

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

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
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399

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

Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad 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

December 16, 2003
The Dutch Kitchen
U.S. Route 42
Plain City, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The December 2003 meeting consisted of Agency updates and announcements, and a presentation by Ralph Haefner (USGS) on the ground water metadata project.

ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Tom Allen, Vlad Cica, Michael Eggert, John Kessler, Barb Lubberger, Linnea Saukko, Jason Wiles
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ted Lozier, Rick Pavey
ODA: Larry Berger
USGS: Jeff DeRoche, Ralph Haefner
ODOT: Rob Lang
ODH: Rebecca Petty
NRCS: John Armentano

NOVEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

The third paragraph of the PUCO update (regarding acquisition adjustments) was corrected. Also, edits were provided for the second item of the USGS update, last item of the DDAGW update and for each item of the ODNR update. These changes have been made to the final version of the November meeting summary.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- At a USEPA Region V meeting in Chicago last week, Wisconsin mentioned that the City of Green Bay's pilot project for storing treated drinking water in an aquifer appears to have contaminated the aquifer with trihalomethanes (chlorination byproducts) and arsenic that is mobilized from the sediments by treated water. US EPA—which has

primacy for the underground injection control program in Wisconsin—is facing the prospect of remediating the aquifer.

- The Montana Water Resource Center has developed a Web-based training program for public water system operators on Source Water Assessment and Protection. The program includes an excellent section on basic ground water concepts. A version will be tailored for Ohio in 2004. This training is also available on CD.

- Tom Allen is the new Director of the Ground Water Division for the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO). He requests that SCCGW members provide any write-ups for the next issue of the quarterly newsletter by January 9, 2004. Please provide articles related to ground water protection and activities associated with the OWRC Strategic Plan.

- By next week Tom will have a list of OWRC action items. He also will have DDAGW's Strategic Plan action items available for the next meeting. The Plan is designed to incorporate the OWRC action items.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Ted Lozier announced:

- Staff changes: The new assistant director of ODNR is Glen Alexander and the new Deputy Director is former Senator Jim Carnes.

- The Division is applying for three grants: (1) one to continue pollution potential mapping; (2) one to continue potentiometric surface mapping; and (3) one to Web-enable the electronic filing of well logs.

- A Data and Information workgroup has submitted a Work Group charter to the Ohio Water Resources Council for approval. Their first project will be to make current data and information networks available on the Ohio Water Resources Council's Website.

Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, Vlad Cica announced:

- Last week the Upper Midwest Solid Waste Summit was held in Chicago. Topics discussed included flow control, composting, and legislative initiatives for beneficial uses for foundry waste streams, which do not fit well into established waste disposal programs.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:

- NRCS still does not have a budget. Its budget is being negotiated as part of the federal Omnibus Bill, which is still in Congress.

- Kevin Brown, a State Conservationist, is spending four months in training with the senior executive service program; Joyce Swartzendruber is filling in during his absence.

- NRCS is currently interviewing for an Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in the Medina /Brookville area, and a District Conservationist in Madison County.

- Geologist Henry Fisher is retiring on January 3, 2004.

United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff DeRoche announced:

- The federal “competitive sourcing” initiative has stalled due to vociferous protest from the military community. However, USGS still expects that its Reports, IT, and front office functions will be outsourced.

Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Petty announced:

- The National Ground Water Association conference was held last week in Orlando, Florida. Topics included microbial ground water issues for private water systems.

- The Household Sewage Bill (House Bill 231) is still in subcommittee and currently has eleven amendments attached. One planned amendment would limit ODH’s authority over local Health Districts. Ohio EPA still advocates limiting local Health Districts’ authority over private systems to those handling no more than 1,000 gallons per day of wastewater (currently, the upper limit is 2,500 gpd).

- Trumbull County recently implemented a sewage inspection program, whose costs were reflected in December utility bills. Residents have expressed resentment over the unexpectedly high bills at Christmas time.

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, John Kessler announced:

- The State Advisory Group for the Ohio Water Resources Council accepted the group revising the State Nonpoint Source Management Plan as an official OWRC workgroup. The workgroups hopes for more comments and authorship from SCCGW members, and more communication of non-point source issues to ground water directors. In turn, the workgroup intends to incorporate ground water objectives more completely.

- The periodic restructuring of 319 grant monies to focus on special issues (such as TMDLs) typically involves taking away funds intended for basic research. To address this gap, DSW has approached the Ohio Water Development Authority for a \$1-2 million grant to identify and address State research priorities, including ground water.

PRESENTATION

Ralph Haefner (USGS, Water Resources Discipline) gave a presentation on the ground water metadata project.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

will be Thursday, January 15th, at the Horace R. Collins Conference Room, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Repository Building outside Delaware, Ohio. Proposed topics include:

- OWRC action items and critical issues in reference to ground water priorities; and
- a viewing of the ground water concepts portion of the Source Water Assessment and Protection Web-based training.

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January 15, 2004

Horace R. Collins Conference Room

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building

3307 South Old State Road

Delaware, Ohio

- 8:30 - 8:35 CALL TO ORDER
 - Introductions
- 8:35 - 8:40 DECEMBER DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
- 8:40 - 10:100 AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 During Agency updates please provide status/update on OWRC
 Strategic Plan action items, being addressed by your agency or program
- 10:10 - 10:20 BREAK
- 10:20 - 11:20 Ground Water Protection priorities related to OWRC Strategic Plan
 Web-based ground water training
- 11:30 ADJOURN