

*Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing: An Evaluation of Methods and Prediction of Receiving System Impacts.* Proceedings from a SETAC-sponsored Pellston Workshop.

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Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing. A Pellston Workshop was held 16 - 21 September 1995, at the University of Michigan Biological Station on Douglas Lake, to address issues surrounding the science of whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing and receiving system impact predictions. The proceedings reflect the state-of-the-science of these topics and focus on an assessment of the appropriateness of endpoints used in routine WET methods, the degree and causes of WET test method variability, biotic and abiotic factors that can influence measured field responses to effluents, and the relationship between effluent toxicity, ambient toxicity, and receiving system impacts. Academicians, regulators, and the regulated community can benefit from the thoughtful recommendations presented in this volume.

## CONTENTS

In addition to discussion synopses from each of four workgroups (methods and endpoints, test variability, field assessment, and predicting instream effects), discussion-initiation papers on the following topics are included:

- Background and Perspective - USEPA's WET testing program: a national regulatory perspective; an industrial perspective
- on WET testing; the municipal perspective on WET testing.
- Methods and Appropriate Endpoints - WET statistics: a regulatory perspective; improvements in point-estimation methods
- and application to controlling aquatic toxicity test reliability.
- Effluent Toxicity Test Variability - Effluent toxicity testing variability; WET testing variability: a statistical perspective;
- issues in WET test uncertainty analyses.
- Field Assessments - Validation of WET tests; integrated studies using field assessments, microcosms, and mesocosms;
- biological assessment strategies: applications and limitations.
- Predicting Instream Effects from WET Tests - Relationships between effluent toxicity, ambient toxicity, and receiving
- system impacts: Trinity River dechlorination case study; predicting receiving system impacts from effluent toxicity; predicting
- receiving system impacts from effluent toxicity: a marine perspective.

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346 pp., index, acronym list

ISBN 1-880611-06-6

\$48.00 members/\$79.95 non-members

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