

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

April 15, 2010
Building I, 1st floor
ODNR – Fountain Square

The April 2010 SCCGW meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Ralph Haefner (USGS) on an analytical model for predicting percentages of stream depletion caused by ground water pumping.

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Scott Heidenreich, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger,
ODNR: Mike Angle, Rick Pavey, Jim Raab
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt
ODOT: Doug App
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Ralph Haefner
Visitor: Kyle Bohland, Ohio Rural Water Assoc.

Upcoming Events. Earth Day is April 22nd, and national environmental education week is April 11-17. National drinking water week is May 2-8, and the local Children's Water Festival will be held at the Columbus water treatment facility on Route 33 on May 5th.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

Michindoh Sole-Source Aquifer. U.S. EPA's comment period ends on April 16th for this proposed sole-source aquifer, which straddles portions of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Coal Slurry Waste. The division's Underground Injection Control (UIC) unit is reviewing a permit request from Ohio Valley Coal to dispose of coal slurry waste by injecting it into underground formations.

Chardon Salt Pile Investigation. Ohio EPA will meet with the township trustees next week to discuss next steps.

Clark County Salt Pile Investigation. A geoprobe investigation found salinity levels of up to 100,000 mg/l. Chloride levels exceeded 2,000 mg/l and

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCCGW Chair:

Passages. With his planned retirement in June, Tom Allen will be leaving the Ohio Water Resource Council's Advisory Council on Information as well as his leadership of the SCCGW.

Storm Center. WTOL's Storm Center/Ecotrack has been down for two months, but is now back online. SCCGW members are invited to take a look under "Ohio Water Section" and let Tom Allen know if any links to their programs are not working. Also, a second Storm Center is expected to launch in the Cincinnati area within a month or two.

cyanide was also present. The company is now discussing next steps.

Geothermal Well Workgroup. The second meeting of this workgroup will be held on April 20th.

Nitrate Investigation in Washington County. A geoprobe investigation is planned for May-June 2010 in Devola, Washington County, where the public water system continues to find above-MCL nitrate levels in its finished water. Ohio EPA will meet with the County health officials next week.

Ground Water Rule. Comments are due May 10th on Ohio EPA's proposed rules for implementing the federal Ground Water Rule.

Source Water Protection. In the past four months, the Source Water Protection Program has reviewed twenty local source water protection plans, and endorsed 17 of them.

Ground Water Protection Council. This year the GWPC's annual meeting will be held during the last week of September. The Web site is to go up next week. The call for papers deadline is the end of April, the deadline for abstracts is the end of June.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Geologic Survey.

Programs and Services Leaflet. The division recently published an educational leaflet describing the programs and services it provides. They include:

- Creation and maintenance of maps and data that are extensively used by extractive industries (oil and gas, coal, aggregate, etc.) as well as programs for environmental protection, proper land use development, regulation of fossil fuel and mineral extraction, ground water development, mitigation of geologic hazards (subsidence), mineral and petroleum exploration, and economic development.
- Maintenance of the Horace R. Collins Laboratory, Network, and the Lake Erie Data Center.

Potential Projects. The division is considering \$600,000 to \$859,000 worth of projects, which would be funded by various grants. These include:

- A \$400,000 project to study mine subsidence;

- Participation in a national study on geothermal gradient at depth, especially for large geothermal systems;
- A series of carbon sequestration projects. A long continuing MRCSP funded project, plus additional funds from DOE to study the Mt. Simon Sandstone. Funds from the National Coal Resource Database System) NCRDS for CO2 sequestration and a major new player, the Ohio Coal Development Office (OCDO). These should total over \$600K.
- Lake Erie studies

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Soil and Water Conservation:

Web Sites Merged. The separate web sites for the former division of water and division of soil and water conservation have been merged.

Landfill Issue. Division staff will meet with OEPA staff at the Northeast District Office to discuss possible impacts to spring discharge by a Columbiana County C&DD landfill.

Midwest Ground Water Conference. The conference is scheduled for October 4-7. The 4th will be dedicated to a field trip that may include the Columbus wellfield, Clifton Gorge and the City of Dayton.

United States Geological Survey:

Storm Water BMPs. The Survey is getting more involved in storm water BMPs, with monitoring occurring in the Chagrin River and the Cincinnati metropolitan area. is extensively

Mining Impacts. EPA administrator Lisa Jackson released guidance on April 1st regarding environmental permitting requirements for Appalachian mountaintop removal. A report prepared by EPA's Office of Research and Development establishes 300-500 microSiemens/cm as the maximum level of salinity in fresh water streams. (Salinity is used as a measure of mining impacts) There may be oil and gas wells in the area. The report may be used to install samples, a conductance samplers in existing gages.

Glacial Sequences Webinar. Midwest Geosciences is sponsoring a webinar on unraveling glacial sequences. It emphasizes that the quality of the effort depends on the quality of the logs available.

Ohio Department of Transportation:

Stimulus Package. ODOT is expecting another flurry of activity related to a second stimulus package, but it should be much milder.

Staff Changes. Erica Schneider has been hired to replace Andrea Stevenson. Rob Lang has moved to District Four, and his position will be posted.

Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management:

Municipal Solid Waste Rules. The division is reviewing the municipal solid waste rules, which were last revised in 2003.

Beneficial Use Rules. The division is continuing work on beneficial use rules. The work is on protocols for waste characterization and making adjustments to authorization requirements to deal with metals accumulation when land applying wastes as a beneficial use.

Ground Water Assessment Rules. Concepts for assessment as part of these rules, whose goal is to unify ground water monitoring for all types of solid waste and C&DD landfills, are currently being reviewed by DDAGW.

Landfill Mapping. Division staff recently met with OGRIP to find a platform for mapping of landfills that is accessible to everyone. They are also trying to locate a database of closed dumps from the 1970s. Much of the original information is housed within various local health departments. Tom Allen mentioned that he has an extensive database of the locations of closed landfills that he would send to DSIWM.

Landfill Fires. Currently there are 20 landfills on fire nationwide, and three of them are in Ohio. The division has proposed a workgroup be established to agree on how to deal with fires at all types of landfills. USEPA and the regulated community would be invited to participate.

C&DD Rules. The director is in the process of making a decision about liner and cap requirements for these types of facilities.

Ohio Department of Health:

Private Water System Rules. The construction and demolition debris industry has requested an extension on these rules, which are now with the Public Health Council. The required isolation distance of a C&DD landfill from a private well had been changed from 1,000 feet to 500 feet, to be consistent with the isolation distance Ohio EPA requires for C&DD landfills from public wells. However, the industry believes there should be no isolation distance at all. Also, it wants the standard for bacteria levels expressed in *E. coli* colony counts instead of total coliform.

Senate Bill 110 (Household waste treatment systems). Staff are currently working with Senator Grendel to craft amendments addressing the following issues:

- definition of nuisance
- grandfathering existing systems
- allowing more time for improved designs
- mandatory maintenance
- acceptable vertical separation

Statewide Reevaluation. Even with service contracts, there are numerous failures of household septic treatment systems. DOH is getting ready to launch a statewide reevaluation of the problem.

New Technologies for Septic Treatment. The Technical Advisory Group posts information about approved products for household septic systems on the ODH website at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/eh/sewage/semore.aspx>

General Permit. The general permit for replacing septic systems, which is based on Ohio EPA's general permit, is due to expire in 2012.

ARRA Projects. In Ohio \$3.4 million in ARRA funds was used to repair and replace home sewage treatment systems and Ohio has been recognized by USEPA Administrator Lisa Jackson for this effort. ODH will be posting a paper on the Web about how to leverage federal funds for home sewage treatment improvements.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio:

New Commissioner. Commissioner Rhonda Fergus' term as commissioner has ended; Steve Lesser has taken her place.

PRESENTATION

Ralph Haefner (USGS) gave a presentation on an analytical model for predicting percentages of stream depletion caused by ground water pumping.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

... will be held June 17th at the Horace Collins Classroom, 8:30-11:30 am. Brent Huntsman, Terran Corporation, will give a presentation on a GW/SW interaction study in Dayton, sponsored by the Miami Conservancy District (MCD). This will be Tom's last meeting and there will be a luncheon at his house following the meeting.

REMINDER: Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries are posted on the SCCGW Web site: <http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/SCCGW/>.