

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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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

June 19, 2008

Horace Collins Conference Room
Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The June 2008 SCCGW meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Erin Sherer (OEPA CDO - DSW) on Storm Water Permitting in the Big Darby watershed.

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Brian Hall, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger, Audrey Rush
ODOT: Andrea Stevenson
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Ralph Haefner

to the environment in northwest Ohio to Tom Allen, to submit as a potential feature for Channel Eleven (Toledo)'s EcoTrack segment. Also events will be posted on the EcoTrack web site and may be featured on WTOL Friday evening news/weather casts.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCCGW Chairman:

SCCGW Projects. SCCGW needs to plan for updating the technical manuals that were created by SCCGW workgroups 8-12 years ago: *Technical Guidance for Sealing Unused Wells (1996)* and *Technical Guidance for Well Construction and Ground Water Protection (2000)*.

Storm Center Initiatives. Efforts to launch similar programs at southwest, northeast and central Ohio TV stations are progressing and may be funded within the next year or two.

OWRC Action Items. The Ohio Water Resources Committee (OWRC)'s action items have been updated and can be viewed on the OWRC Web site. The action items related to ground water will be updated on the SCCGW web site.

WMAO Fall Conference. Tom Allen is chairing the committee planning the Fall Conference for the Water Management Association of Ohio. Among the plans: a \$100 prize will be awarded to the best poster display. SCCGW members are encouraged to recruit more university participation.

WMAO Conference. A meeting sponsored by WMAO will be held next week at ODNR. Ohio Conservancy District law will be addressed in the morning and the Clean Water Act will be discussed in the afternoon. Registration and lunch cost \$40; a registration form can be downloaded from the WMAO Web site.

Eco-Track Material. SCCGW members also are encouraged to forward any stories or events related

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

Pesticide Monitoring. The division is working with ODA to locate geologically sensitive areas for ODA's annual ground water monitoring for pesticides program. This year they are focusing on the karst terrain in the Bellevue (Seneca County) area.

Radionuclides Fact Sheet. The division is developing a Fact Sheet on the occurrence and distribution of radionuclides in public water systems using ground water. A draft is expected by the end of June.

New Well Rules. The division has drafted new water well standards as part of the five-year rule review. New sections address definitions, variances, siting criteria that address setbacks related to source water protection, stable yield, new well analysis, and requirements for development of a local Source Water Protection Plan as a condition of siting a new well.

GWPC Annual Forum. The Ground Water Protection Council's 25th annual forum will be held in Cincinnati this year, September 20-24 at the Millennium Hotel. For more information, visit www.qwpc.org.

Technical Guidance Manual. Chapter Eleven of DDAGW's Technical Guidance Manual (TGM) was sent to SCCGW members recently for review and Chapter 16 (Geophysics) will be distributed for review in the next week or so. Please forward comments to Jeff Patzke, Ohio EPA, DDAGW.

River Spill Project. The division recently finalized a contract with USGS to conduct time-of-travel studies on ten stream segments upstream of public water system intakes. The data will improve velocity coefficients for the modeling program RiverSpill and provide spill response information for the water system operators.

Rocky Express 401/404 Permit. The division is reviewing the 401/404 application for the proposed interstate Rocky Express gas pipeline, which will cross eight source water protection areas in Ohio.

CO₂ Injection. Recently the Underground Injection Control (UIC) unit received a permit request from a geoethanol plant for a "special Class V" permit to inject up to 300,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually into the Mt. Simon sandstone.

Oil & Gas Wells. The division is cooperating with ODNR DMRM on the siting of an oil and gas well near a source water protection area in Bainbridge Township (Geauga County).

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water:

Annual Stream Sampling. The summer sampling season has begun; teams are sampling stretches of the Upper Miami, Portage, Moxahala and Licking Rivers, as well as Pymatuning Creek, Salt Creek and some Lake Erie tributaries.

National Stream Survey. The division is participating in a two-year national stream survey.

Water Quality Integrated Report. The 2008 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report was approved by U.S. EPA on May 5, 2008.

Achievement. The division's 2010 goal is 80 percent attainment of water quality standards for all watersheds. Currently, for large rivers 79 percent attainment has been achieved. However, when all streams are considered, attainment is 55 percent.

Web maps. The division now has a collection of maps on its Web site showing the locations of combined sewer overflows within each of the listed CSO communities (visit <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/gis/cso/select.php>).

The division also has a statewide map showing the locations of major NPDES permittees (visit <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/permits/majorsmap.html>)

Rules Update. The Permit-to-Install rules are being revised this summer to update 35-year-old water quality standards. Also the sewage sludge rules are being revised and will go out for interested party review this fall. Finally, water quality standards to deal with nutrients will be developed by 2009.

Vessel Permits. This week USEPA public-noticed a new permit concerning discharges from recreational boats.

Ohio Department of Transportation:

SPCC Plans for ODOT Garages. For the past 18 months ODOT has been working on Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plans for the USTs and ASTs at its maintenance facilities.

QA/QC Progress. In general, ODOT has seen significant improvement of environmental standards at its field offices.

Climate Change Action Plan. ODOT has just started developing a Climate Change Action Plan.

Multi-Modal System. ODOT is working on a “multi-modal” transportation system designed to most efficiently and effectively link Ohio’s highways, railways, transit, aviation and port facilities. Recommendations are due by August.

Ohio EPA, Division of Emergency and Remedial Response:

New Rules. The Voluntary Action Program (VAP) has revised its rules as part of the five-year rule review and they are with JCARR. They now include generic standards for surface water and sediment in lieu of a mandatory risk-assessment.

Ottawa River. Natural resource damages have been assessed for environmental damage to the Ottawa River.

Progress to Date. Over 300 sites have been cleaned up through the VAP program.

RCRA and VAP MOA. In November 2007, USEPA and Ohio EPA signed a second RCRA and VAP MOA, which allows volunteers to clean up sites under VAP standards, but with elements of the more stringent RCRA Corrective Action Program (such as public involvement and OEPA oversight.)

Rule Discrepancies. Recently concerns have been voiced about differences among three different programs in permissible levels of the same contaminant. The programs mentioned are DSIWM’s beneficial use of industrial waste rules, DSW’s sludge application regulations and DERR’s

VAP rules. However, the goals of these programs are also quite different.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:

Rule Review. Rules on water and sewer rates for privately-owned utilities were revised as part of the five-year rule review and went to JCARR in May.

Ownership Transfer. The Holiday Service Corporation (near Burr Oak) is being sold to Northern Ohio Rural Water.

Children’s Water Festival. The Children’s Water Festival, coordinated by Ohio EPA – DDAGW, held during National Drinking Water Week in early May was a great success. Both OEPA Director Chris Korleski and Governor Ted Strickland attended and addressed the participants, who were 4th and 5th grade students from the Worthington School District.

United States Geological Survey:

Pharmaceuticals Research.

- *Fact Sheet.* The Ohio Water Science Center has put together a two-page information sheet titled “Organic Wastewater Compounds in Water: Ohio Water Science Center Research Directions”. [Copies were distributed]
- *Tinkers Creek Project.* A report on passive sampling for organic wastewater compounds in Tinkers Creek is currently in review.
- *Sampling Sites.* USGS will approach OEPA to discuss sampling DDAGW’s ambient network for these constituents.

Ohio EPA, Directors Office:

Home Sewage Workgroups. The next meeting of the Home Sewage Commission workgroups will be held July 9th.

Home Sewage Permits. OEPA’s Division of Surface Water issued 800 permits for new home sewage systems during the last year.

PRESENTATIONS

Erin Sherer (OEPA, CDO - DSW) gave a talk on ground water/surface water interaction and storm water permitting in the Big Darby watershed.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

August 21, 2008, at the Horace Collins Classroom,
8:30-11:30 am.

Presentation: Hellbranch Creek Ground Water /
Surface Water Interaction Study, ODNR and USGS.

Lunch: Tom Allen's house following the meeting.

REMINDER: Meeting agendas and final meeting
summaries will be posted on the SCCGW Web site:
www.epa.state.oh.us/ddaqw/SCCGW/index.html