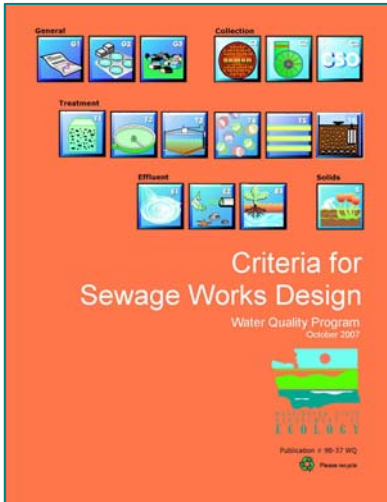


# Orange Book Becomes a Living Document: Ecology's Internal Update Process a Success



## What's the Orange Book?

Known familiarly as the Orange Book, Ecology's *Criteria for Sewage Works Design (CSWD)* provides technical guidance for the design of sewage collection, treatment, and water reclamation systems. Although the manual is not regulation, state regulation requires reasonable consistency with CSWD requirements.

## The update challenge

Since the last publication in 1998, engineers with local and state government agencies and consulting firms identified outdated guidance and pointed out the need for guidance on new technologies in the Orange Book. For years, Ecology intended to update the 1998 publication, but resource constraints, philosophical differences over the use of the guidance manual, and questions around who would do the updating

always clouded decisions just enough to delay any movement forward.

## OBWG lays out a path

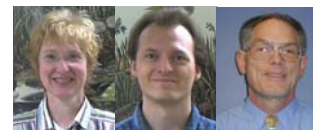
In early 2005, the Program Management Team identified updating the Orange Book as a high priority for the Water Quality Program. Engineers from all of the regions and headquarters convened to identify topic areas for revisions. The Orange Book Work Group, or OBWG as they became known, decided to create a living document by updating the manual annually in an all-electronic format. The original official OBWG members were Gary Bailey; Al Bolinger; Len Bramble; Katharine Cupps; David Dunn; Richard Koch; Foroozan Labib (Lead); Shawn McKone; and Nancy Winters (Program Management Team Sponsor).

## A living manual emerges

Over the next two years, team members willingly volunteered for assignments which added to their normal workload. After the team honed sections of the 2006 revision internally, they sent them to external reviewers, which included representatives of local governments, consulting firms, and manufacturers. In 2007, OBWG continued its work of revising and updating the Orange Book in the topic areas they prioritized.

## What is the result?

A number of efficiencies resulted from our process. The cost savings realized by this team are noteworthy. For example, when they were about to release a request for proposals (RFP) for the Membrane BioReactor section, members of the OBWG found recently published materials on the topic. They ordered the materials, stopped the RFP, and saved the agency approximately \$75,000.



Orange Book Work Group

## Partners

Ecology appreciates the contributions and reviews from the following firms and local government agencies: Brown & Caldwell; Enviroquip; Gray & Osborne; HDR; Kennedy Jenks; King County; Lakehaven Utility District; and Zenon.

The new workgroup will include: Gary Bailey; Al Bolinger; Katharine Cupps; Richard A. Koch; Foroozan Labib; Shawn McKone; Nancy Winters; and James Yates.

## For more information

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