

Technical Advisory Committee February 2020



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Bureau of Watershed Management



NR 151 Scope Statement

December 2019

Natural Resources Board approved scope and public hearing authorization

Purpose of revising NR 151

To establish targeted agricultural nonpoint source performance standards that:

- Reduce nitrate pollution in areas of the state with highly permeable soils that are susceptible to groundwater contamination (sensitive areas)
- Achieve compliance with the nitrate groundwater standards



Rule Timeline

Spring – Fall 2020

- Preparation of draft rule

Winter – Spring 2021

- Economic Impact Analysis out for public comment

Summer 2021

- Public hearings and comment period

Summer – Fall 2021

- NRB adoption and Governor approval

Winter 2021-2022

- Legislative review / hearings



TAC Timeline

Spring – Fall 2020

- Provide technical input to DNR for proposed changes to NR 151

Scheduled Meetings

- February – July 2020
- Additional meetings to be determined
- Located at DATCP in Madison and UW-Stevens Point



The TAC's Role

Purpose

Recommend targeted agricultural performance standards to achieve compliance with the nitrate groundwater standards

Tasks

1. Provide technical input on defining sensitive areas
2. Recommend agricultural practices in defined sensitive areas
3. Review a third-party economic analysis of recommendations



The Issue Before the TAC

Groundwater and agriculture are important to Wisconsin

- Two in three people get their drinking water from groundwater
- An estimated 10% of all private wells and about 300 public water systems exceed the health standard for nitrate
- Wisconsin agriculture is very diverse, generating \$104.8 billion in revenue
- A large majority of nitrate in groundwater is due to agriculture

There is a larger question: How does Wisconsin ensure safe drinking water and continued support for agriculture?

The issue before the TAC is the proposed nitrate targeted performance standard. The intent is that input from the TAC will provide answers to the larger question.



Responsibilities

DNR

- Develop and facilitate meetings to achieve the TAC's purpose
- Provide access to relevant information and technical expertise
- Frame discussions by presenting focused questions and potential rule concepts to the TAC

TAC

- Participate in meetings
- Share technical expertise
- Consider viewpoints of fellow TAC members



Meeting Logistics

- These are working meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee
- Meetings are noticed and the public may attend
- Agendas, materials, notes, and presentations will be posted on the DNR website:
<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nonpoint/nr151nitrate.html>
- Meeting materials will be emailed to TAC members, unless a member requests to receive by mail
- TAC members may send substitutes when not able to attend meetings

Questions?





DNR Contact Info

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