

**Water Standards Compliance interim Committee Meeting**  
**December 5, 2018**  
**Notes**

Contact Information:

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Chair of the IAWEA Small Community Committee

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- I. Small Community Committee Objectives
  - a. Provide technical support in the review of new and existing treatment technologies being used for small communities around Iowa and provide recommendations for draft design guidance to the Iowa DNR for consideration
  - b. Evaluate and support research opportunities at the State Universities to study technologies
  - c. Educate small communities around the state on essential wastewater topics.
- II. Workshops held in 6 regions of the state for City officials and operators to discuss small community wastewater topics, issues and regulations.
  - a. If anyone is interested in participating in quarterly meetings or attending the workshops, please contact Matt Wildman
- III. Feedback received from communities at these workshops
  - a. Funding availability
    - i. USDA Rural Development and CDBG are primary options
  - b. Future upgrade requirements before loans are paid off
    - i. How do they know they won't have another upgrade with even more stringent requirements before the loan is paid off?
  - c. Operator availability
    - i. Operators do everything in small towns.
    - ii. Aging operator workforce
    - iii. Plant upgrade requirements force operators to get higher grade license
    - iv. Towns don't want to pay more for operations
    - v. They want site specific licensure where they can keep their current operator after the plant upgrade
  - d. Innovative technology
    - i. Many roadblocks to implementing new technologies
- IV. What can be done?
  - a. Allow innovative technologies outside of design standards
  - b. Extend compliance schedule dates for small towns to 10 years to allow for rate increases to have a positive effect.
  - c. Site specific licensure of operators going through upgrade