



Consortium Updates and Highlights

- NM Legislative Session information related to produced water
- **Consortium Mid-year Review in Albuquerque - May 11th and 12th**
- **Ground Water Protection Council Annual Forum - June 2022**
- **Judges needed for San Juan College Water Symposium on April 23, 2022**
- Expansion of US EPA Risk and Toxicology Research Efforts in 2022
- Consortium receives \$450K in produced water research funding from the BOR
- Treatment Technology Testing Update
- Recent Consortium Presentations, Outreach, and Updates

NM Legislative Session Information

NMSU had \$135 K in legislator-sponsored funding for the Consortium that was passed but vetoed by the Governor. In a Special Session set for early April, the Legislature will meet to overturn the veto. Also a bill with a \$45 M state matching fund pool for schools of higher education in research, including for water was passed. The money can be used to match outside funding, so we are looking at this closely.

Consortium Mid-year Review - May 11-12 in Albuquerque

Because of COVID issues, for the past two years we have held our Mid-year program reviews by Zoom. Due to the expanded efforts in treatment testing, risk and tox research, and coordination of efforts with the EPA and other states, people have asked us to have an in person mid-year review this year. After discussing with NMED and NMSU, an in-person meeting is being planned to include:

- Detailed working group reviews;
- major technical breakout sessions;
- opportunities to talk with treatment technology vendors;
- discussions with and state and local agency representatives; and
- networking opportunities.

We plan to hold this review in Albuquerque on May 11 and 12. This will include evening receptions both days, vendor booths, etc. We may include a hybrid format, with the ability to download presentations and discussions in near-real time.

PLEASE PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDARS!

Ground Water Protection Council Annual Forum - June 21-23 Salt Lake City

Information on the GWPC Annual Conference will in Salt Lake City from June 21-23. There will be a forum track on produced water that might be of interest to Consortium members. Our Consortium is working closely with the GWPC, and are using the risk and toxicology outline from their 2019 Industry Report guide in our risk and toxicology efforts. The GWPC recently teamed with the Produced Water Society to support produced water treatment technology and

research outreach. Their quarterly highlights often list recent research on produced water efforts and activities.

If you are interested in submitting an abstract, the deadline is March 31, and they can be submitted through the following link: <https://www.gwpc.org/events/upcoming/annual-conference/>

Judges needed for San Juan College Water Symposium on April 23, 2022

The Navajo Tech-New Mexico Tech Navajo Nation Water Purification Project (N4WPP) invite you to participate in the 2022 Water Symposium, to be held **April 23, 2022** at Farmington High School where Four Corners area high school students are invited to help solve some of the most important water challenges in New Mexico and across the Navajo Nation.

The San Juan College School of Energy is looking for volunteers from our Consortium to judge at the event. If you or someone in your organization is interested in being a judge or a mentor to a high school team, please fill out the form provided at the following link:

<https://www.nmt.edu/outreach/media/water-symposium.php> Contact Laila Sturgis, Laila.Sturgis@nmt.edu, with any questions and to confirm your participation.

Expansion of Risk and Toxicology Research Efforts with US EPA in 2022

The Consortium has been contacted by the US EPA to again support their research program on produced water treatment and risk and toxicology impacts. Like last year the Consortium has agreed to help provide several sets of raw and treated produced water samples to evaluate the changes in relative human and environmental health and safety. The Consortium has started discussions with the US EPA regional and national research labs to begin this effort in the June-July timeframe. The risk and toxicology data on the samples of raw and treated water we sent them last year is close to being released by EPA. As we get that information we will be providing it to the Consortium members.

Consortium Receives \$450K in Produced Water Research Funding from the BOR

Dr. Pei Xu last week received \$450K in research funding from the BOR on laboratory-scale testing of thermal membrane distillation. It will be used to support the Consortium in the evaluation of thermal treatment technology in support of fit-for-purpose treatment and reuse of produced water. The evaluations will help us better understand carryover in thermal treatment processes and help identify pre-treatment, treatment, or post-treatment options to better manage distillate quality.

Treatment Technology Testing Update

Currently we have two technologies in testing at BGNDRF. These are an innovative pretreatment membrane technology from ZwitterCo, and a thermal treatment technology from Katz Industries. Both technologies are undergoing extensive sampling and analysis.

Kanalis resources also completed a short second treatment evaluation of their produced water from near Cuba, New Mexico. In this new study they utilized a seawater RO membrane instead of a more common brackish water RO membrane to get even better boron removal.

We have also received some preliminary reports of treatment studies conducted in 2021. As those reports are reviewed and approved by the Consortium Project evaluation teams we will be making them available to the Consortium members and the public.

Presentations and Outreach

Consortium management gave presentations on our efforts and progress at the following:

- Produced Water Society Annual Meeting - Houston Feb 8
- Permian Basin Energy and Mining Meeting - Midland Feb 22
- UTPB Energy Water Symposium - Midland Feb 23
- Water Reuse Association Symposium - San Antonio - March 8
- TX Produced Water Consortium - March 9

All these presentations will be put on the NMPWRC web site.

Web-site Transition Complete

All NMSU web-sites have been transitioned to a new platform, including ours. NMSU has provided a dedicated web manager to support the Consortium and Deborah Dixon has been working with her to accurately transition all our web information and functionality to the new platform. This has been slow, but has been completed.

Website access remains <https://nmpwrc.nmsu.edu>. Or you can google NMPWRC and get a link that will take you directly to the web site.

2022 Working Group Meeting Schedules

If you are interested in participating Working Group please let Mike Hightower know and we will get you on the zoom call list. Any member of the Consortium can participate in as many Working Groups as they wish to follow.

- **Risk and Toxicology Working Group**
 - Monday - 9-10 am MT (10 -11 am CT) , Biweekly
- **Public Education and Outreach Working Group**
 - First Monday of the month. 3:30 - 4:30 pm MT (4:30 - 5:30 pm CT)
- **Treatment Technology and Evaluation Working Group**
 - First Tuesday of the month, 9-10 am MT (10-11 am CT)
- **Socio-economic Environmental CBA Working Group**
 - First Wednesday of the month, 10-11 am MT (11-12 noon CT)
- **Produced Water Data and Portal Working Group**
 - First Thursday of the month, 9-10 am MT (10-11 am CT)
- **Infrastructure and Scenario Planning Working Group**
 - Second Tuesday of the month, 9-10 am MT (10-11 am CT)

Coordination with other States and Consortia

The NMPWRC is currently coordinating with several other states including, TX, OK, CA, PA, WY, CO, AZ, and KS, with discussions underway with UT. The TX Produced Water Consortium is especially interested in participation from NM Consortium members. We have given four presentations to the TX Consortium on our efforts and others are scheduled.

Through 2022 we will continue to increase interactions with other states to try and identify collaborative efforts and activities that support a consistent national effort on fit-for-purpose treatment and reuse of produced water.