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# 208 bulletin

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NUMBER 6

WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

JANUARY 31, 1976

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## State Role Defined

Final regulations for the preparation of State and designated areawide water quality management plans (40 CFR 130 and 131) and regulations for obtaining grants for planning (40 CFR Parts 35 Subpart A) were published in the Federal Register on November 28, 1975.

These regulations require that the States assume responsibility for preparation of water quality management plans for the entire State--directly in nondesignated areas and indirectly in designated areas through coordination with areawide agencies.

State involvement includes review and approval of grant applications, work plans, and progress reports. A preadoption review of the areawide plan by the State is also required. Frequent communication between State and designated areawide planning agencies should result in water quality management plans which both achieve the goals of the areawide agency and fulfill the State responsibility to prepare an approvable statewide plan.

The regulations allow the State to perform certain basic planning functions for the areawide agency. These functions include water quality standards revision, determination of maximum daily waste loads, and allocation of waste loads. The State may also choose to plan for control of non-point sources and residual wastes on a statewide basis. The areawide agency is expected to participate in these functions in cases where it has not been delegated full responsibility for them by the State.

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Services  
Available

Storet  
Computerized  
Water  
Quality  
Data

Obtaining all available water quality data for a 208 area is often a painstaking and time-consuming task, especially when several different agencies have been involved in monitoring. EPA's computerized STORET system can be of great assistance in many 208 areas, since States as well as numerous Federal and other agencies have been contributing data to STORET for up to 12 years.

The EPA Regions and States have set up procedures to help 208 agencies obtain data from STORET. EPA headquarters is setting up a simple procedure by which 208 agencies can retrieve relevant data available in STORET. A letter will soon be sent to each 208 agency describing the necessary steps.

208 agencies may now use the EPA STORET system by establishing direct contracts with Optimum Systems, Inc., an EPA computer time sharing contractor.

The Regional Offices will base their approval of contracts on amount and frequency of data needs and the added training requirements that would be called for by the new STORET users.

For more information call the 208 Coordinator in your Regional Office.

For those agencies interested in more advanced computer techniques, two alternatives are available: (1) STORET can provide data in a standard magnetic tape format for use on any IBM-compatible computer, and (2) arrangements can be made for obtaining a direct contract with EPA's computer services vendor, Optimum Systems, Inc. to use some of the more sophisticated STORET programs to manipulate and analyze data.

Questions about these arrangements, or further questions about STORET, can be addressed to the STORET User Assistance Section (202)426-7792, EPA (WH-554), Washington, D.C. 20460.

ASCS  
Agricultural  
Data  
Relevant to  
208

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) has relevant information for the control of non-point pollution, and is willing to share it. That information includes crop history data, aerial photography, data on installation of conservation and pollution control measures, and a cost-sharing program for encouraging installation and pollution control measures, and a cost-sharing program for encouraging installation of non-point pollution control measures.

ASCS will be conferring with State and designated agency officials, offering to serve on advisory committees, furnishing lists of available aerial photography, making known the names and addresses of ASCS State and county office personnel, and considering feasible management practices for the control of non-point pollution from farm lands.

EPIC  
Aerial  
Photography  
and Infrared  
Scanning

Some agencies are planning to use aerial photography and infrared scanning to aid in the identification of land uses, pollution sources, and receiving water effects. EPA has an Environmental Photographic Interpretation Center in Warrenton, Va., which is operated through the Office of Research and Development and has the capability to assist agencies and States. The Center has access to a variety of existing imagery and has volunteered to assist the planning efforts by running an inventory of existing photographs upon request. A polygon of the area defined by latitude and longitude coordinates should be provided for this purpose. It is possible that three or four day seminars could be held on photographic interpretation or that overflights can be coordinated with intensive water quality monitoring programs if sufficient interest is indicated.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Gordon Howard, EPA  
P. O. Box 1587  
Vints Hills Farm Station  
Warrenton, VA. 22186  
(703)557-3110

NCIC  
Cartographic  
Maps

The National Cartographic Information Center will inform every 208 agency, upon request, of all available cartographic maps. NCIC has on file more than 5 million frames of pictures of the earth. This Center was established so that users can make one phone call or write one letter to obtain all available cartographic data.

EPA and NCIC are working together to establish a policy regarding 208 agency production of new cartographic maps and their inclusion in NCIC files.

For further information, contact:

NCIC  
U. S. Geological Survey  
507 National Center  
Reston, VA. 22092  
(703)860-6187

Public  
Participation

Articles and information about public participation are going to be a regular feature in the 208 Bulletin. Your contributions are needed. Tell us what's being done in your area or State, what help you would like, what information you need, what ideas you have, what things have worked and what haven't. Send copies of your newsletter and comments to:

208 Bulletin  
EPA Areawide Management Branch (WH-554)  
WSME Rm. 811  
401 M St., S. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20460

Don't forget citizens and local elected and non-elected officials when you're developing work plans. While opportunity exists to get them involved later, they should also be encouraged to participate in this first step, when the basic study direction is set and problems are identified.

Aquarius  
Project



The Pike's Peak Area Council of Governments has named its 208 program the Aquarius Project, after the astrological water bearer. An introductory pamphlet produced by the project informs citizens about Section 208, stressing its intent to achieve planning by local governments. Citizens are given specific information about how to become involved, and emphasis is placed upon the need for diverse elements to work together if complex water pollution problems are to be solved.

Publications  
Handbooks

EPA recently published the "Revised Grant Application and Work Plan Handbook." The book goes beyond initial work plan preparation guidance and includes assistance in fulfilling other grant application requirements for designated areawide agencies.

Another handbook recently published is the "State Continuing Planning Process Handbook." Several key decisions which States must make in revising their continuing planning process under the new regulations are covered.

For copies, write to your Regional EPA office.

Reports

A two volume set of companion reports entitled Resource Recovery Information for Municipal Officials is being prepared for publication. The reports present an overview of institutional, administrative, and technical solutions for recovery of useful elements from municipal solid wastes through a central processing facility and/or source separation approach.

Volume I will be ready for dissemination during the first week of March. Please address all requests to:

US EPA  
Attn: D. Neptune WH-554  
Water Planning Division  
401 M St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

## Training Programs

The EPA National Training Center in Cincinnati sponsored a Water Quality Monitoring course for 208 personnel during the week of December 8-12. The course was intended to support the administration of data programs, and covered the principles of sampling programs, sampling methods, laboratory requirements, and data presentation. In addition, there were sessions on EPA's data quality assurance program remote sensing, modeling and legal considerations. Additional courses will be offered if there is a future demand.

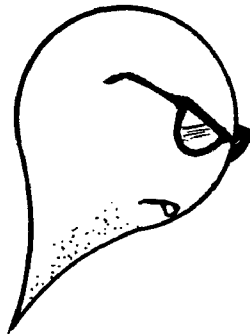
A series of short courses is being planned for selected planners and other technical specialists in State and areawide agencies, local officials, and EPA Regional personnel. These two-day seminars will cover basic concepts and skills needed to design and conduct a public participation program consistent with requirements of PL 92-500 and EPA regulations. Twelve sessions will be held in nine Regional cities this spring. Further information on this subject will be coming from the Regional Offices.

## 208 Characters

The New Castle County, Delaware, 208 Agency has three characters who appear regularly in their newsletter. Besides providing messages about pollution, Pete, Polly, and Sludge provide a graphic contrast to the necessary technical data, and liven up the newsletter.

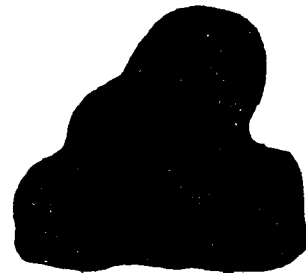


POLLY PURE is a crystalclear and clean drop of water. She is going to be pointing out to you some of the excellent water resources we have in New Castle County. Our Program is designed to help Polly have a good life and home in New Castle County and protect her from...



PETE POLLUTION. This dirty little drop can be found just about anywhere in New Castle County. Our Program will be pointing out particular areas where Pete's around and the problems that he creates.

**SLUDGE SAYS:**



**"WITH AFFLUENCE  
COMES EFFLUENCE"**