

Charter
North Carolina Division of Water Resources
Criteria Implementation Committee on Nutrient Criteria Development

Nutrient enrichment is one of the leading causes of negative environmental impacts to surface waters, such as algal blooms, low dissolved oxygen concentrations, fish kills, excessive growths of filamentous algae or bacteria, and generation of cyanotoxins. To better manage nutrients, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has established a goal for states to develop and adopt nutrient criteria for all jurisdictional waters. The North Carolina Nutrient Criteria Development Plan (NCDP; June 20, 2014), which was mutually agreed upon with the USEPA, details the Division of Water Resources' (DWR) strategy to accomplish this goal. The plan includes the development of a Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) to assist DWR with the incorporation of the best available data and science to establish defensible nutrient criteria that protect designated uses and are scientifically sound. Subsequent to completion of the NCDP, the Division established a separate Criteria Implementation Committee (CIC) to advise the Division on the practical implications of implementing the proposed nutrient criteria.

Section I. Purpose

The purpose of the NCDP CIC will be to provide advice and recommendations to the DWR, on the feasibility, application, implementation and potential implications of nutrient criteria recommended by the SAC. The CIC will be comprised of at least four members, appointed by the DWR Division Director, and a USEPA representative.

The Director shall entertain nominations for membership on the Committee and shall invite members who satisfy the qualification below and who, collectively and individually, satisfy the Division's needs for the Committee. Members serve voluntarily and are invited for two-year terms. The Director may re-invite CIC members at the end of their terms or seek new members.

Section II. CIC Qualifications

The CIC shall consist of at least four members collectively meeting the following qualifications:

1. A North Carolina licensed professional engineer with expertise in nutrient abatement technologies and best available technology for wastewater.
2. A North Carolina licensed professional engineer with expertise in nutrient abatement technologies and best management practices for non-point source runoff.
3. An environmental professional with national/regional experience in linking the scientific aspects of nutrient controls, including criteria development, TMDLs, permitting and water quality management planning.
4. An economist with expertise in the economic aspects of water quality protection and nutrient management.
5. An environmental professional with expertise in agricultural best management practices for nutrient management.

Additional members with comparable or complementary qualifications may be appointed at the discretion of the DWR Director. Members with advanced degrees and experience in the designated fields are preferred, but individuals with significant experience and otherwise appropriate academic credentials may be considered for appointment.

Section II.A CIC Duties

The CIC shall have the following duties:

1. Advise DWR on the social and economic implications of implementing proposed nutrient criteria, also the relative impacts of alternative criteria and nutrient management strategies.
2. Assist DWR with fiscal note preparation.
3. Other duties as identified by the members of the CIC and the DWR.

Section III. DWR Duties

1. DWR staff members will support the CIC. The support that will be provided includes but is not limited to the following: arranging meetings, ensuring notes are taken, distributed and made available to the public, collecting information requested by the members, ensuring requested analyses are performed and documented, maintain the web site, etc. Staff members shall accept written comments from interested parties and disseminate appropriately.
2. DWR staff members will participate in discussions with the CIC as needed and will coordinate participation of other DWR staff based on areas of expertise.
3. Members of the CIC will be reimbursed for necessary in-state travel (mileage) to and from meetings.

Section IV. Implementation, Duration, and Frequency

1. This charter shall become effective August 5, 2015.
2. The CIC shall meet at intervals determined by the members in consultation with DWR staff.
3. The CIC shall continue at the pleasure of the DWR Director.
4. All meetings will be open to the public. Meetings will be streamed live.