

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

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Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

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Ohio Public Utilities Commission  
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Ohio Department of Development  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of Transportation  
1980 West Broad Street  
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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

January 18, 2001

Horace R. Collins Laboratory - ODNR Repository  
Conference Room

### **ABSTRACT**

The January 18, 2001 meeting was devoted to updates and announcements on Agency and SCCGW Workgroup activities. Tom Grigsby (ODH) provided a presentation on the Household Sewage Disposal Rules.

### **ATTENDANCE**

BUSTR: Charles Zepp

ODA: Larry Berger

ODH: Rebecca Petty

ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ron Rea,

OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Tim Christman, Val Orr, Amy Klei

PUCO: Sue Daly

USGS: Jeff de Roche

### **DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY**

**Sue Daly's comment concerning the Ohio Water Resources Council has been revised:**

**Sue Daly** provided that The Ohio Water Resources Strategic Plan issued previously by the Ohio Water Resources Council dwelled heavily on surface water. SCCGW Representatives had the opportunity to send comments on the Strategic Plan separately as a response for their agency. Sue raised the suggestion that SCCGW should send out a letter suggesting the Ohio Water Resources Strategic Plan focus more on all water resources.

**Scott Kell's comments concerning the Mosquito Creek Reservoir in Trumble County have been revised:**

A court hearing is scheduled concerning a lawsuit over proposed oil and

gas well drilling at Mosquito Creek Reservoir located near the City of Warren in Trumble County. The lawsuit alleges that the Bureau of Land Management did not follow NEPA requirements when permitting the oil and gas wells to be drilled under the reservoir. Scott Kell and Tom Berg, Chief of the Division of Geological Survey, have submitted affidavits to participate in the court hearing. The opponents to the drilling submitted an affidavit from a Geologist that suggests hydrofracking operations at oil and gas wells can intersect improperly abandoned wells. Furthermore the Geologist's statements suggest that producing oil and gas can cause subsidence at 4,000 feet that can induce seismic activity. There are seven proposed wells within 1,000 feet of the Mosquito Creek Reservoir. These wells will be drilled at an angle underneath of the reservoir.

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### ***U.S.G.S, Water Resources Division, Jeff de Roche announced:***

- Two new employees have been added to the USGS ground water staff; a computer scientist with a background in GIS, natural resources, and geology, and a hydrologist with a background in physics, geology and water policy.

#### ***Ohio Department of Commerce, BUSTR, Charles Zepp announced:***

- They have discovered some problems with the online database. Currently working on the problems and should have them corrected in a month or two.

#### ***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:***

- They are conducting an investigation at Halls Creek Woods, along the Little Miami River where a water utility wants to install collector wells. ODNR was asked to investigate and comment on the potential impacts of collector wells on the nearby nature preserve.

#### ***ODH, Bureau of Local and Environmental Services, Rebecca Petty announced:***

- New hire for the Sewage Program, started last Tuesday and will work on 319 projects.

- Household Sewage Disposal Rules, ODH will be on the road during February and March getting comments and they anticipate significant controversy.

- ODH has been coordinating with Ohio EPA on the comments related to the well construction portion of the draft revisions to the public water supply rules. ODH has also been conducting internal reviews of the private water system rules in anticipation of minor rule revisions later this year.

- ODH is proposing to deny 6 contractor registrations.

***Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:***

- The new Commissioner is Clarence D. Rogers, Jr. He is from the transit system in Cleveland and starts February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

- The new Utilities Department Director is Steven Brennen and he started this week.

***Ohio Department of Agriculture, Larry Berger announced:***

- The new Executive Director (CAFOs) is Kevin Elder (from ODNR).

- The new Plant/Industry Chief is David Schleich.

- Jim Buchey will be the Deputy Director.

- Creating a new Assistant Chief position that will be posted within the next few weeks.

- Buckeye Terminex, The department is working to suspend their license based on evidence that they are conducting inadequate treatments. The company was prosecuted 10 years ago and found guilty for charging to treat houses and never conducting the treatments. This case has generated a large number of calls.

- Mad Cow Disease, The U.S. does not use the amount of bi-products in feed as used in Europe so don't have the problem. However, the Director wants to make sure MCD doesn't become an issue so feed inspectors are increasing the number of inspections.

- Sludge issues, there is a debate involving municipalities spreading sludge. Since the sludge is analyzed for NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) it can be classified as a fertilizer and the municipality should then be required to pay the tonnage fee for fertilizer.

- Tank ruptures, Several occurred last year and the Director wanted to conduct structural inspections, but they were unable to do the inspections. However, the industry seems to be conducting the inspections on their own.

***Ohio EPA, Division of Emergency and Remedial Response, Tim Christman announced:***

- The agency is preparing three position papers on leaching standards in ground water.

- The Division Chief is close to finalizing a memorandum with the U.S. EPA on the Voluntary Cleanup Program. There will be a dual track program and the federal release would require more agency oversight.

**Ohio EPA, Director's Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:**

- The Division of Surface Water will be sending the package for general on-lot systems and permitting to the Director's Office next week. There are already over 400 on the mailing list. Bob suggested that this could be a future agenda item for this meeting.

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

- Tom provided copies of the new fact sheet "Ground Water in Ohio" prepared by DDAGW. The fact sheet will also be available at the Division's website.

- Inter State Technology and Regulatory Cooperation (ITRC) Workgroup is a national group offering training (mostly online training) and establishes technical position, mainly on remediation issues, by utilizing workgroups. Last week DDAGW became the main contact for the agency. Jeff Patzke will be the contact and will keep other divisions in the agency informed of training opportunities and workgroup activities. Tom will provide a monthly update to the SCCGW for training, etc.

**WORKGROUP UPDATES**

No updates provided.

**FEBRUARY 15, 2001 AGENDA**

**The meeting will be held from 8:30 - 11:35 a.m. at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room in Delaware, Ohio.** The meeting will address the January 2000 meeting notes as well as agency updates.

**FEATURE PRESENTATION**

- Household Treatment and Sewage Program, Tom Grigsby, ODH
- Tom's presentation described the proposed changes to the program (see attached overheads), including two handouts:
  1. Time Line for Rule Revision
  2. Ohio Onsite Wastewater Association

**Additional presentation notes**

- The Proposed rules will be available on the ODH's website this week or next.
- If you need copies contact Rebecca Petty, or Tom Allen.
- If you have comments contact Tom Grigsby (644-8663) or Jean Caudill (644-7181).
- General permits: Local Health Districts must sign a Memorandum Of Understanding with the Ohio EPA.
  - 5-yr general permits are renewable and require annual sampling reported to the local Health District.
- Around 30 counties are already conducting inspections.
- Goal is to minimize off lot discharges.

- Copies of the slides used in this presentation are attached to the hard copy of the these draft notes.

- Tom Allen suggested that ODH contact watershed coordinators as they may have knowledge or 319 Non Point Source Projects related to on-lot sewage problems. Also suggested that Ohio EPA-DEFA may be a good source of information.

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