

Aquifer Water Quality Standards (AWQS) Rulemaking Update

Stakeholder Meeting

Groundwater Protection Section
Water Quality Division
September 11, 2023



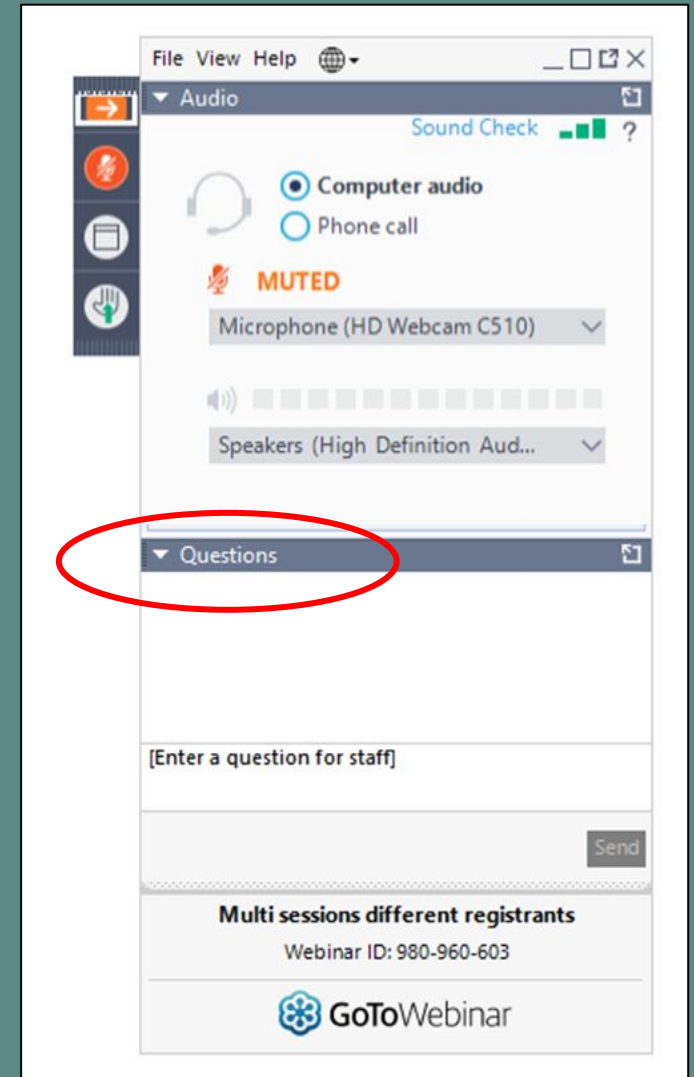
Webinar Orientation

Muted

Not
Recording

Questions?

Answers



AWQS Team Members



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- Introductions
- What are Aquifer Water Quality Standards?
- What Standards Need Updating?
- Why is ADEQ Doing This Now?
- Things to Know About AWQS
- Project Rulemaking Timeline
- Online Resources
- Open Discussion

Introductions



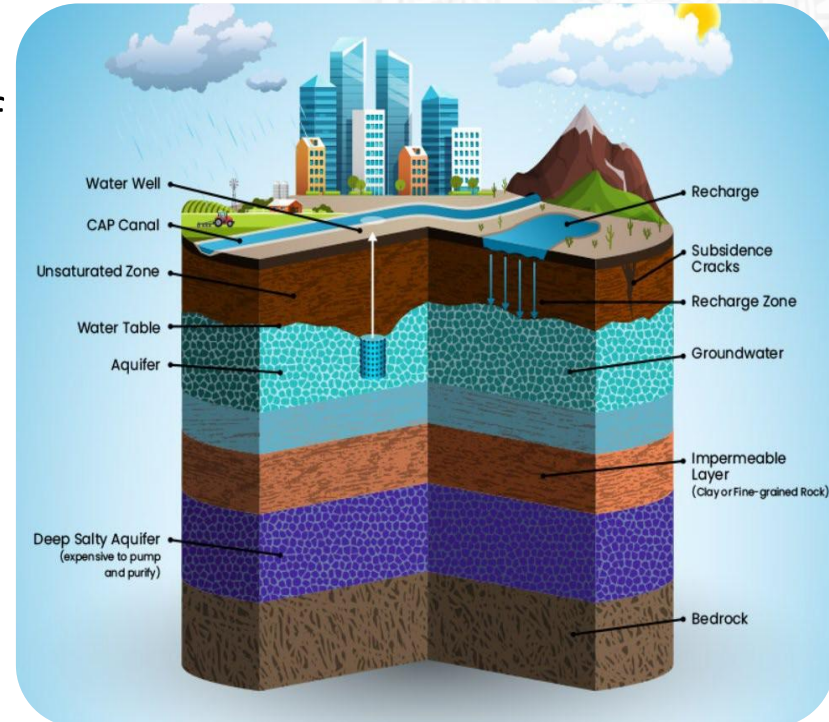
Trevor Baggiore
Division Director
Water Quality Division



Randy Matas
Deputy Director
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Aquifer Water Quality Standards

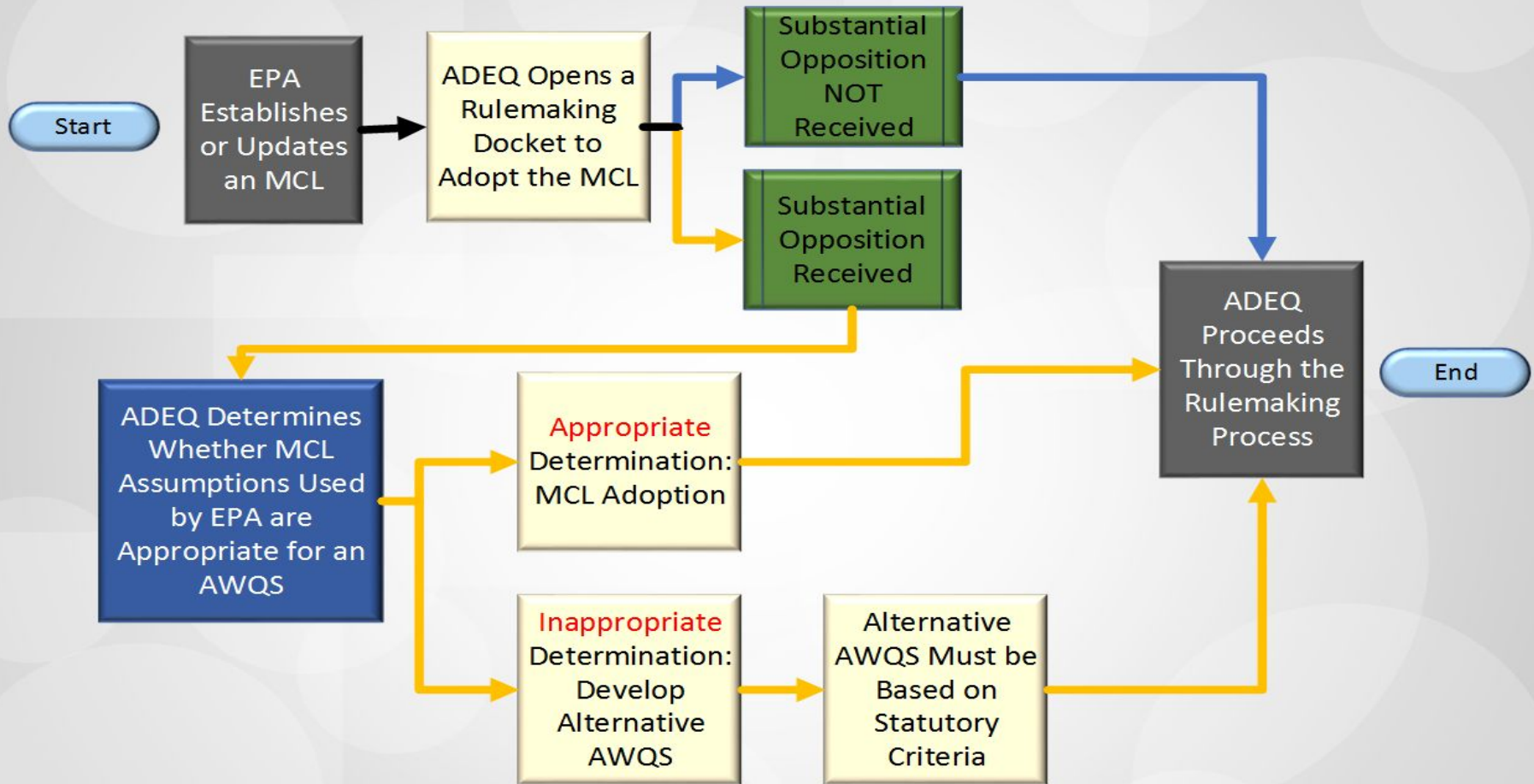
- What are AWQs?
 - maximum contaminant levels, established for aquifers in the state of Arizona for the protection of drinking water usage and public health.
- How are AWQs used?
 - Aquifer Protection Permits
 - WQARF
 - VRP
 - Remediation Programs
 - Underground Storage Tanks



What Standards Need to be Updated?

Pollutant	AWQS	MCL
Arsenic	0.05 mg/L	0.01 mg/L
Bromate	None	0.01 mg/L
Chlorite	None	1 mg/L
Haloacetic Acids	None	0.05 mg/L
Microbiological Contaminants	A.A.C. R18-11-406(F)	40 CFR 141.63(C)
Total Trihalomethanes	0.1 mg/L	0.08 mg/L
Uranium	None	30 µg/L

A.R.S. § 49-223 (A) & (B) AWQS Process



Why is ADEQ Doing This Now?



- **Protect Public Health**
 - All AZ aquifers protected for drinking water use
 - Groundwater used as a drinking water source by municipalities and private well owners
- **Legal Requirement**
 - **A.R.S. § 49-223(A)**
- **Audit Finding**

What does this mean for ADEQ Programs?

APP

- monitoring tables in permits

WQARF

- No anticipated impact by changing the 7 AWQS contaminants
- like APP, program takes into account existing, natural conditions

VRP

- Minimal impact anticipated by changing the 7 AWQS contaminants
- like APP, program takes into account existing, natural conditions



AWQS Rulemaking: Critical Path



Next Steps:



- **Rulemaking Webpage**

- <https://old.azdeq.gov/node/9096>

- **Rulemaking Fact Sheet**

- <https://static.azdeq.gov/wqd/rulemaking/awqs/fs.pdf>

- **Rulemaking Resources**

- <https://old.azdeq.gov/node/9545>

- **Rulemaking Notice of Docket Opening**

- 29 A.A.R. 1478
 - https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2023/26/contents.pdf#page=56



- **RTCR**

- routine sampling
 - E.coli & Total Coliform
- repeat sampling:
 - E.coli & Total Coliform

- **RTCR in a PWS Setting**

- **How does this apply in non-PWS settings?**





Open Discussion

Questions?

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A.R.S. § 49-223 (A) & (B) AWQS Process

