

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
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77 South High Street
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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

April 16, 1998

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Building D, 3rd Floor Conference Room

ABSTRACT

The April 16th meeting was devoted to agency updates and announcements and Work Group updates.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Michael Baker, Vladimir Cica, Tim Christman, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Bob Van Horn

ODA: Larry Berger

ODH: Rebecca Petty

USGS: Jeff deRoche

PUCO: Sue Daly

NRCS: Doug Zehner

MARCH MEETING SUMMARY

It was noted that item (6) of Larry Antosch's report was inaccurately reported. The six million dollars for funding of the Clean Water Act Section 319 grants is an estimate of the amount that will be available *if* the Clinton Administration's "Clean Water Action Plan" is implemented as written. However, so far Congress has not acted on the Plan. [The March meeting notes have been revised for final distribution.] No other changes were requested.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ODH, Rebecca Petty announced:

- 1.) The second draft of the Private Well Systems Program legislation has been issued (copy attached). The comment period will end within about two weeks. ODH is finding a sponsor for the legislation, and hope to re-introduce it during this session.
- 2.) ODH's sampling of private wells in Marion is complete. All the sampling results came back negative for the parameters that were sampled (volatile organics and radionuclides).

- 3.) The Ohio Environmental Health Conference will be held April 28-29 at the Radisson Airport Hotel. Rebecca has copies of the agenda.

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

- 1.) Development of Ohio's Source Water Assessment Program continues, with monthly meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee and the Central Ohio Public Advisory Group. District staff are also meeting with Public Advisory Groups within their districts. OEPA staff are looking at using ODNR's aquifer mapping to provide base maps for documenting regional hydrogeologic information, such as porosity and hydraulic conductivity. This kind of information is needed to do simplified delineations for the public water systems within the various aquifer regions. OEPA staff have met with USGS and ODNR's Division of Geologic Survey and Division of Water to discuss a unified effort to provide delineations and information on sensitivity for all ground water-based public water systems.
- 2.) During the last week of March, Mike attended a meeting of the Ground Water Protection Council in Annapolis, Maryland. U.S. EPA headquarters staff were in attendance, and discussion focused on Source Water Assessment--specifically, the proposed U.S. EPA checklist for reviewing State programs. States are concerned that the checklist moves beyond what is required in U.S. EPA's guidance.
- 3.) The Division continues development of its integrated data management system (DRINK). Currently data is being transferred from the old systems into DRINK, and will be tested by mid-summer.

OEPA, Division of Emergency and Remedial Response, Tim Christman announced:

- 1.) The Remedial Division is going through many transitions. The Acting Deputy Director of Waste Programs (Barb Brdicka) also is Acting Chief of the Division. Task forces are meeting to decide how to restructure the Remedial Division--which may involve going through JCARR. The goal of restructuring is to increase efficiency in getting sites cleaned up.

NRCS, Doug Zehner announced:

- 1.) The NRCS is conducting another round of the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, selecting certain watersheds for conducting Best Management Practices. This year, the Walnut Creek watershed--which feeds into Hoover Reservoir--has been selected.
- 2.) Currently, about 6500 acres are enrolled in the Wetland Reserve Program, most of them in the Maumee Basin. While impressive, this is a small area compared to the number of acres that were natural wetlands before settlers arrived; in fact, Ohio is second in the nation in the number of acres lost to development.
- 3.) The NRCS Field Offices are continuing to receive regular updates from OEPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters on locations of Wellhead Protection areas, so that these can be targeted for enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Program.
- 4.) The Clinton Administration's Clean Water Action Plan may provide additional funding and a new scope for watershed management, and NRCS will be following developments on this front.

OEPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Vladimir Cica announced:

- 1.) Development of the Divisional database management system is progressing well. Draft forms are available now for comment.

- 2.) In response to House Bill 473, which calls for periodic review of all State agency rules, the Division is seriously discussing and revising its rules. [Results of the siting criteria committee's discussions were attached to the March meeting summary.] The timelines for completing this work have been moved up, and the Division will be soliciting comments on proposed revisions.

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

- 1.) There was a storm on Lake Erie early in April that did not make it into the news because of the focus on devastating tornadoes in the South during the same time period. However, the Lake Erie storm resulted in three Ohio counties (Ottawa, Lucas, and Erie Counties) being declared disaster areas. Sustained high winds from the northeast for 16 hours resulted in a high "setup" (piled-up water) along the western shores of Lake Erie and 15-foot waves in Toledo, causing record high water levels throughout the area. The high water caused serious coastal erosion and damaged some 300 homes.

ODA, Pesticides Section, Larry Berger announced:

- 1.) ODA's pesticide disposal project, the Clean Sweep Program, will wrap up next week. The program visited all of Ohio's 88 counties, and collected close to one million pounds of leftover pesticides. Future efforts will be in close coordination with the Solid Waste Districts.

USGS, Water Resources Division, Jeff deRoche announced:

- 1.) The USGS is deeply involved in research on pathogen transport in induced infiltration for public water systems. U.S. EPA's deadlines for finalizing the Ground Water Disinfection Rule (now renamed the "Ground Water Rule") have pushed this effort forward. The USGS has been asked to conduct studies in three U.S. cities (including Cincinnati), which will include detailed examination of the geology of the river beds, and conductance through them. Research plans are being written currently, and the studies should be initiated in 6-8 months.
- 2.) Mailers just went out for the Water Management Association of Ohio's Spring Conference, which will be held on June 9th at the Holiday Inn East. The theme of the conference is "Ground Water Studies: Tools and Technology". [Jeff distributed copies of the mailer]

PUCO, Sue Daly announced:

- 1.) The Ohio Water Resources Council hopes to have its draft plan ready by May. Also, final results are now available from the two surveys that were conducted on Ohioans' opinions about water issues in Ohio. (The report previously available was a draft.)

WORK GROUP UPDATES

State Management Plan for Pesticides (SMP)

Larry Berger reported that he participated in a conference call with U.S. EPA-Region 5 on Ohio's revised SMP. Region 5 staff indicated that they should be able to approve it once some clarifications and additional minor revisions are made. Larry told them that he would try to revise the SMP and submit it by the end of July.

Well Construction

Rebecca Petty reported that the first draft of the Well Construction guidance is out. The last meeting was spent working through comments. Meetings are scheduled for April 30th and May 19th. The Workgroup hopes to have the document finalized by June.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rebecca also noted that the Ohio Water Well Association is preparing a well construction conference on June 4-5 at Heidelberg College. During the afternoon there will be field demonstrations of well drilling (including horizontal drilling), setting packers, remediation work, and testing of discrete intervals.

MAY AGENDA

The next SCCGW meeting will be held May 21st at Ohio EPA, 1800 WaterMark Drive, Conference Room 1B. The meeting will focus on updates and announcements.

HAND-OUTS

- 1.) Lake Level Data for April 8-10, 1998 (graph)
- 2.) Forecast Levels of Lake Erie (graph)
- 3.) Flier for WMAO's Ground Water Technical Conference

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May 21, 1998

**Ohio EPA, 1800 WaterMark Drive
Conference Room 1B**

8:30 - 8:35 am	CALL TO ORDER -Introductions
8:35 - 8:40 am	APRIL MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 10:20 am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous
10:20 - 10:30 am	BREAK
10:30 - 10:45 am	WORK GROUP UPDATES
10:45 - 10:55 am	MISCELLANEOUS
10:55 - 11:00 am	JUNE SCCGW MEETING AGENDA
11:00 am	ADJOURN

