



Water Environment Federation[®]

the water quality people[®]

Clean Water Act Regulatory Issues in a Pandemic

Friday, March 20, 2020

Today's Moderator



Susan Sullivan
Executive Director

**New England Interstate
Water Pollution Control
Commission**

Today's Speakers

- **Melanie D. Davenport**, President, Association of Clean Water Administrators; Director, Water Permitting Division, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- **Shellie Chard**, WEF Government Affairs Regulatory Subcommittee Chair; Director, Water Quality, Oklahoma DEQ, Oklahoma City, OK
- **Fred Andes**, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg, Chicago, IL

Melanie D. Davenport

*Director, Water Permitting
Division*

**Virginia Department of
Environmental Quality**



Shellie Chard
Director, Water Quality

Oklahoma DEQ

Small System Assistance During COVID-19

Shellie R. Chard

Water Quality Division Director, Oklahoma DEQ

Regulatory Sub-committee Chair, WEF Government Affairs Committee

President, Association of Safe Drinking Water Administrators

Early Actions

- * Activate agency emergency response team and operational protocols
- * Engage with state emergency management
- * Engage with Strategic Alliance
- * Start conversations with technical assistance providers
- * Modify SoonerWarn
- * Dedicated page added to website



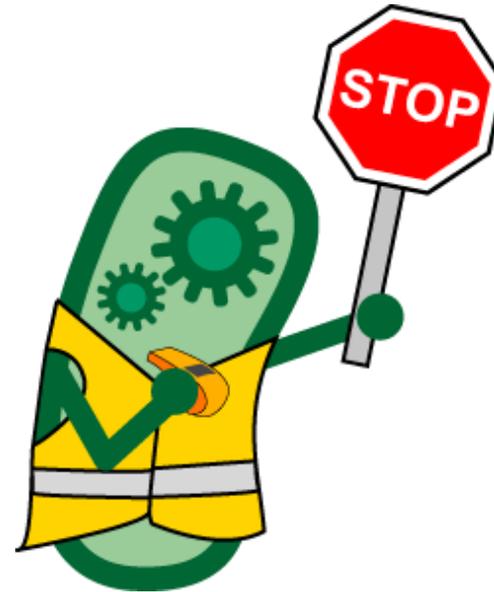
Intermediate Actions

- * Internal – establishing protocols to move to near 100% teleworking
- * Daily calls with Division Directors
- * Directors daily calls with managers
- * Twice daily calls with ORWA
- * Letter posted on social media and websites on impacts to regulated community



Permitting, Compliance and Enforcement

- * All permit conditions remain in effect
- * All order deadlines remain in effect
- * Enforcement discretion will be used and will be critical
- * All water and wastewater system to contact DEQ through established dedicated numbers and email or directly contact District Engineers



Most Important Agency Function...

COMMUNICATE

COMMUNICATE

COMMUNICATE

COMMUNICATE

Questions?

Shellie.Chard@deq.ok.gov

405.702.8157

<https://www.deq.ok.gov/>





Fred Andes
Partner

Barnes & Thornburg, LLP

Thank you!