

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
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

August 19, 1999
USGS - new location
6480 Double Tree Avenue

ABSTRACT

The August 19th meeting was devoted to updates and announcements, continued discussion of ground water issues that need to be prioritized and addressed by SCCGW, and the role of the SCCGW with regards to Section 319 grant approval process.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Baker, Heather Raymond
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Scott Kell, Robert Van Horn,
ODH: John Wells
USGS: Jeff de Roche
ODA: Larry Berger
SFM: Brian Tarver
PUCO: Sue Daly

JUNE MEETING SUMMARY

One clarification was added to the meeting notes: Rebecca Petty's new title is Administrator for the Residential Water and Sewer Team.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Mike Baker announced:

1.) The Drought Assessment and Executive Committees have met three times. Ohio is currently under Phase III Drought Conservation level. Letter sent to Community Public Water Systems (PWS) (except NW OH) encouraging conservation measures, monitoring source water, evaluating drought contingency plans, etc. Also coordinated with ODH on a news release for water conservation. Overall, have not seen a major impact of drought on PWSs. 47 PWSs have sent water restriction letters (majority are voluntary). The next Executive Drought Committee meeting will be in September.

2.) Y2K. Ohio EPA is encouraging PWSs to test their systems in order to avoid problems on January 1st. On October 7th Ohio EMA will conduct a Y2K trial (table top exercise).

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Bob Vanhorn announced:

- 1.) Conducted Y2K table top exercise. Each Division developed contingency plans.
- 2.) Surficial Mapping Project: Received funds from USGS for mapping Cleveland area. Hope to receive unspent 319 funds for extending Dayton mapping area.
- 3.) Received two grants from NOAA to map artificial reef areas in Lake Erie (detailed maps).
- 4.) Received \$200,000 from the Great Lakes Protection Fund for Lake Erie tributary habitat mapping.
- 5.) Conducted two week-long teacher workshops in July to familiarize educators with Ohio geology. Teachers get two graduate credits for completing workshop.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:

- 1.) This has been the 9th driest May-June period for Ohio, and the 3rd driest May-June period for Central Ohio.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- 1.) Kate Barter called a meeting of the Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC) to discuss future roles of council. Jim Rozell gave overview and past accomplishments of OWRC. Held candid discussion of future of OWRC. OWRC members have discussed making the council a fact-finding entity and not a policy making entity, if the council continues. Ohio EPA and ODNR directors will write point papers for next meeting to discuss direction of the OWRC. The next council meeting should be in early September. (Larry Berger announced that Jim Rozell has recently resigned from his position with the council)

Ohio Department of Health, John Wells announced:

- 1.) Distributed copies of news release.
- 2.) Private Water Rules second hearing held August 19th. Minor changes have been made to Rule 3 (permits) and Rule 20 (Registration/Bonding). Rules will then go to JCARR. ODH hopes that the rules will be adopted in September, and then be effective January 1st. ODH plans on having two-day training sessions on the rules throughout the state.
- 3.) Rebecca Petty is handling the final editing of the Well Construction Document. (Tom Allen indicated that he will need to know the timing of the printing, since OEPA has committed to help with printing expenses)

4.) Meeting last Tuesday on Home Sewage Legislation (looks good). Will be conducting training sessions to gain feedback.

5.) Collected approximately 28 arsenic samples in Vinton County (no analysis yet). Rebecca has written reports for Jackson and Perry County arsenic studies (can E-mail them to whoever is interested).

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil & Gas, Scott Kell announced:

1.) Supplemental GRF funding for plugging orphan wells has been increased to \$1.6 million (from \$300,000). 160+ wells should be plugged. Wells will be prioritized based on a matrix that includes environmental concerns. Also respond to all citizen complaints. If a well is flowing into “waters of the state,” USEPA will fund proper abandonment.

2.) The director has decided to merge the Division of Oil & Gas with the Division of Mines and Reclamation.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Larry Berger announced:

1.) The pesticide disposal program has collected almost 1 million pounds of pesticides. The pesticides are disposed of in a hazardous waste incinerator.

2.) USEPA Region V has requested that ODA get the Directors of the OEPA, ODH, & ODNR to sign ODA’s Pesticide Management Plan.

3.) Lake Erie Commission: Funded through license plates. Provides grant money for restoration programs. Developed a matrix to assess the “State of the Lake.”

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Scott Kell asked why the SCCGW was not involved in the last 319 grant cycle, and why the ODNR did not receive the statewide grant they applied for. Heather Raymond mentioned that the last 319 grant cycle was targeted at priority watersheds (as specified in the Clean Water Action Plan). Therefore, ground water projects were not considered. In the next grant cycle ground water projects should be considered. The SCCGW will review submitted ground water projects and provide funding recommendations to Ohio EPA. Tom Allen will meet with Lisa Morris to discuss SCCGW technical review of submitted ground water projects, and statewide funding for ground water projects.

Larry Berger asked about the status of Ohio Farm*A*Syst. Heather Raymond said the Ohio State University Extension Service hired Timothy Lawrence to work on Farm*A*Syst. Heather will meet with Timothy next week to discuss implementation of Farm*A*Syst and linkages with the Source Water Assessment and Protection Program.

Tom Allen distributed a list of priority ground water activities to be addressed by SCCGW. He indicated we should start planning for the Midwest Ground Water Conference. Mike Hallfrisch has received some materials regarding the conference, and will lead the effort.

Mike asked for assistance from SCCGW members with planning for this event. Tom Allen also briefly discussed developing a federally recognized ground water protection program as part of revising the Ohio Ground Water Protection and Management Strategy.

SEPTEMBER AGENDA

PLEASE NOTE*The meeting will be held at the USGS building located at 6480 Double Tree Avenue from 8:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m.** Tom Allen suggested bringing Jeff Patzke to discuss the Unified Clean Up Program, and get Ohio EPA's preliminary position on this issue. Members asked to have an update on SCCGW's role in 319 project approval and status of statewide funds for OEPA and ODNR. The agenda should also include USGS's arsenic proposal, ODH's arsenic findings, and volunteers for arranging an arsenic workshop. Also, initiate formation of workgroups to plan the Midwest Ground Water Conference coming to Ohio in 2000 and to revise the Ground Water Strategy. **(NOTE: IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ALL AGENCIES, DIVISIONS AND PROGRAMS TO BE INVOLVED IN REVISING THE GROUND WATER STRATEGY.)**

HAND-OUTS

- 1.) News release on water conservation
- 2.) Activities for SCCGW
- 3.) Map to ODNR Geologic Sample Repository's new Horace R. Collins Laboratory
- 4.) 319 NPS Proposal Information

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September 16, 1999
USGS
6480 Double Tree Avenue

- 8:30 - 8:35 am - CALL TO ORDER
-Introductions
- 8:35 - 8:40 am - AUGUST MEETING SUMMARY
- 8:40 - 9:20 am - AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - Legislation/Rules/Policies
 - Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires
 - Work Group Updates
 - Miscellaneous (special coordination issues)
 - Drought Discussion (15 minutes)
 - Discussion of SCCGW role in 319 NPS Project Approval (15 minutes)
 - Unified Cleanup Program (15 minutes)
- 9:20 - 9:30 am - BREAK
- 9:30 - 10:30 am - AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS(CONTINUED)
 - Miscellaneous (Special coordination issues)
- 10:30-11:30 am - PRESENTATION- “ARSENIC OCCURRENCE IN WATER WELLS OF SOUTHWEST OHIO” - Rich Bendula
 - DISCUSSION ON ARSENIC ISSUES AND INVESTIGATIONS
- 11:30-12:30 am - LUNCH (**PROVIDED**)
- 12:30-1:30 am - FORMATION OF WORKGROUPS

- UPDATING OHIO GROUND WATER PROTECTION STRATEGY

(We are requesting that **ALL** agencies, divisions, and programs of the State Coordinating Committee on Ground Water identify a representative or contact for assistance in revising the strategy.)

- PLANNING FOR THE 45TH ANNUAL GROUND WATER CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN OHIO IN OCTOBER OF 2000.

2:30 pm

ADJOURN