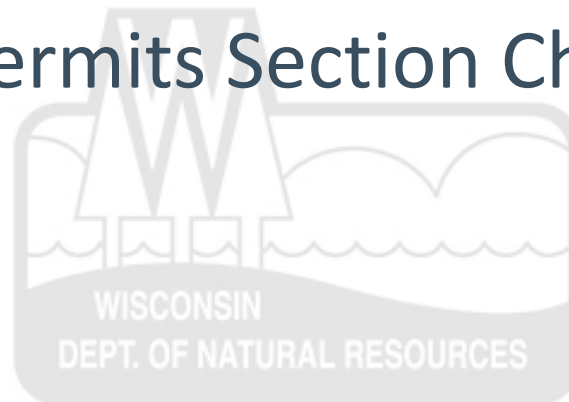


Government Affairs Seminar 2021

Basics of Wastewater WPDES

Permitting in Wisconsin

Wade Strickland,
Permits Section Chief



Presentation Overview

- Clean Water Act and Applicable Federal Regulations
- Applicable State Wastewater Program Legal Requirements
- WPDES Program Delegation History
- Working with EPA – PQRs, SRFs, RTR Permits, Variances, WQS
- Individual Permits and General Permits
- Variances – IPVs and Phosphorus MDV
- Landspreading Site Reviews and Approval Process
- Who to contact with questions

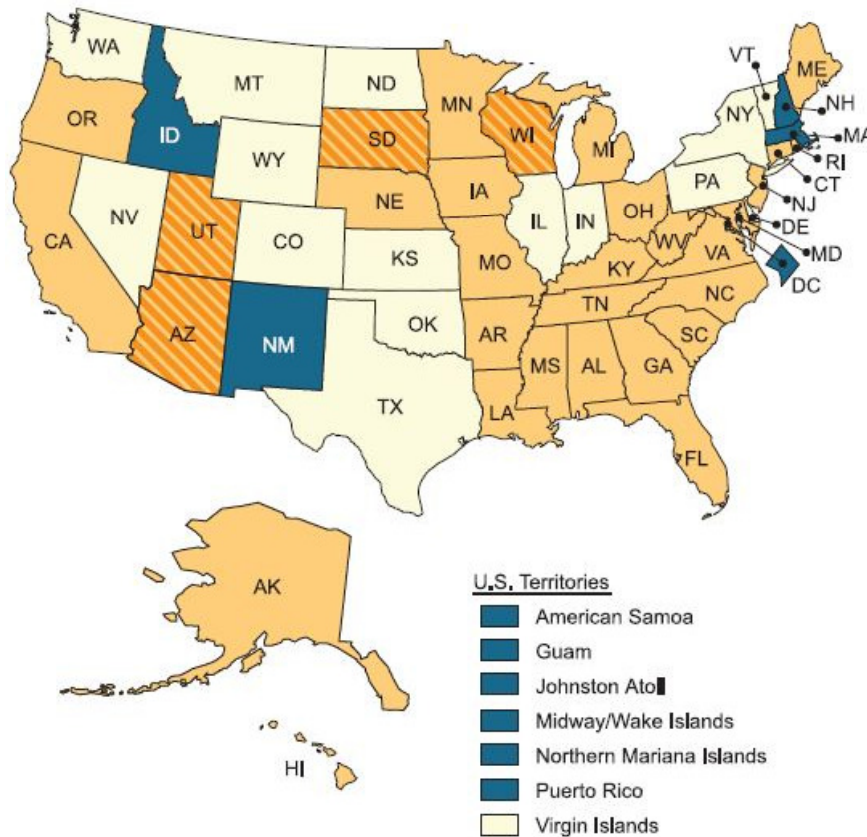
Clean Water Act & NPDES Program

- Regulate Discharges
- Envisions States Will Administer NPDES Program



NPDES Delegated States

State NPDES Program Authority



State NPDES Program Status

- Fully authorized
- Fully authorized, including an approved biosolids program
- Partially authorized ([click here for details](#))
- Unauthorized

WPDES Program and State Authority

- Chapters 283 and 281, Wisc. Stats.
- Wisconsin Administrative Code
 - NR 101 – NR 297 Series
- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/WastewaterRules.html>

WPDES Program History



- Feb. 1974 – Authority to administer WPDES Program granted
- Dec. 1980 – General Permits Program authority granted
- Dec. 1986 – Pretreatment authority granted
- July 2000 – Biosolids Program authority granted

Working with EPA

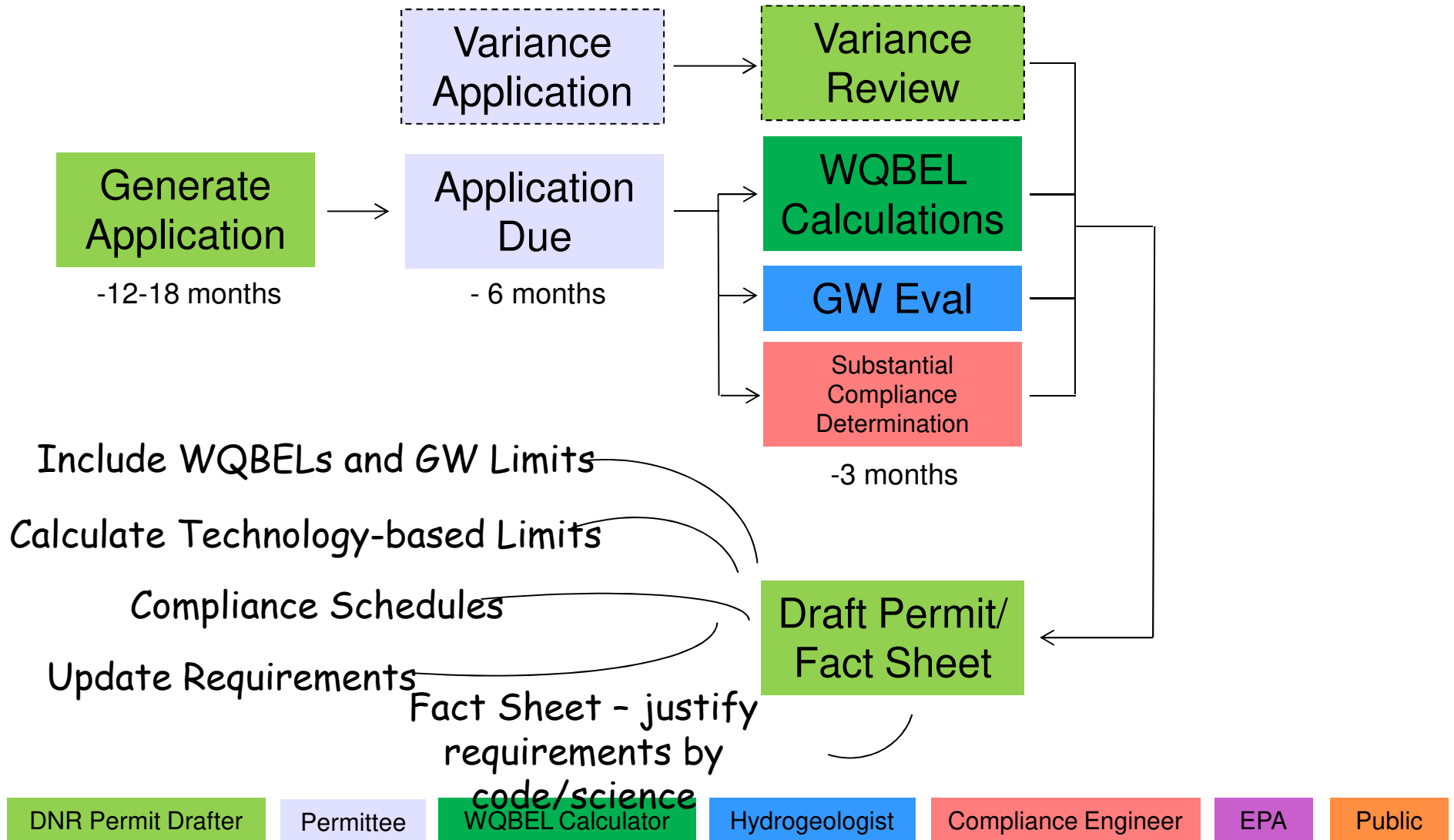
- EPA Oversight of WPDES Program
 - Permit Quality Review
 - State Review Framework
 - Real Time Permit Reviews
 - Variances



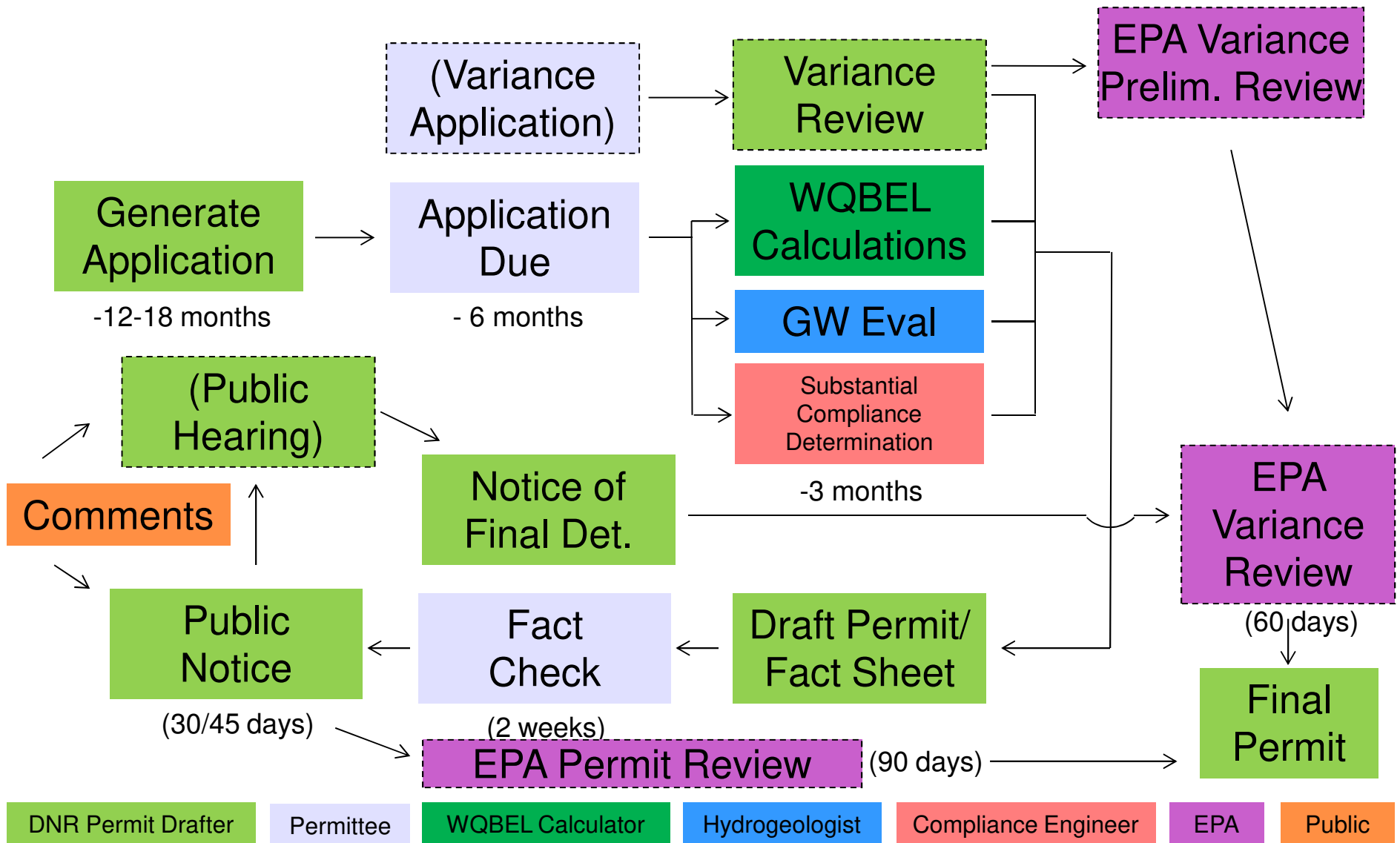
Individual vs General Permit Coverage



Permit Reissuance Process Flow Chart



Permit Reissuance Process Flow Chart



General Permits

- Webpage:
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html>
- Total of 24 GPs, with several thousands covered. Low risk activities.
- Application Process
- Contact: Trevor Moen,
E-mail: Trevor.Moen@wisconsin.gov

Individual Variance Process

Step 1 – Permittee submits variance application with permit application for reissuance

2 – DNR Reviews Application

3 – DNR drafts permit and variance package, completes internal review

4 – DNR requests additional information from permittee, **if needed**

5 – DNR sends permit and variance to public notice (45-days notice of hearing)

6 – Permittee, public, and EPA submit public comments no later than 7 days after hearing date

7 – DNR makes final decision on variance and the State adopts the variance

8 – EPA reviews final variance submittal and approves variance

9 – DNR reissues permit with approved variance

10 – Permittee implements PMP actions and follows permit conditions in reissued permit

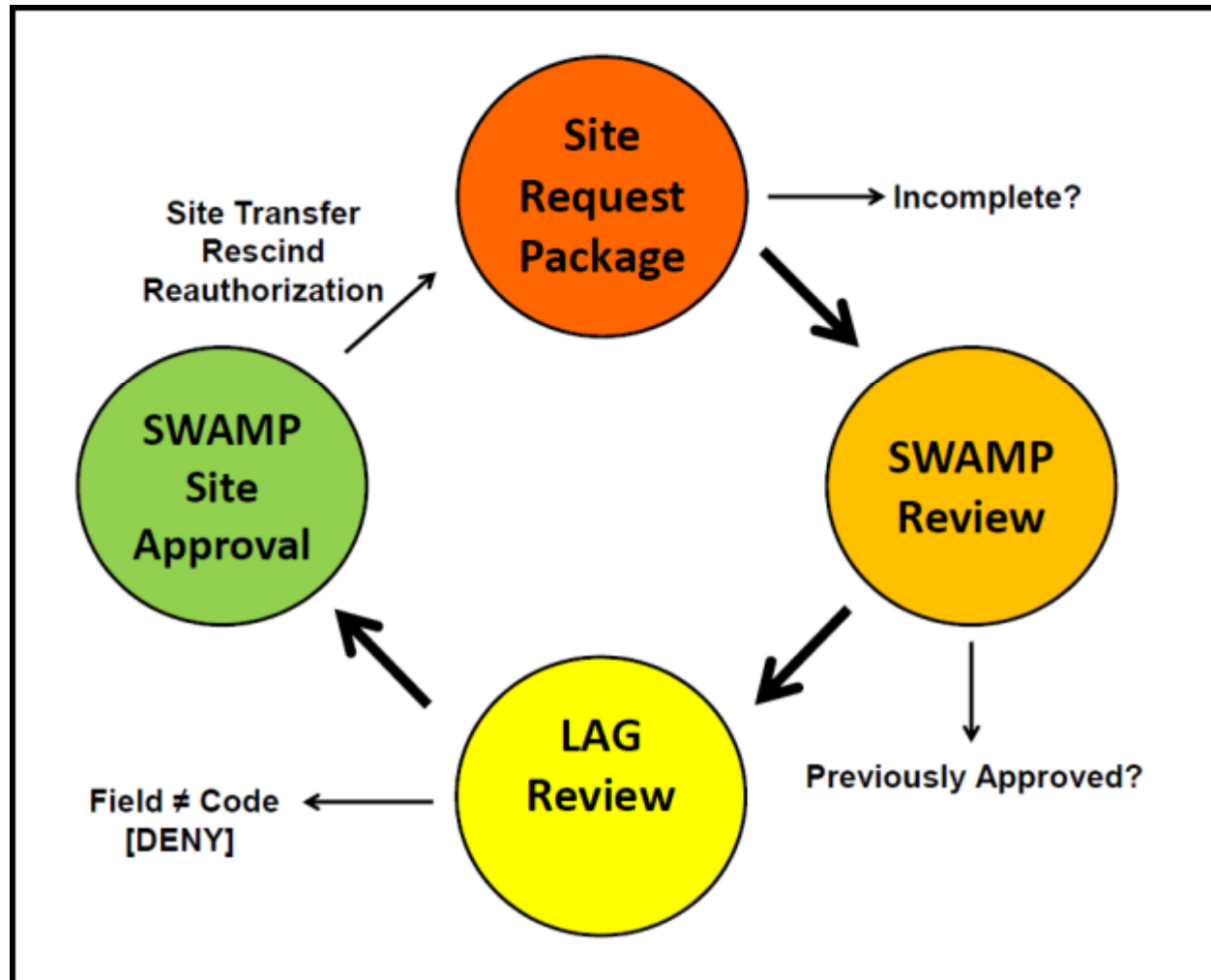
Permittee reapplies for variance if needed and submits with permit application for reissuance.

Contact: Laura Dietrich, Laura.Dietrich@wisconsin.gov

MDV Overview

- While covered under the MDV, a facility is not required to construct upgrades to meet the final WQBEL
- Facilities covered by the MDV agree to optimize phosphorus removal at the facility, and are held to an interim limit no greater than 1.0 mg/L as a monthly average per s. 283.16(6), Wis. Stats.
- S. 283.16(6)(b) Wis. Stats., discusses a watershed offset option, in which phosphorus discharged above a target value is offset by a reduction of phosphorus in the watershed
- S. 283.16(8) Wis. Stats. describes a county payment option
- Counties use funds to install projects that reduce agricultural phosphorus runoff. Counties are required to quantify the results of the projects and report back on their efforts.
- **Contact:** Matt Claucherty, E-mail: Matt.Claucherty@wisconsin.gov
- **MDV Webpage:**
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/phosphorus/StatewideVariance.html>

Site Review Process



Who to Contact?

Webpage:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/PermitsStaff.html>

Questions?

Thank you.

Wade Strickland

E-mail: Wade.Strickland@wisconsin.gov