

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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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

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

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

### ABSTRACT

The May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting was devoted to updates and announcements, and continued discussion of ground water issues that need to be prioritized and addressed by SCCGW over the next year or two.

### ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Larry Antosch, Vladimir Cica, Kristy Hunt, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, David Hanselmann, Bob Van Horn,

ODH: Rebecca Petty

ODA: Larry Berger

SFM: Charles Zepp

PUCO: Sue Daly

USGS: Jeff DeRoche

NRCS: John Armentano

### APRIL MEETING SUMMARY

It was noted that Earl Whitlach is with OSU's Department of Civil Engineering, not Agricultural Engineering, as reported in the April draft meeting summary. This has been corrected in the finalized summary.

### AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- 1.) The Geologic Repository must move from its leased Phillipi Road facility to the new facility at Alum Creek by June.

- 2.) The latest version of the statewide geologic map, titled “Quaternary Geology of Ohio”, was released a few weeks ago. [Bob distributed copies.] The map scale is 1:500,000. It is not yet available digitally.

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

- 1.) The Division is busy working on the “Ground Water Micro Project”, a two-year program designed to study transport of microorganisms (primarily pathogens such as viruses and *E.coli*) from surface water into ground water-based public water systems in northwest Ohio.
- 2.) The Division’s study on antibiotics in streams from confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) has been delayed by the lack of rain this spring. Most streams are being sustained primarily by base flow, even though this should be the time of maximum run-off. As a result, no water quality samples have been collected yet.

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

- 1.) The agency sampled for arsenic in wells at a Jackson County roadside rest stop and an elementary school. Also, arsenic was found in April in a Perry County well. Repeat sampling is scheduled within a week.
- 2.) The ODH laboratory is joining the laboratory at ODA to become a joint facility located at ODA.
- 3.) The new director of ODH is Nick Baird, an obstetrician and professor at OSU. He will be starting June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4.) The Private Water Systems Rules will be introduced to JCARR in July and then to the Public Health Council. If acceptable, they will be adopted by the Public Health Council at its meeting in August.
- 5.) The Private Water Systems legislation is on hold until the new ODH director begins his term of office.
- 6.) The Sewage Bill is moving forward well.

***ODA, Pesticides Division, Larry Berger announced:***

- 1.) An environmental organization called Citizen Action has begun a campaign to outlaw the use of atrazine in Ohio. It is urging citizens to write to ODA’s director to ban atrazine through Ohio’s State Management Plan for Pesticides.
- 2.) Sampling for the agricultural well monitoring program for Ohio’s Pesticide Management Plan is ongoing. So far no pesticides have been detected.

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

- 1.) ODNR’s new administration is in place, with Bill Moody named Assistant Director, and three new deputy directors named: Scott Zody, Ron Kolbash, and Lori Watiker. Most of the Division Chiefs have been reappointed.

- 2.) The Division of Soil and Water Conservation and the Division of Water are working on the revision of the Nonpoint Source Management Plan, and hope to be able to start routing it for comment by the end of June.
- 3.) The State's budget for the next fiscal year included two million dollars to fund a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program for Lake Erie that covers the Lake's watershed from that of the Black River in Lorain County west to include all watersheds in Ohio (i.e., through Lucas, Fulton, and Williams Counties, up to the Michigan border). This project will involve creating buffer strips comprising 60,000 acres over the next ten years.
- 4.) OSU, the NRCS and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation will be meeting to expedite the digitizing of Ohio's soils through a joint effort involving a number of agencies.
- 5.) The Division will recommend to the State Soil and Water Commission that cost-share funds be used to decommission abandoned manure lagoons, and to promote application at the right times of the year. By this proposal, the State would provide 25% of the cost, up to a maximum of \$5,000, and the land-owner would be responsible for the other 75%.

***ODNR, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:***

- 1.) Jim Morris has been named chief of the Division.
- 2.) The Division is in the process of developing an application to allow simplified access to the well log database via the Internet, based on county, township, and street address. Raw information will then be provided from each well log, rather than an image of the well log itself. They hope to have the system online in June 1999.

***OEPA, Division of Surface Water, Larry Antosch announced:***

- 1.) The Division's new chief, Lisa Morris, started on May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.) The second half of the 319 application process for 1999 closed the previous week. Applications for the year 2000 need to be submitted to U.S. EPA around November/December, but with the current uncertainty about the Federal budget, it's hard to know how much to apply for, and what special conditions might apply.
- 3.) Mark Wilson's temporary work assignment in the Director's Office as Agricultural Liaison has ended. He has returned to the Division of Surface Water.
- 4.) Pilot studies for Ohio's Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program have been initiated with the Cities of Marysville and Newark, which are served by surface water systems. The initial meetings have been encouraging. Both operators had done homework ahead of time, provided valuable information, and seemed interested in being an integral part of the local SWAP effort.

***Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:***

- 1.) The Service is confident that this year's budget will be passed, which will enable the Service to continue its work, although without any frills.

- 2.) Conservation Reserve Program contracts are proceeding again, after a temporary halt in April due to funding issues.

***SFM, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulation, Charlie Zepp announced:***

- 1.) New federal underground storage tank (UST) regulations became effective December 22, 1998, which caused numerous facilities to shut down. Statewide, out of approximately 36,000 active tanks, about 3,000 tanks were removed.
- 2.) BUSTR's rules have been updated/revised. The new rules became effective on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1999. The corrective action rules are now risk-based. Some additional changes are being made to the closure rules. These changes have been filed with JCARR and, if accepted, will be effective by the end of July.
- 3.) One feature of the new rules is that total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) no longer have action levels. Diesel fuel USTs now have specific action and saturation levels for clean up goals. In addition, the ground water pathways will be very difficult to eliminate, which will lead to more conservative cleanup levels.
- 4.) BUSTR has recently begun to oversee the cleanup of chlorinated solvent associated with waste oil USTs.
- 5.) The new State Fire Marshal is Bob Rielage, and the new Deputy Director is Wes Hohl.
- 6.) The Bureau has some interest in reestablishing Emergency Response capabilities at BUSTR sites, which have recently been handled by Ohio EPA's Emergency Response staff.

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

- 1.) The Division's rule review team has completed revisions to landfill siting criteria as part of the required review of regulations imposed by House Bill 433. When the Division Chief signs the proposal, it will be made available to SCCGW members.

***PUCO, Sue Daly announced:***

- 1.) PUCO and the National Association of Water Companies are hosting a workshop on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Kirk Leifheit (Chief of OEPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters) will speak on SWAP and capacity development. Consumer Confidence Reports will be discussed in the afternoon. The goal is to assist PUCO-regulated water companies to be in compliance with the new requirements of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments.
- 2.) The Ohio Water Resources Council met in late April. No meeting is scheduled for May. They are still waiting for the Strategic Plan to be approved by the governor.

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

- 1.) Applications have been accepted for the Division Chief's position, but no interviews have taken place so far.
- 2.) In the Director's Office, the role of deputy directors has been shifted away from each deputy being in charge of a program area. Most of the programs continue to have much contact with

Jenny Tiell. Laura Powell has been named Chief of Legislative Affairs, and Barb Brdicka is Acting Deputy Director for Strategic Planning.

- 3.) Ground water issues are proving to be the biggest issues for the Unified Cleanup Program, whose goal is to develop consistency among programs in doing environmental clean-ups. One big issue is the clean-up standard: should it be based on MCLs? Or on risk-based analysis? Or on some hybrid of both? It is now expected that all these issues will not be resolved until late 2001.
- 4.) The Division recently automated more than 11,000 records summarizing well site information for water quality analyses collected by various OEPA programs over the last 30 years.

### **WORK GROUP UPDATES**

#### **Well Construction Work Group**

Rebecca Petty said that comments received on the Technical Guidance for Well Construction had been incorporated into the final draft. She asked SCCGW members to let her know how many copies they needed.

#### **Pesticide Management Plan Work Group**

Larry Berger reported that Region V still has not formally approved Ohio's State Management Plan for Pesticides. However, he was informed recently by Region V staff that they plan to approve it.

### **DISCUSSION OF SCCGW GROUND WATER PROTECTION ACTIVITIES**

Tom Allen listed a number of issues that he thought SCCGW should discuss in terms of possibly establishing a position, or forming a workgroup to research:

1. **House Bill 473** (requirement for periodic rule review): many of the programs will need to review their siting criteria, and SCCGW members should coordinate on this (Presentation?)
2. **Unified Cleanup Program**: some issues being dealt with by the OEPA Workgroup should be discussed by SCCGW. (Workgroup?)
3. **Ground Water Education**: this refers not just to developing K-12 ground water education, but also to links with academia. (Workgroup?)
4. **Nonpoint Source Management Plan**: should SCCGW be providing more input in the future?
5. **Source Water Assessment and Protection.**
6. **Sewage Bill.**
7. **3-D Mapping.**

8. **Ohio Ground Water Strategy:** SCCGW may want to form a workgroup to revise and update the Ohio Ground Water Strategy, which was written in 1986. It is time to review the many accomplishments since that time, and then propose where to go from here, and how to get there.

### **JUNE 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 activities. The goal of this discussion will be to set priorities and create a schedule for activities.

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

- July 15<sup>th</sup>: USGS new building (not OGS Sample Repository, as scheduled earlier)
- August 18<sup>th</sup>: The new OGS sample repository building at Alum Creek

### **HAND-OUTS**

- 1.) Soil and Groundwater Action Levels for BUSTR cleanups (one-page list)
- 2.) Ohio Citizen Action flier on banning atrazine (titled "Ohio Department of Agriculture: Protect Our Drinking Water")

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**June 17, 1999**  
**USGS - new location**  
**6480 Double Tree Avenue**

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|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 - 8:35 am   | CALL TO ORDER<br>-Introductions                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8:35 - 8:40 am   | MAY MEETING SUMMARY                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8:40 - 10:00 am  | AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS<br>-Legislation/Rules/Policies<br>-Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires<br>-Miscellaneous<br>-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"><li>• Updating the Ohio Ground Water Strategy</li></ul> |
| 10:55 - 11:00 am | NEXT SCCGW MEETING AGENDA                                                                                                                                                             |
| 11:00 am         | ADJOURN                                                                                                                                                                               |