

# **EPA Pretreatment Updates**

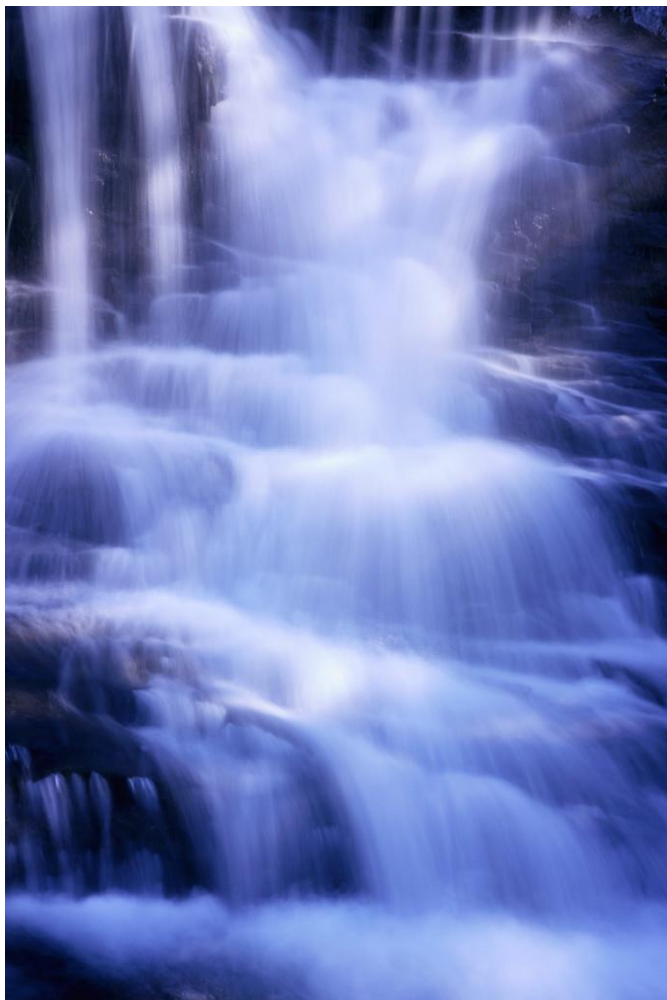


*Amelia Whitson, EPA Region 9 Pretreatment Coordinator*

*BACWA Pretreatment Committee Meeting*

*September 30, 2021*

# EPA Updates



- Electronic Reporting
- Guidance Manual Updates
- RCRA Rule for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals
- CWA Methods Update Rule
- Effluent Limitation Guidelines Planning
- Reuse and Resource Recovery

# NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule

- Final rule effective December 21, 2015 (5-year phase-in for pretreatment reporting)
- Replaces much paper-based NPDES reporting with electronic reporting. Does not add additional reporting requirements on permittees.



EPA Region 9 Annual Pretreatment Reports (2009)

# NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule

- Pretreatment reporting
  - Covers submittals of:
    - Annual Pretreatment Reports (POTW to Approval Authority)
    - Semi-annual Industrial User Compliance Reports discharging to POTWs without approved pretreatment programs (IU to Approval Authority)
  - Must begin submitting these reports electronically starting December 21, \*2025\* (deadline extended in Sep 2020)



# NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule



Lead for this technical workgroup is  
**Carey Johnston**  
(Office of Compliance)

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- EPA-State Pretreatment E-Reporting Technical Workgroup kicked off April 2017
- [Implementation Technical Paper, 27 July 2018](#)
  - Define the reference values, business rules, and other data standards
  - Discuss options for data access so that they are useful for program management.
  - Make recommendations for future IT development
- Next steps
  - Computer Programming (as necessary)
  - Beta Testing of Forms
  - Implementation

# Receiving Electronic Reports from IUs

- EPA published an **updated** guidance document in May 2018 on POTW Pretreatment Programs and Electronic Reporting
- Lays out two-step process for (1) seeking CROMERR approval and then (2) modifying your approved pretreatment program to accept IU reports electronically in place of paper copies

[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-05/documents/cromerr\\_potw\\_1.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-05/documents/cromerr_potw_1.pdf)



# Guidance Manual Updates

- IU Inspection and Sampling Manual for POTWs – published January 2017
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- Procedures Manual for Reviewing a POTW Pretreatment Program Submission
- Guidance Manual for POTW Pretreatment Program Development
- Guidance for Developing Control Authority Enforcement Response Plans
- Completion of Appendices to IU Permitting Manual
- Guidance Manual for Control of Wastes Hauled to POTWs





# RCRA Rule: Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals

- Final Rule signed December 11, 2018
- Prohibits healthcare facilities from sewerage hazardous waste pharmaceuticals
- FAQs available on website

<https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/final-rule-management-standards-hazardous-waste-pharmaceuticals-and-amendment-p075>





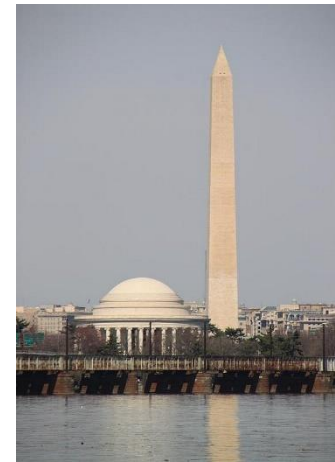


# Clean Water Act Methods Update Rule

- Methods Update Rule finalized, effective July 19, 2021
- Proposed changes include:
  - Revised EPA methods
  - New or revised methods published by voluntary consensus bodies, such as ASTM International and the *Standard Methods* Committee
  - New or updated methods developed by USGS
  - Methods reviewed under the Alternate Test Procedures program
  - Minor changes to quality assurance and quality control within individual methods

<https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/methods-update-rule-2021>

# Effluent Limitations Guidelines (ELG) Planning



<https://www.epa.gov/eg/effluent-guidelines-plan>

- Preliminary Plan 15 published, comments due Oct 14, 2021

Announces the following actions:

- Beginning of a rulemaking to revise limitations for the [Organic Chemicals, Plastics, and Synthetic Fibers](#) (OCPSF) category to address PFAS.
- Initiation of a rulemaking to revise limitations for the [Metal Finishing](#) category to address PFAS discharges from chromium plating operations.
- Completion of its detailed study of the [Meat and Poultry Products](#) category and initiation of a rulemaking to revise the existing discharge standards for the industry.
- Intention to publish a proposed Supplemental Rulemaking for the [Steam Electric Power Generating](#) category.
- Detailed studies of PFAS discharges from the [Landfills](#) and [Textile Mills](#) categories.
- Initial results from EPA's studies of multiple categories, including the [Metal Products and Machinery](#), [Explosives Manufacturing](#), and [Landfills](#) industries; and provides an update on the PFAS Multi-Industry Study.
- Continuing to populate Industrial Wastewater Treatment Technology Database (IWTT): <https://www.epa.gov/iwtt>

# National Water Reuse Action Plan

## National Water Reuse Action Plan

Improving the Security, Sustainability, and Resilience of Our Nation's Water Resources

Collaborative Implementation (Version 1)



February 2020

- Feb 2020: EPA announced the release of the National Water Reuse Action Plan: Collaborative Implementation (Version 1)
  - Available in two forms:
    - Printed publication
    - Online Platform
- Spring 2021: next Action Plan Update expected
  - Highlight progress across the 37 active actions
  - Demonstrate collective impact
  - Showcase new actions
- Email [waterreuse@epa.gov](mailto:waterreuse@epa.gov) to join the WRAP team listserv



# Water Security Grand Challenge



## **U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy**

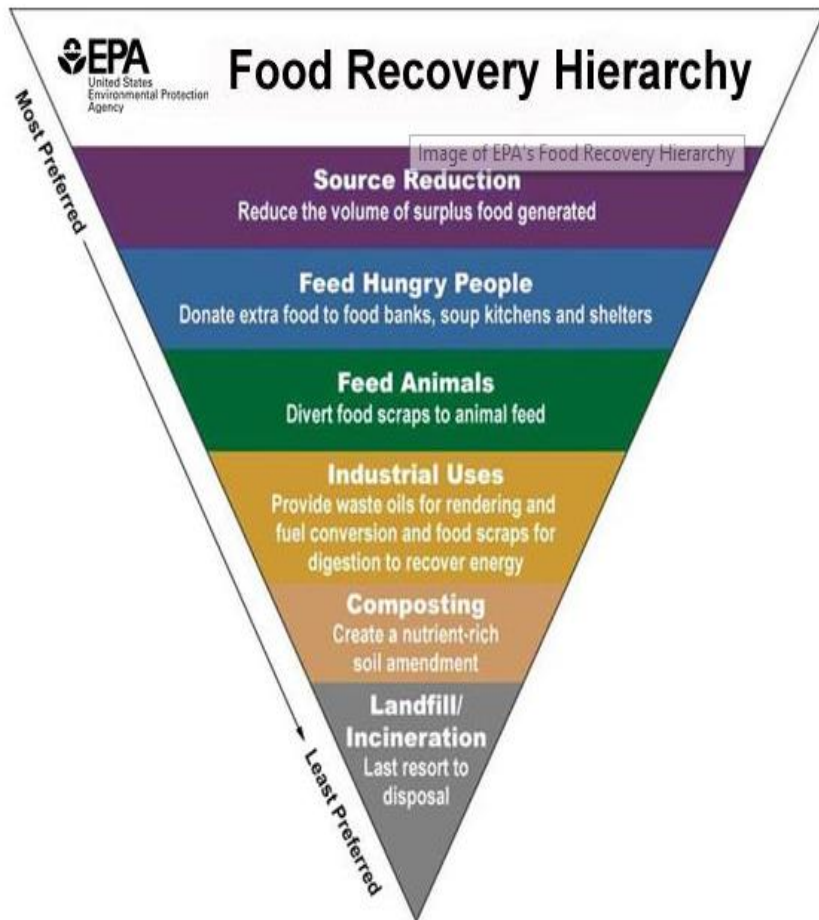
*To advance transformational technology and innovation to meet the global need for safe, secure, and affordable water.*

### **Goals for the United States to reach by 2030:**

- Launch desalination technologies that deliver cost-competitive clean water
- Transform the energy sector's produced water from a waste to a resource
- Achieve near-zero water impact for new thermoelectric power plants, and significantly lower freshwater use intensity within the existing fleet
- **Double resource recovery from municipal wastewater**
- Develop small, modular energy-water systems for urban, rural, tribal, national security, and disaster response settings.



# Sustainable Management of Food



- 2015: in the U.S., more food reached landfills and combustion facilities than any other single material in our everyday trash:
  - 22 % landfilled
  - 22 % combusted with energy recovery.
- UN Sustainable Development Goal: reduce food loss and waste by half by 2030.
- [Anaerobic Digestion Facilities Processing Food Waste in the US \(PDF\)](#) (43 pp, 6 MB, September 2018, EPA/903/S-18/001)

