

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Department of Development  
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Ohio Department of Transportation  
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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



**October 21, 1999**  
**Horace R. Collins Laboratory**  
**Alum Creek State Park**  
**3615 S. Old State Road**  
**Delaware, Ohio 43015**

### **ABSTRACT**

The October 21<sup>st</sup>, 1999 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, Mike Baker, Kristy Hunt, John Kessler, Julio Perez  
ODNR: Robert Vanhorn, Mike Hallfrisch,  
ODH: Rebecca Petty  
NRCS: John Armentano  
PUCO: Sue Daly  
USGS: Jeff de Roche

### **SEPTEMBER MEETING SUMMARY**

No content corrections were made to the September 16<sup>th</sup>, 1999 draft meeting notes summary.

***ODNR, Division of Geological Survey, Robert Vanhorn announced:***

- 1.) The new Horace R. Collins Laboratory serves as a joint location for ODNR's Repository and for the Division of Water Craft. The building is named after a previous ODNR Geologic Survey Chief and houses 3 full time employees within the ODNR Industrial Minerals section: Dave Stith, Mark Wolfe, and Ron Rae. The new facility will aid in a better understanding of Ohio's geologic framework. The conference room located at the facility is also available to other State Agencies. Anyone interested in scheduling the room should contact Mark Wolfe.

***USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service John Armentano announced:***

- 1.) As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999 there will be a search for a new State Conservationist. Pat Wolf the current State Conservationist has accepted a position as liaison with the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and will be stationed out of Long Grove Illinois. Paul DeArman has been designated Acting State Conservationist until a permanent replacement is selected. Paul is currently an Assistant State Conservationist for Technology.
- 2.) The budget has passed but still needs to be signed. NRCS has an extension through October 29<sup>th</sup>. All programs are on hold until the budget is cleared.
- 3.) Two NRCS field positions are open in Sidney and Defiance. Clifford Thorton has moved from a field position to a NRCS Research and Development position.

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

- 1.) The USGS Open house held on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1999 was a success. The USGS hosted over 200 people.
- 2.) USGS and Jackson County are looking for funding to support their Arsenic Project. Presently they are sampling at road cuts, quarries, and during the drilling of new local wells. There are plans to hand drill mined areas with slag piles.  
  
- Rebecca Petty suggested pulling the pumps of local wells and taking samples. Jeff de Roche agreed that this would be a good method of collecting samples but the project is lacking the needed funding.
- 3.) USGS has submitted a proposal to Vinton County Health Department to do another Arsenic Project that would be looking at the possible association of arsenic detections within glacial drift valleys.

- 4.) Handed out final reports for the following USGS recent publications:

1. Hydrologic Assessment of the Upper Dorr Run Watershed, Hocking County, Ohio, 1998 (Water-Resources Investigations Report 99-4137)
2. Use of Environmental Tracers to Evaluate Ground-Water Age and Water-Quality Trends in a Buried-Valley Aquifer, Dayton Area, Southwestern, Ohio (Water-Resources Investigations Report 99-4113)
3. Simulation of the Effects of Nearby Quarrying Operations on Ground-Water Flow at the South Well Field, Franklin County, Ohio (Water-Resources Investigation Report 99-4136),
4. Background Hydrogeologic Data, Water Quality, and Aquifer Characteristics, Western Allen County, Ohio (Water-Resources Investigations Report 99-4146)

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

- 1.) All of the new Private Water Rules have been passed and will go into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000. Except for Rule 20 (Registration/Bonding), which went into effect as of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1999. ODH will be conducting training for the new Private Water Rules, one will be held in Columbus at the Ohio Department of Agriculture on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Local Health Districts will be receiving the new rules and will be receiving statewide training. Training sessions are also scheduled for the private water system contractors. Presently the new rules are being printed, in the interim please contact Rebecca for a copy of the rules.
- 2.) The Home Sewage Rules are up for review by September 2001, the goal is to be done with the rule review before April 2001. The new Home Sewage Rules provide for the use of alternative systems to help minimize off-lot discharges and are performance based (set treatment and discharge standards but do not specify technology). ODH would like to have a general permit developed to deal with future off-lot discharges where alternative systems cannot be installed. ODH is working with Ohio EPA on this issue. An initial draft of the rules will be sent to the Ad hoc Advisory Committee in December and ODH will also be meeting with its Local Health Districts early next year to collect their comments.
  - John Kessler added that OEPA is investigating the legal issues involved with the type of permit that ODH is suggesting. DSW is polling other states to see how they handle on-lot sewage disposal.

- Mike Baker mentioned that while attending the Ground Water Protection Council meeting a field trip addressed alternative on-lot systems in the Cape Cod area. Due

to the geologic makeup of the Cape Cod region on-lot systems have been attributed to cause high nitrate concentrations within the ground water. Presently alternative systems are being tested for their effectiveness to treat on-lot waste, the cost for these systems was not in the high dollar range. Mike Baker will send the information to Rebecca. Also, new Class V rules will not allow Automotive Shops to have industrial waste disposal fixed to their septic system.

- 3.) ODH recently updated its Water Haulers list and the updated version of the list is currently available.

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

- 1.) Index wells in southern and eastern Ohio are continuing to exceed record lows. Some are exceeding all time lows.

- 2.) De-watering of residential wells is still being reported in Trenton, Ohio.

- Tom Allen noted the ODNR announcement of the Drought on the Local News.

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

- 1.) He attended the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Midwest Ground Water Conference the week of October 11<sup>th</sup>, 1999. Approximately 265 people attended the conference. Tom passed out a hard copy of three abstracts from technical papers presented at the conference (see attachments to hard copy draft notes).

- Dr. Michael Berndt of the University of Minnesota presented a paper titled “*The Origin of High Sulfate and Arsenic in Ground Waters of Extreme Western Minnesota*”, Tom can provide a hard copy of this paper to anyone interested. Another paper focused on the development of water hardness, elevated sulfate and gross alpha concentrations due to increased pumping, could we also be seeing these trends in Ohio because of related effects from the recent drought conditions? Several presentations dealt with the impacts of Agriculture on water quality. Most of the papers that were presented dealt with ground water problems that are resulting from natural contributions than with ground water concerns resulting from man-made sources.

- Ohio is hosting the Ground Water Conference next year and will be looking for possibly 300 or more attendees. A SCCGW workgroup has been developed to organize the event.

***OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Mike Baker announced:***

- 1.) The Drought Executive Committee met on October 20th. While conditions have improved low ground water levels continue to be a concern. We need a good recharge season for levels to recover before next year. A subcommittee of the Public and Private Water Supply Task Force is drafting a letter to be sent to County EMA directors recommending they do a county wide water supply drought susceptibility analysis. The Task Force is also working with the Ohio Municipal League and County Commissioners Association to run a small article in their respective newsletters updating local officials on current conditions and advising them that without recharge this winter, Ohio's ground water systems could be looking at severely low ground water supply conditions in 2000.

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

- 1.) She has not heard anything on the future of the Ohio Water Resources Council.

***Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water John Kessler announced:***

- 1.) House Bill 197 (OEPA delegation for the regulation of Municipal Sludge) passed the Ohio Senate. This bill will allow for better oversight and funding to regulate Municipal Sludge.
- 2.) He will be attending the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Roundtable (concerning animal sludge) the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1999.
- 3.) Meetings are being held to decide on an approach for on-lot failures.

***Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water Julio Perez announced:***

- 1.) 319 Proposals addressing the most recent call for proposals are due Friday October 22, 1999.
- 2.) The 319 group is working with OEPA's Division of Environmental and Financial Assurance (DEFA) to address on-lot sewage disposal issues. If any of the SCCGW members become aware of any new information please provide it to Julio.

**NOVEMBER AGENDA**

**The meeting will be held at ODNR'S new Horace R. Collins Laboratory at Alum Creek State Park, 3615 S. Old State Road, Delaware, Ohio 43015 (see attached map), 8:30 to 11:00 AM.** The meeting will include Agency updates and further discussion of SCCGW Workgroup activities.

**HAND-OUTS**

- (4) USGS Reports - See USGS agency announcements.

- (3) Abstracts from the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Ground Water Conference - See Tom Allen Ohio EPA announcements. Abstracts provided with the hard copy of October 21, 1999 draft SCCGW meeting notes.

## **WORKGROUP UPDATES**

### **I. Well Construction Document:**

- Rebecca Petty mentioned that Kathy Sprowls has not been able to finish the Well Construction Document edits. ODH can finish the edits but will need a count from the other State Agencies as to the number of copies they will need before the completed document can go to print. This document is the ODH's local support guidance that will be going to the County Health Districts and it is important that ODH get these documents out soon.

### **II. Arsenic Meeting Plans:**

- Rebecca Petty may be heading the plans for this meeting. The Horace R. Collins meeting room may serve as enough available space to hold the meeting. Other meeting locations include ODA, Highbanks Metro Park, or the Department of Public Safety. It is being proposed that this meeting be postponed until after the Holidays. This meeting may just consider private well issues and other SCCGW workgroups can be formed to look at other types of wells and also the regulatory stand point of the arsenic issues in other types of wells.

### **III. Ground Water Strategy - Revision Workgroup**

- The last SCCGW meeting identified a group of members to revise the Ground Water Strategy. Presently SCCGW has identified a lot of priorities to update the Ground Water Strategy for next year and into the future. Until there is a common understanding from the various State Agency Directors, SCCGW will hold off on continued revisions for the Ground Water Strategy. During the next SCCGW meeting Tom Allen will provide a draft briefing on the various directions of the Strategy, which SCCGW members can take to their respective Directors in order to get permission to move forward with the Strategy revisions.

### **IV. Midwest Ground Water Conference Planning Group:**

- Tim Krichbaum of Ohio EPA DDAGW is presently looking for locations to host the upcoming Ground Water Conference. Tim is looking for facilities that will hold 300 people.

Please provide any ideas on a possible Conference Location as well as possible field trips to Mike Hallfrisch, ODNR Division of Water. Possible dates for the Conference will be from the end of September through November 1st, 2000. There will need to be a call for papers and also a possible poster session. Rod Sheets will be the USGS representative for the Midwest Ground Water Conference Planning Group.

- The SCCGW Conference Workgroup should outline a schedule for events leading up to the Conference date.

#### **V. 319 Workgroup/Screening Committee:**

- Tom Allen has suggested inviting those who did the draft to be a part of the screening committee for the selection of ground water proposals.

- Mike Baker added that the entire 319 program is being evaluated by Ohio EPA and ODNR to make improvements in soliciting proposals as well as the application, evaluation and selection process. The SCCGW will definitely have opportunity to provide input on what is needed to assure that 319 proposals related to groundwater protection get the same consideration as surface water projects.

- Ohio EPA DSW is holding a training session October 28<sup>th</sup>, to train those who will be evaluating 319 project proposals. The training will review the new 319 project proposal evaluation forms. Heather Raymond will be providing the training for the ground water evaluation forms at the October 28<sup>th</sup> session. Tom Allen and Kristy Hunt Ohio EPA DDAGW will be attending this training. A second training will be held for the SCCGW 319 Screening Committee to pass on the information that was provided at the October 28<sup>th</sup> session. This SCCGW 319 training needs to occur within the next few weeks and will take approximately 4-6 hours.

- Changes to the application, evaluation forms etc. to make them more relevant to Ground Water NonPoint Source Priorities will be discussed at the SCCGW screening group training to be scheduled in November.

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