



2026 Pretreatment Training

Permitting Decisions & Discussion - Approaches to Permitting Nondomestic Dischargers

May 5 | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Rines B | The Westin Portland Harborview | Portland, ME

Instructor:

Kimberly Cole, KimHEC, MO

Paul Ebert, Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority, IA

Tony Pisano, City of Owensboro Regional Water Resources Agency, KY

Morning

7:30 – 11:00	Registration
7:30 – 9:00	Continental Breakfast
8:00 – 8:05	Welcome and Introduction
8:05 – 8:30	Module 1 – Setting the Stage: How Permitting Decisions Are Made
8:30 – 9:00	Module 2 – Starting with the Industrial Waste Survey
9:00 – 9:45	Module 3 – Categorical and SIU Determinations
9:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:00	Module 4 – Permit, Control Mechanism, or No Permit?
11:00 – 12:00	Module 5 – Using Site Information and Data to Support Decision

Afternoon

12:00 – 1:30	Lunch (on your own)
1:15 – 4:00	Registration
1:30 – 2:30	Module 6 – Building Permit Conditions That Match the Decision
2:30 – 2:40	Break
2:40 – 3:40	Module 7 – Permitting Decisions in Practice: Facilitated Discussion
3:40 – 3:50	Break
3:50 – 4:30	Module 8
4:30	Adjourn

About the Instructors:



Kimberly A. Cole

Principal DROP Collaborative
St. Louis, MO

Kim Cole is the Principal of DROP Collaborative, an environmental consulting firm specializing in Pretreatment Program Assistance. Prior to founding DROP Collaborative, she worked as a design engineer for water and wastewater systems. She has over 20 years of experience working in the water industry. Ms. Cole strives to facilitate better understanding of data related to the impact that industrial discharges have on POTWs.

Ms. Cole provides utilities with better data management tools for utility water systems (industrial user data, wastewater treatment plant data, collection system data, and water system data), which leads to informed decisions related to industrial impacts, permitting decisions, priorities, and cost recovery. Her focus on more effective data management has led to the development of data management software called DROP (Data Reporting and Operations).

Ms. Cole has a BS in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and an MS in Environmental Engineering and Science from Clemson University.



Paul Ebert

Regulatory Compliance Manager
Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority
Des Moines, IA

Paul Ebert is the Regulatory Compliance Manager for the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA) which treats wastewater from 18 member communities with a combined population of 500,000 in central Iowa. He manages the WRA's industrial pretreatment program, which has over 80 permitted industrial users, and its hauled waste program, which receives various commercial and industrial wastes from a sixstate region in the Midwest. Mr. Ebert joined the WRA in 2009 and has 15 years of experience in industrial wastewater pretreatment. Mr. Ebert received his BS in Water Resources Management from Winona State University in 2002, then spent four years in the private environmental consulting industry in Wisconsin before receiving his MS degrees in Hydrogeology and Environmental Science from Iowa State University. Mr. Ebert holds a Grade IV Wastewater Operator's license in the State of Iowa.



Anthony Pisano

Environmental Scientist
City of Owensboro Regional Water Resource Agency
Owensboro, KY

Tony Pisano is the Environmental Scientist for Regional Water Resource Agency (RWRA) in Owensboro, KY. RWRA has two wastewater treatment facilities that combined serve a population of

94,000. Among other environmental and plant health responsibilities, Tony manages the Pretreatment Program for RWRA which consists of 25 permitted SIUs. He graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in 2010 with a BS in Chemical Engineering and holds a Class III wastewater license in the state of Kentucky. He worked for 12 years in the pulp and paper industry in various roles, including operations and environmental responsibilities. He has over 10 years of experience in wastewater, as well as additional experience in drinking water, air, and solid waste operations and regulations. He transitioned to RWRA in January 2022 where he has been striving to modernize and improve the pretreatment program.