

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
122 S. Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Ohio Public Utilities Commission
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399

Ohio Department of Development
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

April 15, 1999
Ohio EPA, 122 S. Front St.
Conference Room 5A

ABSTRACT

The April 15th meeting was devoted to updates and announcements, and discussion of ground water issues that need to be prioritized and addressed by SCCGW over the next year or two.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Baker, Vladimir Cica, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, David Hanselmann, Harry Payne, Bob Van Horn,
ODH: Rebecca Petty
ODA: Larry Berger
USGS: Jeff DeRoche

MARCH MEETING SUMMARY

Three revisions were requested:

- page 2, item #3 under ODH report: The first sentence is revised to: “The Private Water System rules are to be **submitted to the Public Health Council in May.**” and the last sentence is revised to: “The rules are scheduled to be filed with JCARR around mid-summer **and hopefully will be finalized by this fall.**”
- page 3, item #2 under USGS report: The second sentence is revised to “This study is being conducted under the USGS Toxics Program”.
- page 2, item #6 under ODA report: Last sentence revised to “One SCCGW member noted that **chemical compounds are used** in Ohio to control the lamprey population.”

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ODH, Bureau of Local and Environmental Services, Rebecca Petty announced:

- 1.) Senate Bill 105, the Home Sewage Disposal Bill sponsored by Senator Gardner, was introduced but no hearings have been scheduled yet.
- 2.) The bureau is waiting to hear from the Governor's Office regarding approval to seek a sponsor for private water system legislation.
- 3.) A White Paper came out about a month ago on ODH's Proposal for Home Sewage Disposal Systems Rule Revision. It emphasizes increasing the Program's consistency statewide, providing more on-lot alternatives, and minimizing off-lot discharges. (Ohio EPA will be requiring NPDES permits for off-lot disposal, as this type of discharge contributes significantly to Ohio's nonpoint source pollution.) Rebecca noted that only 10 percent of Ohio has soils suitable for traditional septic leachfields.

ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, David Hanselmann announced:

- 1.) He is meeting with OEPA's Division of Surface Water on updating the Nonpoint Source Management Program. They hope to have it completed within three months.

ODNR, Division of Geological Survey, Bob Van Horn announced:

- 1.) The Division has received a 319 grant to map the lowest freshwater aquifer in several portions of the state. These will be useful in efforts to protect these aquifers from impacts from oil and gas wells (also from Class I injection wells), since for these wells casing must be installed through the deepest aquifer. This grant originally was awarded to the Division of Oil and Gas, but they transferred it to OGS due to staff shortages. The mapping will begin in July 1999 and continue through June 2001.

ODNR, Division of Mines and Reclamation, Harry Payne announced:

- 1.) The Division Chief, Lisa Morris, will be taking a position as Chief of OEPA's Division of Surface Water on May 10.
- 2.) Bill Sterling has retired from the Division as of April 14, 1999.
- 3.) The Division has hired two field geologists to assist field permitting offices with issues at abandoned and active mines.
- 4.) The Division is implementing a new management system for water quality data at mining sites.

ODNR, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:

- 1.) The Division is proceeding with a contract to assign GIS-referenced locations for an additional 170,000 well logs.

ODA, Pesticides Division, Larry Berger announced:

- 1.) The agricultural well monitoring program for Ohio's Pesticide Management Plan is progressing. Right now they are focusing on Grade A dairy farms located in vulnerable areas. The milk inspector—who is already required to make regular inspections—takes an extra water sample that is forwarded to a laboratory. If there's a detect, the Pesticides Section staff will follow up. This process was developed to enable the monitoring program to go forward, despite severe staffing shortages at ODA.
- 2.) The unused pesticide collection program is currently underway in southwest Ohio, and will move next to northwest Ohio. Every county in the state should be covered by the year 2000.
- 3.) Getting the pesticide container recycling program going again for the summer is proving more difficult this year. ODA's Legal Department does not support it, and the hiring freeze makes it impossible to hire a driver.

U.S.G.S, Water Resources Division, Jeff deRoche announced:

- 1.) The Columbus office has moved to 6480 Double Tree Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229-1111 (just south of the Marriott Inn north on Interstate 71). The new main telephone number is 614-430-7700.
- 2.) The Spring meeting of the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) will be held May 11, 1999.

OEPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Vladimir Cica announced:

- 1.) The Division recently issued a document on its approach to landfill siting criteria as part of the required review of regulations imposed by House Bill 433. A workgroup will put final recommendations into a position paper by the end of the month.

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Tom Allen announced:

- 1.) The chairperson of the Ohio Water Education Program (OWEP) is Earl Whitlach, who is with OSU's Civil Engineering Department. Lenny Black (ODNR-Division of Water) is overseeing Project Wet, which is the teacher outreach program. Thousands of Ohio teachers have already been trained in water education through this program. They have a new Web site at the following address: www.dnr.state.oh.us/odnr/water/educate/owep/owepwet.html/
- 2.) The DDAGW Chief position was posted last Friday.
- 3.) With regard to this year's budget, DDAGW will absorb some cuts but is not anticipating major difficulties.
- 4.) The Water Resources Council met last Friday and was attended by the new directors of both ODNR and OEPA. The Council will meet again in May. Currently it is still waiting to hear from Governor Taft on his views concerning implementation of the Ohio Water Resources Plan. Meanwhile, the Council is already envisioning revisions to the Plan, to address ground water in much more detail (perhaps incorporating the 1985 Ohio Ground Water Strategy) and to coordinate better with the state's watershed initiative.

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Baker announced:

- 1.) As announced in the March meeting, the national Ground Water Protection Council is assisting U.S. EPA in developing a “funding gap analysis” of state water protection programs, to be incorporated in U.S. EPA’s National Ground Water Report to Congress. ODNR’s Division of Geological Survey and Division of Water both provided information that was included in the survey completed for Ohio.
- 2.) OEPA still hasn’t heard whether Ohio’s Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program will be accepted as written. Region 5 is expected to provide information by the end of the week.
- 3.) There was a meeting in Chicago the previous week with the U.S. EPA Rules Manager for the impending “Ground Water Rule”, which concerns the circumstances under which ground water-based public water systems must disinfect. The information on which this decision will be based should come from the SWAP effort, and it appears that Ohio’s SWAP guidance will need to be more detailed with regard to potential sources of pathogens, to meet the needs of this Rule.
- 4.) Otherwise, the SWAP Program is continuing its coordination with ODNR and USGS in developing a Resource Characterization database. This has been a good cooperative effort.
- 5.) The Division of Surface Water and ODNR held a meeting in March on coordination of watershed issues.

WORK GROUP UPDATES

Well Construction Work Group

Rebecca Petty said that she had received comments on the Technical Guidance for Well Construction, most of them from OEPA. She will mail out proposed changes for comment next week. The original draft is available for viewing on ODNR-Division of Water’s Web site.

Pesticide Management Plan Work Group

Larry Berger said that he still has not received word from U.S. EPA on whether Ohio’s generic plan will be accepted. U.S. EPA’s Pesticide Section seems ready to approve the Plan, but there has been no word from the Drinking Water Section.

DISCUSSION OF SCCGW GROUND WATER PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

Tom Allen asked if anyone wanted to add items to the list that was compiled at the last SCCGW meeting. Several members gave written additions to Tom for inclusion on the list. By Monday, May 3rd, 1999, Tom will get out a draft of the revised list. During the May SCCGW meeting, members should decide which items the SCCGW needs to be involved in, and how (e.g., requests for review, formation of work groups, etc.).

MAY AGENDA

The meeting will be held at USGS’s new location, 6480 Double Tree Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229-1111 , 8:30 to 11:00 AM. The meeting will include Agency updates and further discussion of SCCGW goals. One specific goal that was suggested for discussion is updating the 1985 Ohio Ground Water Strategy.

For the following few months, SCCGW meeting locations will be as follows:

June 17th: USGS new building

July 15th: USGS new building (not OGS Sample Repository, as scheduled earlier)

August 18th: The new OGS sample repository building at Alum Creek

HAND-OUTS

1.) **Proposed rule revisions** for household sewage disposal systems.

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May 20, 1999
USGS - new location
6480 Double Tree Avenue

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| 8:30 - 8:35 am | CALL TO ORDER
-Introductions |
| 8:35 - 8:40 am | APRIL MEETING SUMMARY |
| 8:40 - 10:00 am | AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
-Legislation/Rules/Policies
-Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires
-Miscellaneous
-Work Group Updates |
| 10:00 - 10:10 am | BREAK |
| 10:10 - 10:55 am | DISCUSSION OF SCCGW GOALS FOR 1999 in reference to members' planned ground water activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updating the 1985 Ohio Ground Water Strategy |
| 10:55 - 11:00 am | NEXT SCCGW MEETING AGENDA |
| 11:00 am | ADJOURN |