

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and sponsoring organizations along the Gulf Coast are hosting a planning workshop entitled *Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Options for the Gulf Coast Region: Technologies and Management Strategies*.

A preliminary list of confirmed and pending* workshop sponsors includes:

- Alabama Department of Environmental Management*
- Alabama Department of Public Health
- Gulf Regional Planning Commission
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality*
- Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals*
- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Regional Utility Board
- Mississippi State Department of Health*
- U.S. EPA Gulf of Mexico Program Office
- U.S. EPA Office of Wastewater Management
- U.S. EPA Region 4 – Atlanta Office
- U.S. EPA Region 6 – Dallas Office

The workshop will be held December 5th and 6th at the Imperial Palace Hotel in the Back Bay area of Biloxi, Mississippi. Invited participants will include local, state, and federal agency personnel; wastewater planning and design professionals from the private sector; and wastewater infrastructure interests from throughout the Gulf Region and beyond.

Why management forums?

Decentralized wastewater systems have been demonstrated to be cost effective, reliable, long term wastewater solutions to meet public health and water quality goals. Decentralized wastewater systems also offer potential cost savings, opportunity for water reuse, and an infrastructure approach that can provide cities and counties with flexibility in managing growth and development.

What will be covered?

This workshop is intended to support intensive planning efforts now underway to provide wastewater services to areas impacted by the 2005 hurricanes. More than \$200 million is being committed by federal, state, and local entities for new wastewater infrastructure in the Gulf Region. Consideration of the full range of treatment options will be essential for ensuring effective and efficient wastewater management.

Logistics

Registration begins at 8:30 am on Tuesday, December 5th, with sessions starting at 9:00 am. There is no charge for attending the workshop. For more information on the agenda, please contact Barry Tonnig at (859) 499-0712 or barry.tonnig@tetratech-fix.com.

Workshop Agenda

Tuesday

- Welcome – Purpose and Need for Workshop
- Overview of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Technologies
- System Management: Ensuring Proper Operation & Maintenance
- Case Study: Mobile Bay Treatment and Soil Infiltration Facility
- Case Study: Municipal Wastewater Utility Using a Decentralized Approach
- Alabama Public Health Department: Program Development and System Management

Wednesday

- Mississippi DEQ and DOH: Regulatory and Permitting Issues
- Permitting Approaches for System Discharges to Surface Waters
- Funding for Decentralized Systems and Management Programs
- Presentations during the workshop will focus on providing wastewater treatment to areas that are:
 - Beyond the service area of centralized sewage treatment plants
 - Served by plants that are at or over capacity
 - Subject to regulatory restrictions regarding new sewer plant hookups
 - Too widely dispersed to justify the cost of extending sewage collection lines

Partial List of Speakers:

- Phil Bass, U.S. EPA Gulf of Mexico Program Office
- Jimmy Coles, Alabama Department of Health
- Michael Hines, Southeast Environmental Engineering
- Hon. A.J. Holloway, Mayor, Biloxi, MS
- Jim Kreisl, U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development (retired)
- Dennis McIntyre, Director of Utilities, Newnan, GA
- Kevin White, PhD, University of South Alabama
- TBA, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
- TBA, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
- TBA, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- TBA, Mississippi Department of Health

Management



Gulf Coast Workshop

Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Options: Technologies and Management Strategies

Workshop Agenda

December 5 – 6, 2006

Imperial Palace Hotel

Biloxi, Mississippi

Tuesday December 5th Workshop Sessions

8:00 am	Registration	<i>Pre-Registered & Walk-Ins</i>
8:30 am	Purpose of Workshop and Introductions Welcome from our Local Host, the City of Biloxi EPA Overview on Wastewater Management	<i>Phil Bass, US EPA GMPO Hon. A.J. Holloway, Mayor of Biloxi Bob Freeman, US EPA Region 4</i>
9:00 am	Centralized and Decentralized Treatment Historical Perspectives and the New Paradigm Treatment System Technologies and Performance The Need for Management and the US EPA Guidelines	<i>Jim Kreissl, Tetra Tech US EPA ORD (retired)</i>
10:00 am	Break	
10:15 am	Decentralized Wastewater Mgmt. in South Alabama Cluster System Treatment in a Municipal Setting Treatment System Performance and Management	<i>Kevin White, Prof. of Engineering University of South Alabama; Donnie Cunningham, S AL Utilities</i>
11:20 am	Municipal Management of Decentralized Systems Integrating Centralized and Decentralized Treatment Treatment Technologies and Management Approaches Special Issues for Municipal Utility Managers	<i>Dennis McIntyre, Director Newnan (GA) Utilities</i>
12:00 noon	Lunch (On Your Own)	
1:00 pm	Private Wastewater Utilities The Growth of Private Sector Wastewater Utilities Cluster System Design and Management Issues	<i>Mike Hines, MS, PE SE Environmental Engineering</i>
1:45 pm	Decentralized Wastewater Mgmt. in the States Developing Appropriate State Management Programs Ensuring Proper System Operation & Maintenance	<i>Jimmy Coles, Director Alabama Dept. of Public Health</i>
2:30 pm	Break	
2:45 pm	Regulating Public and Private Decentralized Utilities Coordinating Design, Construction and Long-Term O&M Integrating Private Utilities Into the Regulatory Program	<i>Ron Graham, TN Regulatory Authority</i>
3:30 pm	Wastewater Discharges to Natural Wetlands Issues and Opportunities	<i>Bob Bastian, US EPA OWM HQ John Day, Prof. of Ecology, LSU</i>
4:30 pm	Discussion and Adjournment	

Wednesday, December 6th Workshop Sessions

8:30 am	Recap and Questions from First Day Question/Answer/Comment Session	Barry Tinning, Tetra Tech Facilitator
8:45 am	System Permitting and Regulation in Mississippi Cluster System Design and Installation Issues Permitting for Surface-Discharging Systems	TBA, MS DEQ & DOH
9:30 am	Decentralized Wastewater Systems in Louisiana Treatment Technologies and Management Permitting and Management of Cluster Systems	Karen Irion, LA DHH Julie Fourier, LA DHH Chris Piehler, LA DEQ
10:15 am	Break	
10:30 am	Decentralized Systems in a Watershed Approach Selecting and Managing Decentralized Systems Developing and Operating a Level 5 RME	David Casaletto, Director Table Rock Lake Water Quality
11:15 am	Funding for System Design and Construction Dealing With Local & Regional Issues Coordinating With Key Resource Agencies	MS DEQ SRF Program Staff Bettye Oliver, USDA Rural Utilities
12:00 noon	Workshop Adjourns	