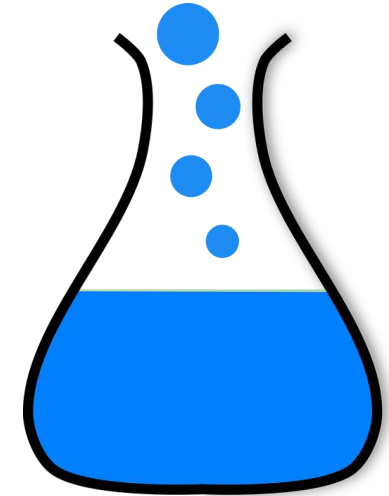
[When Governor approval of scope received after April 2013] [Rev. 7/10/18](#)



Lab Certification



- WI DNR will offer lab certification:
 - 36 PFAS compounds
 - Drinking water, aqueous, and non-aqueous (solid) matrices
 - Target date - July 2019
 - Audits begin August 2019
- Drinking water samples: EPA Method 537.1
- Non-drinking water samples (including solids): Will need to follow WI PFAS SOP
 - Comments on SOP from labs have been received
 - Under consideration, expected to be complete July 2019





First Step: Scoping the Problem

- Problem: Aware of health risks, but lack effluent data
 - Michigan's experience indicates reason to expect elevated PFAS in effluent from industries and POTWs with Pretreatment Programs
- Proposal:
 - Letter to POTWs with Pretreatment Industries and Industries
 - Request single effluent sample for suite of PFAS chemicals (whichever lab is able to return; minimum PFOS and PFOA)
- Goal:
 - Allow DNR and public to understand extent of PFAS contamination
 - Allow DNR to accurately project economic impact of PFAS Standards
 - Allow DNR to prioritize interim efforts to work with permittees to address large PFAS sources



Next Steps

- Where PFAS is found:
 - Also sample biosolids to determine partitioning to biosolids/effluent
 - Develop monitoring plan to identify PFAS sources
 - POTWs: focus on pretreatment industries
 - Industries: review additives, sample internally after different processes
 - Reduce/Eliminate PFAS sources
 - Evaluate impacts
 - Follow-up as needed
- Department:
 - Develop regulatory tools
 - Support PFAS elimination and treatment with available tools
 - Support research on PFAS partitioning in WWTPs and on landspreading

Biosolids

Land application of municipal sludge or biosolids for beneficial reuse is a common practice.

Recycling water, nutrients & energy from homes & businesses...



Cleaned water replenishes natural systems.



Biosolids fertilize farms & turf, recycling nutrients, building soils, sequestering carbon.



Land application of biosolids may be a significant dispersal mechanism of PFAS compounds.



Reducing sources of PFAS to WWTP will result in lower concentrations in biosolids.





Discussion

