



CONSORTIUM NEWS NOTES – March 10, 2020

Consortium Outreach Update

The Consortium outreach efforts are continuing. Meetings and conferences we have recently supported include:

- **Produced Water Society Conference** in Houston **FEBRUARY 11-13**. 4 different presentations (technical and overview by NMSU)
- **Permian Basin Water in Energy Conference** in Midland **FEBRUARY 19-21**. Two presentations, one a keynote overview by NMSU Chancellor Dr. Dan Arvizu, and one on university collaboration models for industry/regulatory agencies.
- **Water Reuse Foundation** desalination roadmap in Las Vegas **FEBRUARY 26, 2020**. Focused on industrial waste water, including produced water, research needs.
- **Multi-state Salinity Coalition** on **FEBRUARY 27-28, 2020** in Las Vegas. Participated in a panel on desalination and industrial water reuse which included produced water.
- Presented on the Consortium at a Permian Basin Producers meeting attended by about 40 producers in Midland on **February 27, 2020**.

EPA National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) Announcement and NMPWRC

- The US EPA announced on **FEBRUARY 27, 2020**, in Washington DC their new National [Water Reuse Action Plan](#), which addresses water reuse initiatives in five major sectors; municipal water reuse, agricultural water reuse, electric power cooling water reuse, produced water reuse, and industrial waste water reuse.
- Implementation of the New Mexico Produced Water Research Consortium is Action 2.4.2 in the “Technology Development and Validation” strategic theme area. Interested collaborators include the GWPC, Water Environment Federation, Gulf Coast Authority and WaterReuse Association. The [interactive online platform](#) includes a description of the NMPWRC and 15 milestones.

TSC - Working Group Conference calls March 2 and 3, 2020

- Conf. calls were held for Water Quality, Infrastructure Engineering, and Risk and Toxicology on Monday, March 2nd, and Tuesday, March 3rd for Water Quantity, Treatment, and Applications.
- Overall, between 50% - 70% of the working group members participated in each working group meeting.
- Working group summary minutes and action items will be sent out in the next week.
- Each working group identified 3-4 actions and data collection efforts to pursue during March and 3-4 continuation efforts for April. These efforts will be summarized and presented at the next TSC meeting in April.
- Overall, good discussions and action items were identified by each group, with all efforts focused on having preliminary discussion materials available by mid-summer to support interactions and review by the GAB, and possible presentations during the summer to legislative interim committees.

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- The next Conference calls for each of the working groups will be scheduled for the first week of April.

Next TSC Meeting – Tentatively Tuesday, April 21, 2020 – Las Cruces

The next TSC meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st at NMSU's Corbett Center. Free parking is available by going online and getting a visitor's parking pass that allows you to park in all faculty and employee lots. Corbet Center is on the east end of Campus, near the Pan American Center. This date was selected to avoid travel issues around Income Tax Day and Friday April 17th. The meeting will focus on the results from each working group's data and analysis efforts, and discussion of identified issues and directions for the next several months. It will also include updates from NMED and EPA.

The NMPWRC will be watching closely actions taken by companies and government agencies regarding COVID-19 related travel restrictions. Consortium management anticipates deciding by March 20, 2020 about whether to continue with this meeting, convert to a conference call (likely given the current trends), or postpone to a later date.

Upcoming Government Advisory Board Conference Call Mid-April

The Consortium management has worked closely with the NMED to plan and coordinate TSC efforts with the GAB. NMSU is currently reviewing the draft GAB Charter for adoption. GAB members should expect to hear soon about a GAB conference call in April. The focus of the conference call will be to welcome a few new GAB members, update the GAB on action items from the GAB meeting on January 15, as well as progress by the TSC working groups.

Update on Membership Agreements

As mentioned in the February News Notes, NMSU has agreed to try and make changes to the Membership Agreement to accommodate each member, and though we are seeing many consistent agreement modification requests, several are beginning to diverge by sector, which could make consortium management more arduous.

Therefore, NMSU's General Counsel has organized a working group to develop a less complex and more streamlined agreement for year two and beyond. This is being led by Roy Collins, NMSU's General Counsel. The first conference call of this group was held **March 10, 2020**. We are focused on having all 2020 membership agreements fully executed by early April 2020.

Meeting with the Ground Water Protection Council - July 2020 in Albuquerque

The GWPC has requested that they hold a joint produced water meeting with the NMPWRC in Albuquerque, on or around July 13th. GWPC would bring about 20 oil and gas companies and about 20 state regulatory agencies to discuss produced water use and reuse efforts with participants from the US EPA and the NMPWRC.

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This would coincide with our planned mid-year meeting proposed in our January 2020 meeting. Both the GWPC and the Consortium management believe a joint/coordinated set of meetings would benefit both groups. This approach of joint meetings aligns well with implementation of the WRAP Action Item 2.4.2, mentioned above. The GWPC has agreed to coordinate the logistics of the conference venue, meeting room rental and scheduling, and coordinating hotel accommodation rates.

We will provide additional information as the planning and coordination are finalized in April.