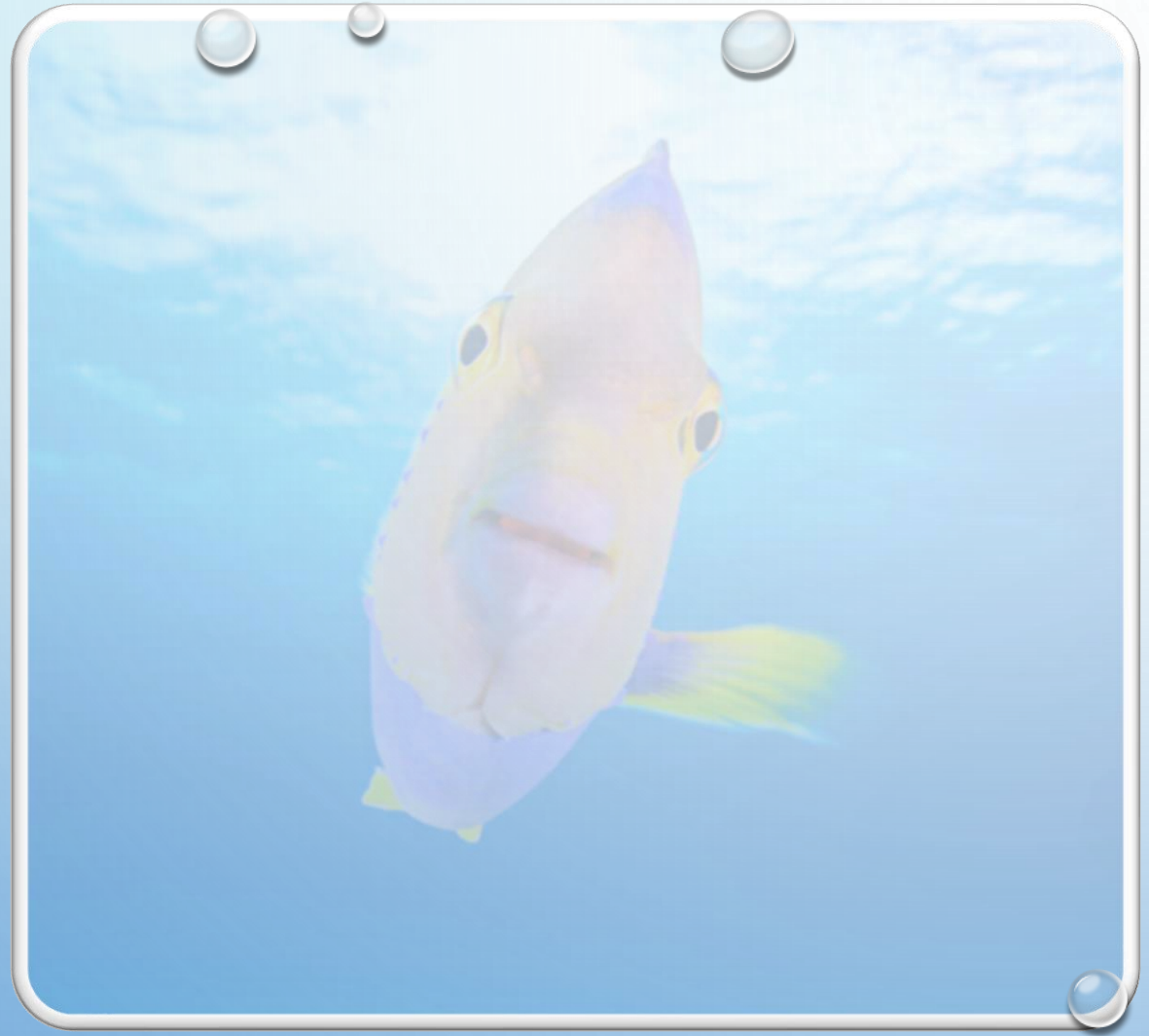
NEWS ON THE WATERFRONT

SHELLIE R. CHARD, WATER QUALITY DIVISION DIRECTOR

Paula – These are for you ☺

WHAT I WOULD LIKE THE VIEW TO BE…



REALITY

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Social Justice (formerly Environmental Justice)

Small or Disadvantaged Communities

SMALL COMMUNITIES

Drinking water system serving less than 10,000

(new definition – Typically small defined by EPA is 3,300)

Lacks the capacity to incur debt sufficient to finance a project to comply with the SDWA

UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

(BY STATUTE AND HOW EPA IS APPLYING TO WATER PROGRAMS)

- DOES NOT HAVE HOUSEHOLD DRINKING WATER OR WASTEWATER SERVICES
- IS SERVED BY A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM THAT VIOLATES, OR EXCEEDS, AS APPLICABLE, A REQUIREMENT OF A NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATION, INCLUDING
  - A MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL
  - A TREATMENT TECHNIQUE
  - AN ACTION LEVEL

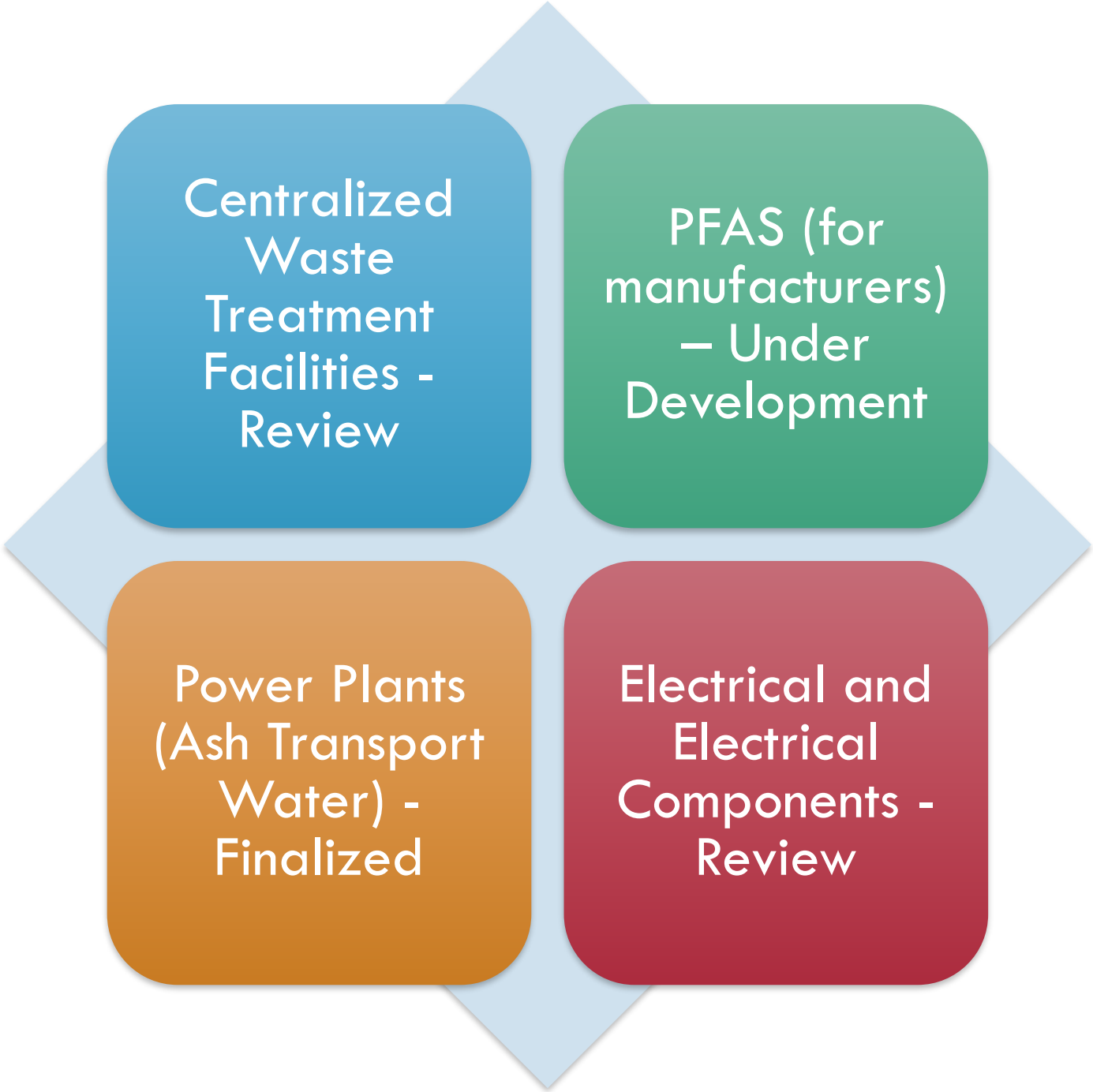
WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT THESE COMMUNITY WATER INITIATIVES?

- Permit impacts
- Expansion/operational implications
- Quality of life for workers
- Water and sewer rates (residential and commercial)

EPA ACTIVITIES TO WATCH

- Coliphage
- Chlorides
- Nutrients
- PFAS

EFFLUENT LIMITATION GUIDELINES



POWER PLANT ASH TRANSPORT WATER

2015 Rule prohibited discharge of bottom ash transport water and Additional requirements for Mercury control and desulfurization in flue gas

2017 compliance dates extended

2020 allowed bottom ash transport water with a cap of 10% total system volume on a 30-day rolling average

Additional rulemaking expected but with unknown timeline

OKLAHOMA

DEQ WASTEWATER UPDATES

- Stormwater
- Wasteload Allocation Impacts to Permits
- Wastewater Based Epidemiology

INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER (OKR05)

- Stakeholder meetings on-going through October 2021
- Changes being made prior to EPA review based on stakeholder input
- 90-day EPA review and 30-day public comment prior to issuance
- On-time renewal in July 2022

OTHER STORMWATER PROGRAM UPDATES

- Developing online applications for OKR05 and OKR10
- SWP3 will not be required with application
- SWP3 will be reviewed during inspections

TMDL WASTELOAD ALLOCATIONS AND PERMITS

TMDL establishes flow and mass

Wasteload divided among dischargers

Flow and mass impact concentration limits

DEQ must allocate/reallocate flow to permit holders

- Everyone gets minimum
- Remaining based on actual flow

WASTEWATER BASED EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Current activity related to pilot project between DEQ and DOC at correctional facilities
- Participating in updates from OU and OU Health
- Why you should care

WATER QUALITY TRADING

OWRB required to develop Water Quality Trading framework by November 1, 2026

By November 1, 2029, DEQ must update WQS Implementation Rules (OAC 252:690)

After effective date of updated OAC 252:690, Water Quality Trading can be incorporated in OPDES permits

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