

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
1800 WaterMark Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1099

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
65 South Front Street
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Ohio Department of Development
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of Transportation
25 South Front 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 16, 1997

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
1800 WaterMark Drive
Conference Room 1A

ABSTRACT

The January 16th meeting featured a presentation by John Sadzewicz on the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), and what they will mean for Ohio. The rest of the meeting was devoted to brief agency updates and announcements. Larry Berger chaired the meeting for Bob Wulfhorst.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Larry Antosch, Michael Baker, Barb Lubberger, John Sadzewicz, Flo Sellu, John Stevenson
ODNR: Dave Hanselmann, Dennis Hull, Rebecca Petty,
ODH: Scott Golden
ODOT: Sue Daly
ODA: Larry Berger
SFM: Kevin Hodnett
USGS: Jeff de Roche

DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

The December Meeting Summary was approved as written.

PRESENTATION ON SDWA AMENDMENTS OF 1996

John Sadzewicz presented “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly” of the SDWA Amendments of 1996. (Portions of his presentation notes are included with paper copies of this meeting summary.) Overall, John said, the amendments improve the SDWA, providing quite a bit of state flexibility. The U.S. EPA is moving very quickly to get out the guidances that states will need, especially those for implementing Source Water Protection and a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OEPA, DDAGW, Tom Allen announced:

- 1.) A group of primarily academic professionals has submitted a proposal to Ohio’s Board of Regents requesting over 3.5 million dollars to form a Consortium for Environmental and Process Technologies (CEPT). The goal of the Consortium would be to establish Ohio as a leader in technologies related to monitoring, assessment and remediation of environmental hazards. The proposed program would establish a state-of-the-art characterization laboratory and a mobile testing and teaching laboratory to give students hands-on experience in solving environmental problems. Dr. Robert Ritzi of Wright State University recently contacted Tom, requesting a letter of support. Because CEPT’s program addresses a broad spectrum of environmental issues (not just ground water), Tom passed it on to the Director for possible Agency endorsement.

Tom distributed copies of the Executive Summary of CEPT’s proposal.

ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Dave Hanselmann announced:

- 1.) ODNR/DSWC is continuing its work to update the Nonpoint Source program. The Natural Resources Coordinating Committee is assisting in this effort. Thirteen state and federal agencies are represented on the committee.

ODH, Scott Golden announced:

- 1.) A new employee, John Wells, has been hired into the Bureau of Local Services.

State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulation, Kevin Hodnett announced:

- 1.) His work on the project for closing out sites that meet No Further Action standards is continuing. Meanwhile, BUSTR has started downsizing.

ODNR, Division of Water, Rebecca Petty announced:

- 1.) Data entry and scanning of well logs for the well log computerization project are both in full swing now. Anyone needing well logs should request them well in advance.

OEPA, Agricultural Liaison, John Stevenson announced:

- 1.) He joined Central District Office Division of Water staff in a conversation with AgriGeneral's chairman and others. AgriGeneral has agreed to broker its manure rather than stockpiling. They are also designing 180-day storage lagoons for wash water, developing a waste management plan, and possibly making changes in their Permit to Install. John feels very positive about this agreement, which is meant to address the Agency's concerns over surface water contamination by operations at this site.

USGS, Water Resources Division, Jeff de Roche announced:

- 1.) The Great-Little Miami River Valley National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) project will begin this year, probably within a few months. A project chief has been selected and the selection should be announced within a month.

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, John Sadzewicz announced:

- 1.) Ohio EPA's Central Office will move to the Lazarus building on Front Street in downtown Columbus. OEPA will occupy all of the 6th floor and portions of the 5th floor and the 5th-intermediate floor. Turner Construction has been contracted for extensive renovations. The move is scheduled to take place by July 1, 1997.
- 2.) Developing a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for public water systems is the Division's highest priority right now. Also, developing a Source Water Protection program is high priority. (Both are mandated by the 1996 SDWA amendments.)
- 3.) In response to a question, John noted that the Division has no plans to raise drinking water fees. This year's proposed budget included the current fee structure, except that fees for laboratory certification were *reduced*.
- 4.) John is the Agency's delegate to the governor's Water Policy and Planning Council. He is part of the Personnel Committee, which interviewed applicants for a full-time Council Executive Director. The final applicants will be meeting the full Council on January 22. A retreat is planned in February for the new Director and Council.

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Baker announced:

- 1.) The Division's information management system ("DRINK") is under prototype development. The prototype should be ready around May of this year, and final implementation should occur by 1998. Recently a Data Entry Module (DEM) was added to the planned system, which will enable laboratory data to be submitted electronically to the Agency.
- 2.) A Division subcommittee is working on expanding the network of ambient ground water monitoring stations from the current number (150) to about 220 stations. Plans call for 50-60 additional stations to be included in this Spring's sampling round. Mike will provide maps of the ambient station locations as they become available.
- 3.) The Division plans to make available through its Web site county maps showing the boundaries of wellhead protection areas and the locations of public water systems and ambient sampling stations. Maps of wellhead protection areas have been requested by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (for identifying potential areas to include in the

Conservation Reserve Program) and by county Emergency Management Agencies (for identifying areas that may warrant special emergency response procedures).

- 4.) The Division is discussing using tritium analysis for age dating water at all ambient stations. One goal is to evaluate the usefulness of age dating to other programs, such as wellhead protection. Many states are using age dating to determine how stringent management options in wellhead protection areas need to be.

PUCO, Sue Daly announced:

- 1.) PUCO also is planning a move, but its future location has not been decided yet.

ODNR, Division of Geological Survey, Dennis Hull announced:

- 1.) The Division--in cooperation with ODNR's Division of Oil and Gas--recently completed a Natural Gas Atlas identifying all the natural gas-producing reservoirs in the northern Appalachian basin. This atlas costs about \$20.00 plus \$5.00 for a companion digital database.
- 2.) The publication *Fossils in Ohio* was not released in December 1996, as planned. When the copies arrived from the printers, it was discovered that many pages were double-struck and many of the photos were too dark. Reprinting of the bulletin is being discussed.
- 3.) The Survey submitted three proposals to the United States Geological Survey's STATE Map Program. The first proposal involved mapping the surficial geology of the Ohio portions of the Cincinnati and Falmouth 1:100,000 quads. The second involved mapping the surficial geology of the Lorain and Put-in-Bay 1:100,000 quads. The third proposal involved digitizing the bedrock geology and topography of the parts of the state that haven't been digitized yet. The first proposal was selected for funding, for a total of \$112,000.
- 4.) Recently the Division submitted a 319 proposal for mapping karst areas in Ohio. This proposal was not funded, but the Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility Development Authority is very interested and may offer some funding for completing a downsized version of this project.
- 5.) The Division is still meeting with architects to design the new sample repository.
- 6.) The Division has gained a geologist as a result of the recent ODNR layoffs. Mark Wolfe, formerly with ODNR's Division of Oil and Gas, is now working in OGS' Coal Geology Group.

ODA, Feed and Fertilizer Section, Larry Berger announced:

- 1.) The U.S. EPA has provided funding to buy a \$79,000 "chipper", for shredding plastic pesticide containers. Up to now, ODA's pesticide container recycling program has been limited by not having chippers available at all its recycling stations. The new chipper will be transported from site to site, and is four times faster than the chippers used previously. The chips are bagged and sold to a contractor in St. Louis, who ships them in large quantities to a recycler in California. The recycler makes them into pallets used by the agricultural industry. Larry stated that the program needs to recycle 200,000 pounds a year to be self-supporting.

- 2.) ODA has been involved with a committee formed to address atrazine levels in Hoover Reservoir.
- 3.) The company formed by Ciba-Geigy's friendly merger with Santase is working on voluntary education programs for 6-8 watersheds in Ohio. They will work with dealers, custom applicators, and Soil and Water Conservation District staff to provide information on Best Management Practices. They intend to invite the participation of ODA and OEPA staff eventually.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Well Construction

Nothing new to report - the group has not met since Rebecca last reported to the SCCGW on December 19th. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 22, 1997.

State Management Plan

Larry Berger reported that he and Chris Kenah will be attending a meeting on the SMP rules, etc. in Chicago on January 23 and 24, 1997. A draft of Ohio's State Management Plan (SMP) has been submitted to U.S. EPA, Region V. So far no comments have been received back.

ODA plans to initiate a well sampling program of facilities regulated by the Grade A Milk, Meat Inspection, and Food Dairy and Drug program. Possibly 100 wells will be sampled this summer, although sites have not been prioritized yet on the basis of aquifer vulnerability. Larry is concerned about obtaining locational data for the selected monitoring sites. A meeting will be held on January 30, 1997. At this meeting, Larry expects much of this discussion to focus on technologies for obtaining and managing data (i.e., GPS, GIS, address-matching software, etc.).

Mike Baker noted that the initial focus should be on the criteria for selecting monitoring sites, and the data elements required. Then the focus can shift to how to obtain and store the required information. Larry suggested that this issue be discussed up front at the January 30 meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1.) Dave Hanselmann suggested that the SCCGW meetings start at 8:30 AM instead of 9:00. This proposal was approved by consensus. Future SCCGW meetings will begin at 8:30 and end at 11:00 AM

FEBRUARY AGENDA

1. Presentation by Dr. Gary Rowe, USGS, on ground water dating using Tritium-Helium3 and chlorofluorocarbons
2. Agency updates and announcements
3. Work Group updates

HAND-OUTS

Executive Summary of CEPT proposal to the Ohio Board of Regents.

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February 20, 1996
Ohio EPA
1800 WaterMark Drive, Room 1A

8:30 - 8:35 am	CALL TO ORDER -Introductions
8:35 - 8:40 am	JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 9:20 am	PRESENTATION by Dr. Gary Rowe, USGS <i>Ground Water Dating Using Tritium-Helium3 and Chlorofluorocarbons</i>
9:20 - 10:00am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous
10:00 - 10:10 am	BREAK
10:10 - 10:45 am	WORK GROUP UPDATES
10:45 - 10:55 am	MISCELLANEOUS
10:55 - 11:00 am	MARCH SCCGW MEETING AGENDA
11:00 am	ADJOURN