

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
1800 WaterMark Drive  
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Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Fountain Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health  
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Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM  
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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

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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 16, 1997

Ohio Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Administration Building  
8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg  
Conference Room 308

### **ABSTRACT**

The October 16th meeting was devoted to agency updates and announcements, Work Group updates, and discussion of the Nonpoint Source Management document update.

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Baker, Tim Christman, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Jill Evans, Mike Hallfrisch, Scott Kell, Bob Van Horn

ODA: Larry Berger, John Stevenson

ODH: Scott Golden, Rebecca Petty

USGS: Jeff deRoche

PUCO: Sue Daly

NRCS: Paul DeArman

### **SEPTEMBER MEETING SUMMARY**

The September meeting summary was approved as written.

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***ODA, Pesticides Section, Larry Berger announced:***

- 1.) The container recycling program for 1997 is complete. Almost 60,000 pounds of plastic containers (previously used to hold pesticides) were recycled.

- 2.) The Lake Erie Clean Sweep program began on September 22nd. Approximately 110,000 pounds of pesticides have been collected from the Lake Erie counties alone.
- 3.) ODA's new Global Positioning Systems equipment has all arrived. A question has arisen over whether Reynoldsburg's zoning will permit mounting the antenna for the base station. ODA plans to start sampling wells for the State Management Plan monitoring network next Spring, whether the base station is installed or not.
- 4.) Total pesticide screens completed on about 34 ground water samples from ODNR's ambient well network all came up nondetect.

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

- 1.) A verified complaint was received regarding a Martin Marietta wet mining operation. A neighbor noted that observation wells installed by the Division of Mining and Reclamation (to monitor water levels) had casing lengths of less than 25 feet. Ohio's regulations *for public water supply systems* specify that casing lengths must exceed 25 feet, and Ohio EPA attorneys have interpreted this requirement to extend to all wells.
- 2.) Tom and other Ohio EPA managers are members of the Water Resource Strategy work group, set up by the Ohio Water Resources Council. The work group has had two meetings so far, and hopes to complete a final draft of Ohio's water resources strategy by January 1998. They are incorporating strategic planning already developed by the various state agencies rather than creating new strategy. SCCGW members should have an opportunity to review this document.

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

- 1.) Management changes: Tom Behlen is resigning as Chief of the Division of Surface Water. Jan Carlson has resigned as Chief of the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response.
- 2.) Ohio EPA will be public noticing the Intended Use Plan (IUP) for use of the first-year capitalization grant that was authorized by the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments. This grant provides funding for capital improvements to public drinking water systems, and also provides a one-time set-aside for conducting source water assessments.
- 3.) The Division will convene a Technical Advisory Committee and a Public Advisory Group to enable the public to participate in developing Ohio's Source Water Assessment Program. A Technical Advisory Committee meeting will be held in late November/early December.

***USGS, Water Resources Division, Jeff deRoche announced:***

- 1.) The Division is conducting a ground water study for the City of Warren (in Trumbull County) that includes a study of ground water-surface water relationships. There is some interest in seeking Source Water Protection funds to support this study.

- 2.) The Division is involved in aquifer testing at the Delphos public water system's new wellfield.
- 3.) USGS is looking at innovative solutions for obtaining adequate supplies of drinking water and safely disposing of wastewater at a Perry County site where former strip-mined areas have been divided into residential lots. Buyers have found, after purchasing the land, that ground water is not available.

***ODH, Scott Golden announced:***

- 1.) The agency has recently taken actions against several contractors in southwest Ohio regarding private water supplies. Also, there was a hearing about a month ago concerning violations in seven northwest Ohio counties.
- 2.) The Agency is investigating a VOCs plume in Franklin County (in the old Dublin area), that is believed to be related to former USTs at various sites. Nearby residents are connected to public water but still maintain some private wells. ODH is trying to persuade them to abandon these wells.
- 3.) ODH is sampling private wells as part of the investigation of a statistically significant leukemia cluster in the City of Marion. Although River Valley High School in the outskirts of Marion has received the bulk of media attention, the leukemia cases actually are scattered around the city. So far the cause is unknown.
- 4.) ODH hosted the Midwestern Well Program Managers annual meeting this year, in Westerville.
- 5.) In September Scott attended the National Ground Water Association's annual meeting in Las Vegas. The hot topic this year is "Water 2000"--a federal program to make public water available to everyone, including people living in very rural areas. A concern expressed at this meeting is that the industry is using federal tax dollars to build public systems in areas where it would be more economical and practical to install private wells.
- 6.) The Sewage Advisory Committee held a full Committee meeting in September. The next such meeting will be held in January 1998. The task teams have finished reviewing existing legislation, and now will begin drafting new legislation.

***ODH, Rebecca Petty announced:***

- 1.) Draft legislation on the Private Water Systems Program is still with the Legislative Services Commission. In the meantime, the committee is conducting an education campaign with constituent groups. Some major features of the proposed legislation include licensing of sanitarians through certification and licensing of water well drillers. Local health department would need to complete a contract with the State of Ohio to administer the water well drilling program. Demonstration of competency would be required, and would be

reviewed on a three-year basis. Counties would be permitted to share certified inspectors.

*Note: Rebecca is currently spending about 50% of her time at ODH, to assist in developing the Private Water Systems Program.*

***ODNR, Division of Oil and Gas, Scott Kell announced:***

- 1.) The Division unveiled its new Risk-Based Data Management System (RBDMS) at the Ground Water Protection Council's annual conference in Cleveland in late September. This system was developed for the Division by CH2M-HILL. Microsoft Access is the operating software. All of the Division's information will be stored in this system, including permits, well construction and production, and geologic information. Eventually GIS functions will be added.
- 2.) The Division has been talking to Mary Lou Rochotte at Ohio EPA on how they can use RBDMS to support Class I activities. A portion of the Class I permit fees goes to Oil and Gas. The Division currently is looking at entry of Class I mechanical integrity testing.
- 3.) The Oil and Gas Commission has sponsored a federal bill to create a voluntary, industry-funded public education program. This program is intended to improve public perceptions of the industry.

***ODNR, Division of Geologic Survey, Bob Van Horn announced:***

- 1.) This fall the Geologic Survey designated the second week of October "Earth Science Week". [Bob passed copies of the Governor's proclamation around the table.]
- 2.) Update on mapping:
  - The 1:500,000 surficial geology map is to be published by July 1998.
  - The 1:500,000 bedrock geology map should be available in December 1998.
  - The 1:100,000 bedrock maps: About four of the 32 quads at this scale have been published. The Division plans to complete up to five quads each year as full color-print-on-demand maps. Full-color maps will be available on request.
  - The 1:24,000 bedrock mapping: Digitizing is ongoing. By January 1998, all quads west of longitude 82 should be digitized. This effort will enable bedrock maps to be produced electronically at any required scale.
- 3.) The Geologic Society of America (GSA) annual conference will be held in Columbus in March 1998.
- 4.) The Division has completed three new GeoFacts fact sheets (numbers 14, 15, and 16). All address coal mining issues. [Bob distributed copies around the table] These fact sheets also are available on the Survey's Web site.

- 5.) The new Ohio Geologic Sample Repository at Alum Creek is undergoing some redesign and upgrades.

***ODNR, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:***

- 1.) He is still accepting requests for specified numbers of the Guidance for Sealing Abandoned Wells, which will be reprinted soon.
- 2.) The Division's well driller liaison, Tim Jackson, has accepted a position with the Division of Mines and Reclamation.

***NRCS, Paul DeArman announced:***

- 1.) Some new NRCS staff that are involved in ground water issues are:
  - John Armentano, who works with water quality and wetlands issues;
  - Dana York, who is the new deputy state conservationist.
- 2.) Paul Johnson, chief of NRCS, is resigning effective November 8th.
- 3.) The NRCS field staff currently are busy with Conservation Reserve Program sign-ups.

**WORKGROUP UPDATES**

***State Management Plan for Pesticides (SMP)***

The group currently is revising portions of the draft SMP, addressing U.S. EPA requests for further clarification on items such as prevention activities, ground water monitoring, and vulnerability assessment. The group hopes to have the revised draft ready by late January.

Larry noted that the final federal rules for SMPs have not come out yet. Because of this delay, he feels that specific plans will not have to be completed until 2001 or 2002.

***Well Construction Work Group***

Members are busy writing their respective sections. Drafts are due to Rebecca Petty and Kathy Sprowls by November 3rd. The group hopes to have its document complete early in 1998.

**DISCUSSION OF NON-POINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Jill Evans passed out a document summarizing the results of 14 public meetings that have been held around the State since Spring of 1997. For the update effort, working groups have been designated that fall under three broad areas: Resource Protection; Source Control; and Program Management. It is proposed that working groups meet monthly, and a general agenda for these meetings is provided. The first meetings will start in November. The group hopes to finalize the recommendations by March, and publish the final report by June or July, 1998.

Larry Berger moved to form a SCCGW workgroup that would comprise the ground water task group (one of three task groups listed under "Resource Protection"). There was some discussion of who should participate. Besides staff from the SCCGW constituent agencies, it was recommended that the group seek representatives from OSU Extension, Ohio Water Well Association, Ohio Farm Bureau, Ohio Environmental Health Association, Conservancy Districts,

and the Ohio Environmental Council. It was also noted that representatives of the corn growers, swine, beef, and poultry associations should participate. Jill will take recommendations and begin arrangements for the first meeting.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) is holding its annual conference on November 19-20, at the Clarion Hotel in Worthington. The Ground Water Division will be meeting on November 20 (8:30 to 10:00 AM).
- The November SCCGW meeting is rescheduled for **November 13th**, because of the WMAO conference the following week. **Location is 1600 WaterMark, Room 3A.**
- The December SCCGW meeting will be held at ODA, Conference Room 308.

### **NOVEMBER AGENDA**

Agency updates and announcements

Work Group updates

Presentation on developing Ohio's Source Water Assessment program

### **HAND-OUTS**

- 1.) Resolution to designate October 12-18, 1997 as Earth Science Week
- 2.) Three sets of GeoFacts:
  - No. 14 - History of Coal Mining in Ohio
  - No. 15 - Coal Mining and Reclamation
  - No. 16 - Coal and Electricity
- 3.) Ground Water Issues Identified by the SCCGW, Spring 1997
- 4.) Nonpoint Source Update Organization report

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November 13, 1997

Ohio EPA  
1600 WaterMark Drive  
Conference Room 3A

8:30 - 8:35 am	CALL TO ORDER -Introductions
8:35 - 8:40 am	OCTOBER MEETING SUMMARY
<b>8:40 - 9:15 am</b>	<b>PRESENTATION ON SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT IN OHIO</b>
9:15 - 10:00 am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous
10:00 - 10:10 am	BREAK
10:10 - 10:30 am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)
10:30 - 10:50 am	WORK GROUP UPDATES
10:50 - 10:55 am	MISCELLANEOUS
10:55 - 11:00 am	DECEMBER SCCGW MEETING AGENDA
11:00 am	ADJOURN