

Act 76 Subgroup Newsletter 9

To be released early November, covering October 2022 content

This newsletter is intended to provide updates, information, and resources on Act 76 Subgroups. If you would like to be removed from the subgroup newsletter listserv, wish to add a recipient, or have any questions, please email Jay Mullen at Jay.Mullen@partner.vermont.gov

Newsletter Content: (click to jump to sections): covers subgroup meetings that occurred in October 2022.

- [Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6 Guidance](#)
 - [Data Management and Reporting](#)
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Chapter (2,3,4) and 6 Guidance

- **Team Lead Contacts:** [Chris Rottler](#), [Ethan Swift](#), [Ben Copans](#)
- **Subgroup Purpose:** Review draft chapters of CWSP guidance as chapter language is available.
- **Meeting Summary:**
 - Date: October 21st
 - Summary:
 - WID and the external workgroup member discussed project prioritization elements of the draft Chapter 6 - "Clean Water Projects" for external partner and stakeholder review (i.e., the A76 Guidance Workgroup).
 - **Chapter 6 – External Workgroup - Meeting Outline (10-21-22)**
 - Solicitation
 - Terminology
 - Weighting
 - Ranking
 - Prioritization
 - Selection
 - Prioritization Framework
 - Project Scoring
 - Status of Tools
 - Discussion of the type and number of projects in the project queue for some CWSPs
- **Next Meeting:**
 - Date: November 4th
 - Agenda: Co-benefits and additional project scoring.

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Data Management and Reporting

- **Team Lead Contacts:** [Helen Carr](#) and [Claire Madden](#)
- **Subgroup Purpose:** Review clean water project data management (funding, performance measures, phosphorus reductions, and reporting).
- **Meeting Summary:** no meeting this month.
- **Next Meeting:**
 - Date: expected in mid-November, invite and agenda to be sent out.
 - Agenda: review Data Management Guidance edits, project data tracking tool.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

- **Team Lead Contacts:** [Helen Carr](#) and [Jill Sarazen](#)
- **Subgroup Purpose:** To review Operation and Maintenance manual, develop training structure and data management for Operation and Maintenance Verification.
- **Meeting Summary:**
 - Date: October 4th
 - Summary:
 - Site access agreement discussion
 - A copy of the Site Access Agreement Template was shared with the group for feedback.
 - The subgroup shared questions and concerns about the document such as: “can it be modified? If so, how?”, “will there be more instructions to go along with this template?”, “how do easements get recorded in the land record?”, “what are the differences between the license and easement options?”, “how does the term limit or renewal work?”
 - DEC conferred internally to answer these questions and responses were sent out to the subgroup in a note document.
 - DEC working to finalize this document for use very soon.
 - Verification and training update
 - We are working on completing verification checklists for assessing projects in the field. Plan to pilot training for interested external parties in the spring.
 - Next time: Discuss O&M guidance document.
- **Next Meeting:**
 - Date: TBD
 - Agenda: Discuss O&M guidance document and timeline

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Resources, Trainings and Other News

- The [Clean Water Board](#) is requesting public input on its [draft State Fiscal Year 2024 Clean Water Budget](#), October 24 – November 22, 2022. Weigh in by completing this brief [online questionnaire](#) and/or attend the [November 2, 2022 Public Hearing](#). Prior to commenting, the public is invited and encouraged to learn more about Vermont's clean water funding, the annual budget process, and the proposed State Fiscal Year 2024 Clean Water Budget by viewing this [online presentation](#) by state agencies' staff and/or scrolling through this interactive [Story Map](#). Visit the [Clean Water Board webpage](#) for more details and resources.
- All Formula Grants to CWSPs have been signed! Full steam ahead!