NCASI & WPC Technical and Regulatory Workshop

Presenter Bios







Brad Barnhart, Ph.D., P.E. - Senior Research Scientist, NCASI

Dr. Brad Barnhart joined NCASI Staff in 2018 and currently works on a wide variety of topics that involve water, including performing statistical analyses, modeling current and future environmental phenomena, building tools to better understand hydrology and water quality, and improving the efficient use of water resources. He serves as the NCASI Member Coordinator for Wisconsin Paper Council as well as a number of pulp and paper mills in the Midwest.





Scott Suder - President, Wisconsin Paper Council

Scott Suder is the President of the Wisconsin Paper Council. As President of the Wisconsin Paper Council (WPC), Scott directs all legislative, regulatory, media, political and member relations strategies. Scott is the primary representative for the statewide trade association in all internal and external matters. In this leadership role he supervises the entire WPC team.

Email: suder@wipaper.org



Patrick Stevens – Vice President for Environment & Regulatory Affairs, Wisconsin Paper Council

Patrick Stevens is WPC's Vice President for Environment & Regulatory Affairs, and General Counsel. Over the course of his career, Pat has worked for a private law firm, three different trade associations, and as a state Assistant Attorney General. Pat also served at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, where he headed up the Environmental Management Division, and later served as Assistant Deputy Secretary. Email: stevens@wipaper.org

NCASI & WPC Technical and Regulatory Workshop

Tuesday, December 6, 2022





Laura Dietrich – Water Quality Variance Coordinator and Permit Drafting Expert, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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Laura Dietrich has been with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources since 2014 and started in the wastewater program drafting municipal and industrial permits for facilities in the Southeast Region. Since May of 2017, Laura has been working as the Statewide Water Quality Variance Coordinator and Permit Drafting Expert. Her duties include overseeing the variance program through review of variance submittals including pollutant minimization plans, coordination with EPA Region 5 staff, drafting guidance, and providing technical support to DNR staff, permittees, and consultants. Laura also played a key role in drafting of the new PFOS/PFOA administrative rule (Subchapter VIII of NR 106) and is currently assisting staff and permittees through rule implementation. Prior to her work with the Department, Laura worked in private consulting for over 7 years serving in variance roles from Staff Engineer to Project Manager. Laura holds duel Bachelor of Science degrees in Environmental Science (UW-Green Bay) and Civil Engineering (UW-Milwaukee) where her emphasizes were in technology & management and water resources & geotechnical engineering.





Amy Garbe, P.E. – Compliance and Enforcement Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Amy Garbe has been with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources since 2010 and started her career with the Department in Central Office working on effluent limits, operator certification, and technical support. In 2012, Amy started as a wastewater compliance engineer in the South-Central Region and served as the Regional AM/WQT Coordinator and Statewide Phosphorus Variance Coordinator. Since April of 2019, Amy has been working as the Statewide Wastewater O&M Technical Engineer and Compliance and Enforcement Coordinator. Amy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UW-Madison and is a licensed Professional Engineer and Wastewater Operator in Wisconsin.

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NCASI & WPC Technical and Regulatory Workshop

Tuesday, December 6, 2022







Boris Lau, Ph.D. - Senior Research Engineer, NCASI

Dr. Boris Lau joined the NCASI team in January 2020. In his current role, Boris provides technical support for water/wastewater quality studies. He also contributes assessments and insights on water topics of industry interest. He is looking forward to leveraging his experience in solving environmental issues associated with the pulp and paper manufacturing process.

Email: blau@ncasi.org



Kevin Eisen, P.E. - Senior Geological Engineer, Barr Engineering

Kevin is a licensed professional engineer in six Midwestern states and has more than 23 years of experience working at environmental investigation and remediation sites. Kevin's work at Barr has included planning, designing, and managing environmental investigation and remediation at projects sites involving soil, soil-gas, groundwater, and geochemistry within a wide range of regulatory programs. Kevin leads Barr's regulatory tracking efforts for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Wisconsin and is currently engaged in PFAS-related projects in five states. Today, Kevin will share some practical considerations for sampling and performing evaluations of mass balances for PFAS. Email: keisen@barr.com



Cecilia Silva Sanchez, Ph.D. - Senior Research Scientist, NCASI

Dr. Silva Sanchez is a molecular biologist specialized in mass spectrometry analysis for proteomics, metabolomics, and small molecules with an emphasis in environmental toxicology. She has over 15 years of experience working in research core facilities conducting research as a senior scientist and consultant. Her focus is to develop and validate analytical mass spectrometry methods to identify or quantify trace compounds in a wide variety of relevant biological and environmental matrices by targeted mass spectrometry.

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NCASI & WPC Technical and Regulatory Workshop

Tuesday, December 6, 2022





Giffe Johnson, Ph.D. – Chemical Management and Health Effects Program Manager, NCASI

Dr. Giffe Johnson has been a member of the NCASI team since October 2017. Prior to joining NCASI, Dr. Johnson served as a faculty member of the University of South Florida's Toxicology and Risk Assessment program and Assistant Director of Research for the Center for Environmental and Occupational Risk Analysis and Management. Current areas of interest include bringing the best science to bear in the development of National Ambient Air Quality Standards, improving the science behind the development of Human Health Water Quality Criteria, and participating in the development of emerging regulatory practices for per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS). Email: gjohnson@ncasi.org



Elizabeth Denly, ASQ CMQ/OE – Vice President, PFAS Initiative Leader & Chemistry Director, TRC

Ms. Denly serves as TRC's per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Initiative Leader & Chemistry Director. As a project QA chemist at TRC, Ms. Denly is responsible for providing quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) oversight in support of different environmental investigations, including remediation programs, ambient air monitoring, and human health/ecological risk assessments. Ms. Denly is currently serving on the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) PFAS team, is a co-leader on the PFAS Naming Conventions sub-team, and won the 2017 ITRC Industry Affiliates Award for her contributions to this team. She currently works on many different types of PFAS investigations with a specific focus on chemistry, sampling procedures, data interpretation, forensics, QA/QC, and analytical methodologies. She has recently collaborated with laboratories on research activities including (1) evaluation of the leachability of PFAS from environmental sampling products; (2) evaluation of analytical approaches (isotope dilution liquid chromatography/dual mass spectrometry, total oxidizable precursor assay, and total fluorine) on samples collected from aqueous film forming foam sources and paper mill sources; (3) evaluation of the solubility of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid; and (4) evaluation of sampling/analytical approaches for the measurement of PFAS in ambient air. Her major areas of expertise include emerging contaminants, data evaluation, quality assurance project plans, data usability assessments, field and laboratory audits, and consulting for regulatory agencies. Email: edenly@trccompanies.com