

THE WATER SPOT

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH • SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH

CHIEF'S MESSAGE BY JOANNA SETO

Where did 2015 go?

Our Program's efforts at reducing the unliquidated obligations (ULO) of our Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program monopolized our staff's time. Assistance from USEPA contractor Northbridge Environmental Management Consultants helped us weather the storm of USEPA and Office of Inspector General (OIG) scrutiny and enforcement actions, leaving us with an extremely promising and bright outlook heading into the new year. The DWSRF program is emerging from these last four difficult years more streamlined, more automated and more effective at disbursing Federal monies, now and into the future. A huge "mahalo" to our hardworking and professional DWSRF engineers and fiscal staff, Northbridge, and especially our County water supply partners who have all stepped up big time in this ULO reduction effort!

SDWB supported the registration of 33 small water system operators and board members at the 2nd Pacific Water Conference held at the Hawai'i Convention Center in early February. In August, the

SDWB hosted and presented at the statewide 3rd Annual Joint Government Water Conference which focused on "Implementing Hawaii Water Plans" (see presentations on the SDWB website: <http://health.hawaii.gov/sdwb/3rd-annual-joint-government-water-conference/>). Many SDWB personnel also attended the HWWA Conference "Water Security: It's more than you think" in October.

Mahalo to Mr. Lan Yoneda for serving two consecutive terms (7/1/2008-6/30/2015) as a member and chairman of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators. Mr. Glenn Ah Yat was confirmed as member of the Board and started his term on 7/1/2015. Mr. Galen Shigeta was appointed an interim member of the Board on 11/12/2015.

The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) was signed as of 9/28/2015, and scoping meetings for the Statement of Work (SOW) were held in October and November. Our SDWB geologists continue to provide



Joanna Seto, Chief

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JANUARY 2016

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CHIEF'S MESSAGE

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technical support to the Solid & Hazardous Waste Branch Underground Storage Tank Section (SHWB UST) staff.

The Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) were all issued by the Public Water Systems (PWSs) on time! For SFY 2015, no systems were targeted for enforcement with USEPA's Enforcement Targeting Tool, which identifies systems with the most serious uncorrected violations. Congratulations!

Uluakupu Building renovations (our future offices) on Waimano Ridge in Pearl City are on-going. We're planning for some SDWB personnel to move in June 2016, while the rest remain at AAFES until about June 2017. We'll be utilizing and evaluating connections through Skype and other technologies.

SDWB goals for 2016 include:

- ◆ Develop long range strategies for the SDWB, including branch reorganization, expansion of services to our regulated community, improving technical staff capabilities and ensuring continuity of operations.
- ◆ Continue to support our Public Water Systems through our circuit rider program, sanitary surveys, conference presentations, DWSRF funding, and most importantly through our capable, professional and helpful SDWB staff.
- ◆ Continue to submit all Corrective Action Plan (CAP), Public Water Supply Supervision (PWSS), Groundwater 106 (GW106), and DWSRF Work Plan deliverables on schedule.
- ◆ Host the 4th Annual Joint Government Water Conference and provide drinking water technical and regulatory expertise at other water related conferences and workshops.
- ◆ Collaborate with other federal, state, and county government agencies to implement the Hawaii Water Quality Plan and prepare for climate change.
- ◆ Coordinate submittal and approval of Rule primacy packages with USEPA Region 9.

REMINDERS

Revised Total Coliform Rule

If you are planning to pre-qualify Level 2 Assessors, who will be required under the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR), please send in your RTCR Level 2 Assessor Qualification Application by 1/31/2016. You will not be able to pre-qualify an assessor once a Level 2 assessment is required.

The form may be downloaded from the SDWB website at:

<http://health.hawaii.gov/sdwb/revised-total-coliform-rule>.

**WAIKAMOI FLUME REPLACEMENT AWARDED
ASCE HAWAII'S BEST LARGE PROJECT**

The County of Maui Department of Water Supply (DWS) is pleased to announce that its \$11.8 million Waikamoi Flume Replacement project was selected by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Hawaii Section as the recipient of the Best Large Project Award.

The team members for this project include DWS Inspector Joe Duarte; DWS Project Engineer Thomas Ochwat; Structural Engineer Bryan Lum and Principal Vice President Michael Hunnemann, both with KAI Hawaii Structural & Forensic Engineers; and Project Manager Bryan McGary with Global Specialties, Inc.

To be eligible for the ASCE Hawaii Section Best Large Project Award, projects must have been designed or constructed in Hawaii, completed within the last two years, and total construction value for the project must be greater than \$10 million. The judging panel used the following cri-

teria to award projects that demonstrate important and outstanding civil engineering accomplishments:

- ◆ Resourcefulness in identifying and solving design challenges
- ◆ Contributions to the well-being of people and communities
- ◆ Pioneering use of materials and construction methods
- ◆ Innovative or new application of civil engineering technologies
- ◆ Protection of and reducing impacts to natural resources
- ◆ Beneficial effects of the project, including aesthetic value

The team members represented the project and received the award at the 2015 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Awards Banquet held on 9/26/2015 at the Tree Tops Restaurant on Oahu.

Congratulations to the winning team!



The Winning Team: Bryan Lum, Thomas Ochwat, Joe Duarte, and Bryan McGary. Missing: Mike Hunnemann

QUARTERLY CALENDAR

- ◆ **1/11 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **1/11 MRDL Report Due**
Disinfection Systems who complete their own tests
- ◆ **1/11 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests
- ◆ **1/11 Enhanced Coagulation Report Due**
Conventional Treatment Systems
- ◆ **1/11 Chemical Quarterly Monitoring Report Due**
Systems with quarterly monitoring requirements
- ◆ **1/25-27 WTPO Exam**
Kauai, Kona, Maui, Hilo, & Oahu
- ◆ **1/26 DSO Applications Due**
April Examinees
- ◆ **2/2-4 Pacific Water Conference**
Hawaii Convention Center
- ◆ **2/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **2/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests
- ◆ **2/23 Board of Certification Meeting**
SDWB Honolulu, 10:00 am
- ◆ **2/26 DSO Exam Registrations Due**
April Examinees
- ◆ **3/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **3/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests

JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HOLIDAY	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 CT Report Due MRDL Report Due TCR Report Due Enhanced Coagulation Report Due Chemical Quarterly Monitoring Report Due	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 HOLIDAY	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Kauai & Kona WTPO Exam	26 Maui & Hilo WTPO Exam DSO Applications Due	27 Oahu WTPO Exam	28	29	30

FEBRUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Pacific Water Pre-Conference	3 Pacific Water Conference	4 Pacific Water Conference	5	6
7	8	9	10 CT Report Due TCR Report Due	11	12	13
14	15 HOLIDAY	16	17	18	19	20
21	23	23 Board of Certification Meeting	24	25	26 DSO Exam Registrations Due	27
28	29					

MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 CT Report Due TCR Report Due	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 HOLIDAY	26
27	28	29	30	31		

EPA REQUESTS COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED UCMR 4 BY 2/9/2016

What? There's a UCMR 4, you ask? Some of us are still not through with the UCMR 3! The answer is yes. Announcement of the proposed fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) was published in the Federal Register on 12/11/2015 and comments are requested by 2/9/2016. Actual sampling would begin in 2018 and run through 2020.

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires USEPA to monitor for a new set of unregulated contaminants every five years. SDWA limits USEPA to a maximum of 30 contaminants, so how many are we looking for this time? 30. However, not all systems will have to look for all 30, because 10 of the 30 are cyanotoxins, which are a concern in surface water (SW) or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDI) systems. Everyone will need to look for the other 20 contaminants. As with previous UCMRs, all systems serving more than 10,000 persons must sample as required and report. Eight hundred systems nationally serving less than 10,000 persons will be randomly selected for testing at USEPA cost.

Here is the list by classification:

Cyanotoxins (10)

Total Mycrocystins	Microcystin-RR
Mycrocystin-LA	Microcystin-YR
Mycrocystin-LF	Nodularin
Mycrocystin-LR	Anatoxin-A
Mycrocystin-LY	Cylindrospermopsin

Metals (2)

Germanium	Manganese
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Pesticides (9)

Alpha-hexachlorocyclohexane	
Profenofos	Chlorpyrifos
Tebuconazole	Dimethipin
Total Permethrin (cis and trans)	
Ethoprop	Tribufos
Oxyfluorfen	

Brominated Haloacetic Acid (HAA)

Groups (3)

HAA5	HAA6Br	HAA9
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Alcohols (3)

1-butanol	2-methoxyethanol
2-propen-1-ol	

Other Semivolatile Chemicals (3)

Butylated hydroxyanisole	
O-toluidine	Quinoline

Indicators

Total Organic Carbon	Bromide
Temperature	pH

USEPA is requiring SW and GWUDI systems to take pH and temperature readings at the time of sampling. Therefore, you will need to be familiar with the specified methods for taking these samples as well as have the proper equipment (calibration, etc.). It will also be important for water systems to understand the phased approach USEPA is proposing to take with respect to microcystin sampling.

For more information about the proposed UCMR 4, you may view the USEPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>. You may also view the federal register listing at the Government Printing Office website: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-12-11/html/2015-30824.htm>.

USEPA will hold a public stakeholder meeting (webinar) on January 13, 2016. See the above USEPA link for registration.

If you have any concerns about the way the previous UCMRs have been handled, or if you find requirements or proposals that are of concern to you in the UCMR 4, please send comments to: <http://www.regulations.gov> using Docket I.D. EPA-HQ-OW-2015-0218.

DSO PASS RATE JUMPS UP

The overall pass rate for the October Distribution System Operator (DSO) examination increased dramatically from last April's 37% up to 56%. The table to the right provides a breakdown by grade.

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	22	30	73%
2	6	12	50%
3	4	10	40%
4	3	11	27%
Total	35	63	56%

Both Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) and Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) provided DSO Exam Test Preparation classes prior to the exam. The pass rate for those taking the preparation classes was 64%, even higher than the overall October pass rate.

Congratulations to those who passed the exam!

RENEWALS PAST DUE

If your Distribution System Operator (DSO) or Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) certification expired on November 30, 2015, you should no longer be performing the duties of a certified operator in Hawaii until your renewal is approved.

To renew your certification, please submit your renewal form, renewal fee via cashier's check or money order only, and proof of Continuing Education Unit (CEU) course attendance. The renewal fee has doubled since it is past due.

SHIGETA APPOINTED

Galen Shigeta, a Water Plant Operator for the County of Kauai, Department of Water was appointed by Governor David Ige as member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators on an interim basis on November 12, 2015. Galen's appointment is subject to confirmation by the Senate during the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Thank you, Galen for your willingness to serve. Your knowledge and expertise on water system operation will bring valuable insight to the Board.

ABC SWITCHES TO EXAM BOOKLETS

Beginning with the January 2016 Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) exam, the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) will be providing bound exam booklets instead of exam masters for use during the exam. These exam booklets will include the same items normally provided during an examination. The only difference will be that examinees will not be able to disassemble the bound exam booklet.

With this change, all exam registration due dates will be strictly enforced. If an examinee does not submit his/her exam registration and payment by the published due date, no exam booklet will be ordered for the examinee. Please keep this in mind since both the WTPO exam and the Distribution System Operator (DSO) exam are held only twice per year.

HRWA
CEU Training Program
 for
Water System Operators



Contact hrwaoffice@hawaiiirwa.org or 808-315-8925 for registration information.

Course	CEUs	Date	Location	Fee PWS Employee
How to Read & Update As-Builts Manually	0.4	3/8/16	Kona	\$180
How to Read & Update As-Builts Manually	0.4	3/10/16	Kauai	\$180
How to Read & Update As-Builts Manually	0.4	3/15/16	Oahu	\$180
How to Read & Update As-Builts Manually	0.4	3/16/16	Maui	\$180

Maintaining and Achieving RTCR Compliance for Small Systems

How to Perform an Assessment Under the RTCR

Sample Site Evaluation

Source and Treatment Assessment

Distribution System Operations and Maintenance Practices Assessment



*AWWA and RCAP present a **free** online training for operators working on small water systems serving a population under 10,000.*

0.3 CEUs will be awarded upon submittal of certificate of completion.



2016
Pacific Water
Conference



Working Together to Protect Our Water Resources

February 2 ♦ Pre-Conference

February 3-4 ♦ Conference

**Hawaii Convention Center
 Honolulu, HI**

Click [here](#) for more information

Sponsored by AWWA Hawaii Section & HWEA



**HAWAII STATE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
SAFE DRINKING WATER
BRANCH**

919 Ala Moana Blvd.
Room 308
Honolulu, HI
96814-4920

Tel: 808 586-4258

Fax: 808 586-4351

E-mail: SDWB@doh.hawaii.gov



DAVID Y. IGE

Governor of Hawaii

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.

Director of Health

KEITH E. KAWAOKA, D. Env.

Deputy Director for Environmental Health

The mission of the Safe Drinking Water Branch of the Department of Health is to safeguard public health by protecting Hawaii's drinking water sources (surface water and groundwater) from contamination and assure that owners and operators of public water systems provide safe drinking water to the community. This mission is accomplished through the administration of the Safe Drinking Water Program, Underground Injection Control Program (UIC), Groundwater Protection Program (GWPP), and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).

We're on the Web!

<http://health.hawaii.gov/sdwb/>

We provide access to our activities without regard to race, color, national origin (including language), age, sex, religion, or disability. Write or call our Affirmative Action Officer at Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 or at 808 586-4616 (voice) within 180 days of a problem.



THE SDWB WISHES YOU THE BEST IN 2016