

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

January 20, 2005

Horace R. Collins Conference Room
ODNR Repository, Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The January 2005 meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a discussion of the matrix for Ohio Water Resources Council's Strategic Plan

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Jim Raab

ODA: Bill Goodman

ODH: Rebecca Fugitt

PUCO: Sue Daly

NRCS: John Armentano

USGS: Jeff DeRoche

REVISIONS of DECEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

In the third item for ODH's update, planned rule revisions may require drilling companies to post a higher bond to receive a drilling **registration** (not "permit").

In the third item for OEPA-DDAGW's update, strategic planning is for *SFY 2006-2007* (not 2007-2008).

These edits have been made to the December meeting summary.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Jim Raab announced:

- The Division has hired a part-time Administrative Assistant, and three interns to work on the backlog of new well logs to be entered.

- A process for well drillers to directly enter their well log data online will be developed this year, starting March 14, 2005. The computer interface should be ready for drillers

to use by August 1, 2005. The project also includes linking images to well log data, and enabling queries on any data field. These improvements should be in place by December, 2005.

United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff deRoche announced:

- The Survey just published *Effects of Highway De-icing Chemicals on Shallow Unconsolidated Aquifers in Ohio - Final Report, Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5150*, written by Allison Kunze and Bernard Sroka.

-The Ground Water Metadata project is winding up, with the final meeting scheduled for Friday, February 11th, 9:00 AM at USGS.

- USGS has been approached by the Tuscarawas River Buried Valley Council to provide hydrogeologic information about the Tuscarawas River valley sand-and-gravel aquifer. The Council is interested in petitioning for a federal Sole Source Aquifer designation.

- This year the USGS has received some solid funding for the Great Lakes Initiative, which will be used for research relevant to issues such as diversion and delineating the ground water divide.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- Next Monday Kevin Brown will officially start his position as director of NRCS' Financial Assistance Program, a position located in Washington, D.C. This leaves open his former position as State Conservationist.

- The Service's computer technicians, who up till now have been located in a number of district offices nationwide, are now being consolidated into a single national office (location still to be determined), which will be managed as a pay-per-service operation.

- The budget still has not been announced. In general the farm programs were well funded for this fiscal year, but the Conservation Technical Assistance program suffered cuts.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Bill Goodman announced:

- ODA currently is putting considerable resources into countering the spread of the ash borer.

- A new threat is soybean rust, a fungus that attacks the leaves of soybeans. Common throughout Asia and Europe, soybean rust was never seen in North America until this September, after spores were brought into the southern states by hurricanes. At least ten states, starting with Louisiana, have reported this problem, but it has not shown up in Ohio yet. If it survives the winter, there are about half a dozen fungicides that can be used to treat it.

Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Fugitt announced:

- ODH is working on a plan for implementing House Bill 231 (new Household Sewage legislation).
- ODH is also busy registering well drilling contractors for this year, with 1,000 registrations complete so far.
- The Director must issue a report soon on the investigation at South Bass Island last autumn. House Bill 006 requires that a status report be completed within six months after an ODH investigation is conducted. The data do not lead to a single contaminant source--or type of contaminant source--as the cause of the 1,400 reported cases of gastrointestinal illness suffered by visitors to the island last summer. Rather, it seems likely that there were multiple causes working simultaneously.

Ohio EPA, Directors Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

- Management changes: Joe Koncelik is the new director of Ohio EPA, replacing Chris Jones who recently resigned. Laura Powell is the new Assistant Director, and Bill Fischbein is the new Deputy Director for Legal Affairs.
- Bob has been asked to participate in a new workgroup called the "State Long-Term Recovery Committee", which is tasked with creating a process for better state economic and developmental assistance after devastating floods, especially in southeastern Ohio. Bob is part of a team looking at environmental issues, which has identified "stream clearing" as a real need, i.e., cleaning flood debris from streams and stream banks.

DISCUSSION

Tom Allen discussed the matrix for the Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC) Strategic Plan. He requested that SCCGW members consider the following for their own programs:

- (1) What program activities will change by July 1, 2005? (Example: previously ODH was working on legislation for home sewer systems; now it is working on a plan to implement that legislation.)
- (2) What are the priority ground water goals and activities for the next biennium (SFYs 06-07)?
- (3) What OWRC workgroups are you on right now?
- (4) What activities may need SCCGW involvement/review?
- (5) What ground water priorities/activities are relevant to the OWRC ten-year strategic plan?

Tom requested that SCCGW members complete the matrix and return it to him

electronically before the next SCCGW meeting (on February 17th).

NEXT SCCGW MEETING:

Will be held February 17th, at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room, 8:30-11:30 am.

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February 17, 2005

**Horace R. Collins Conference Center, ODNR Repository
Delaware, Ohio**

- 8:30 - 8:35 CALL TO ORDER
 - Introductions

- 8:35 - 8:40 REVISIONS TO JANUARY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

- 8:40 - 10:15 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10:15 - 10:25 BREAK

- 10:25 - 11:05 Presentation by Paul Spahr (ODNR/Division of Water) titled "GIS
Application for Preliminary Evaluation of Soil Limitations for On-site
Sewage Systems"

- 11:05 - 11:25 GROUND WATER PRIORITIES in reference to OWRC Strategic Plan

- 11:25 - 11:30 MARCH MEETING AGENDA

- 11:30 ADJOURN