



Water Quality Standards  
Stakeholder Meeting #2

May 21, 2019, 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Linton Room (4011)

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introduction ..... Andrew Edwards  
Twenty three people attended the meeting, including eight Department staff and fifteen stakeholders.
  
2. 2019 Triennial Review Update ..... Andrew Edwards
  - A. Discussion began related to the 2019 Triennial Review timeline. The following scheduled dates were noted:
    - (1) Notice of Drafting February 22, 2019
    - (2) Notice of Proposed Regulation by August 2019
    - (3) NPR followed by additional stakeholder meeting in September 2019
    - (4) Notice of Final Regulation by November 2019
    - (5) NFR to Legislature by January 2020
  
  - B. All of the stakeholder comments that had already been submitted were highlighted. Those comments include:
    - (1) Narrative stream flow standards for aquatic life and recreation uses
    - (2) Numeric nutrient criteria for streams and estuaries
    - (3) Bacteria limits: monthly/weekly geometric mean instead of daily max
    - (4) Case specific mixing zones where mercury impairment is based on fish consumption advisories
    - (5) Defer or waive reporting requirements during natural disasters
    - (6) Clarification to numeric nutrient criteria for lakes to seasonal geometric means

(7) Human health criteria update

C. A brief review of the comments and discussion from the April stakeholder meeting followed. The topics highlighted include:

- (1) Submitting public comments
- (2) Narrative flow standards
- (3) Water Quality Standards Rule
- (4) Notice of Proposed Regulation Formatting
- (5) Numeric Nutrient Criteria (schedule/adoption plan)
- (6) Human Health Criteria
- (7) State Rulemaking Process
- (8) Reclassifications
- (9) Natural Disasters
- (10) Stakeholder Involvement

3. Questions and Comments .....Stakeholders

A. Following the 2019 Triennial Review Update discussion was opened to stakeholders for questions and comments. The following topics were discussed:

- (1) Numeric Nutrient Criteria - Department staff provided an update on the development of numeric nutrient criteria for estuaries highlighting the work that has been ongoing in the Winyah Bay, Charleston Harbor, and Edisto Island watersheds. The Department is in the process of shifting resources to focus on the development of site specific nutrient criteria for the Catawba watershed.
- (2) Comment Period - A question was raised regarding the timeline for the public comment period, which will occur following the Notice of Proposed Regulation. The timeline was clarified that the Department intends to have the Notice of Proposed Regulation available in August 2019. A public comment period will begin when the Notice of Proposed Regulation is published in the State Register, and the comment period will last for thirty days. The Department also intends to host another public stakeholder meeting near the end of the comment period in September 2019.

- (3) Narrative Flow Standards - The status of narrative flow standards was discussed. The Department clarified the intent to propose narrative flow standards during the 2019 Triennial Review.