

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Department of Development  
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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

September 19, 1996  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
1800 WaterMark Drive  
Room 1A

### ABSTRACT

The September 19 meeting was devoted to Agency and workgroup updates.

### ATTENDANCE

OEPA: Larry Antosch, Tom Allen, Tim Christman

ODNR: David Hanselmann, Rebecca Petty

ODH: Russell Smith

ODA: Larry Berger

USGS: Jeff de Roche

Agriculture Specialist: John Stevenson

### AUGUST MEETING SUMMARY

Changes were made to the August meeting summary as follows under Agency Updates and Announcements:

ODNR, Rebecca Petty, page 3: **item 3.** change "Penial" to "Penal", strike "local"; **item 4.** strike "new"; **item 5.** change "Delco was hired as a consultant to analyze wellfields in Knox County" to "Sieco was hired to analyze a proposed Delco wellfield in Knox County".

USGS, Jeff de Roche, page 2: Change first line to: "The U.S. Geological Survey approved the Great and Little Miami Aquifers as a new National Water Quality Assessment study area."

## **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***OEPA, DDAGW, Tom Allen announced:***

- 1.) The Division has recently completed its strategic planning, revisiting the Division's goals and objectives for the next few years. Tom will make these available soon.
- 2.) The Division has a copy of a U.S. EPA briefing on the Safe Drinking Water Act, which was recently reauthorized with significant amendments. Tom will be making this available for review.
- 3.) The 41st Midwest Ground Water Conference will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, September 29- October 1, 1996. Two DDAGW staff are giving presentations. We would like to set up a display on Ohio for the display room. If your staff don't plan to attend but would like to display, please contact Tom.

### ***ODA, Pesticide Registration Section, Larry Berger announced:***

- 1.) ODA is wrapping up the summer's container recycling program.
- 2.) From the Farm Science Review, it is clear that Global Positioning Systems (GPS) are being incorporated more and more into everyday farming practice. Farmers are mapping their fields from the tractor, then downloading the coordinates into their home computers. This information enables them to apply chemicals very precisely, using no more than is needed at a given location. This effort benefits the farmers by lowering their costs and benefits the environment by reducing the risk of ground or surface water contamination.

### ***USGS, Water Resources Division, Jeff de Roche announced:***

- 1.) USGS recently began a program with the Army National Guard. They are using GIS to map natural resources and weapons storage and ordnance areas at Ravenna Arsenal (in Portage County, northeast of Akron).

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

- 1.) DERR is trying to get the Voluntary Action Program finalized for resubmittal to JCARR.

### ***ODH, Russell Smith announced:***

- 1.) Scott Golden has reviewed the State Management Plan for Pesticides and sent it to ODH's director for signature.

### ***ODNR, Division of Water, Rebecca Petty announced:***

- 1.) The equipment installation for well log computerization is complete. Phase 2--data entry--should be complete by June 30, 1997. Ohio Penal Industries has been contracted to enter data into the system.
- 2.) 1996 Water Withdrawal Reports are out. (See Attachment 1).

***ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Dave Hanselmann announced:***

- 1.) Various divisions of ODNR have met to discuss the Nonpoint Source management program. Some of the changes they are discussing include:
  - o Make the program more comprehensive, and get away from the multiple “mini-grants” approach
  - o Target priority watersheds
  - o Shift toward local management of grant projects
  - o Provide for sustainability.

***OEPA, Division of Surface Water, Larry Antosch announced:***

- 1.) Larry says \$100 million has been appropriated for CWA 319 projects, but DSW still has not received word on target figures. Probably 10-12 projects will be supported out of the 38 that were submitted.

***State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulation, (Tom Allen reporting):***

- 1.) BUSTR is reorganizing, and many staff have been laid off. U.S. EPA was BUSTR’s main funding source, and that money has been cut. Presently, the agency is retaining just enough staff to maintain primacy. Tom will try to provide more information on this at the next meeting.

***OEPA, Agriculture Specialist, John Stevenson announced:***

- 1.) Ohio EPA’s sand tank models are a big hit at the Farm Science Review!

**PRESENTATIONS**

The OEPA Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO) presentation was cancelled and rescheduled for the October SCCGW meeting.

**WORKGROUP UPDATES**

***Well Construction***

The Well Construction Standards Work Group has had two meetings. During the first meeting, the group’s purpose was formulated and they discussed the types of wells that their guidance should address. During the second meeting, revisions were discussed. Rebecca feels they now have a good outline and is pleased with the progress. She said (last year’s) Well Sealing work group was a good learning experience and this work group is proceeding more smoothly as a result. She also noted that “membership” is not finalized or rigid. A number of constituent groups have requested the meeting summaries rather than regular participation in the meetings.

Rebecca noted that the Model Private Water Systems work group is very interested in the well construction standards that will be developed, as they want to put them into rules.

The next work group meeting will be held October 15th, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the USGS.

## ***SMP***

- 1.) Larry Berger reported on a national meeting held in Washington, D.C. in late August to discuss U.S. EPA's proposed rule for State Management Plans for Pesticides. The rule was released June 26, 1996 and public comment period will end October 24, 1996. A final rule is expected about six months later. (However, Larry notes that this rule currently has about a 50% chance of passing Congress.) State SMPs will be required 30 months after rule finalization.

State agencies and others had identified about 50 concerns with this rule, and plan to submit about 30 of them to U.S. EPA. Among them:

- o Using 50% of MCLs as an action level
  - o Lack of funding for SMP. Some money may come from provisions in the reauthorized SDWA. However, some felt that under these circumstances, Regions should "concur with", not "approve" state SMPs.
  - o "Federal default labels": In states without a SMP, chemical manufacturers can still market their products under a "federal default label". However, federal labels are approved by the federal government for worst-case scenarios and would raise prices of agricultural chemicals..
- 2.) Larry also provided an update on the Ohio Work Group's efforts. ODA Director Daly sent a letter dated September 9, 1996 to other state agency directors, requesting comments on the September 11, 1996 draft of Ohio's SMP. Comments were to be received by September 20. A meeting originally was scheduled for September 20 to discuss comments, but SCCGW members agreed to postpone it. They noted that comments were just beginning to come in from the various directors, and agreed that more time was needed to review the comments.

One of the more contentious issues is how to assess the actual risk posed by agricultural chemicals to ground water quality. ODA has proposed adding 100 wells to the current monitoring network. This number was based on budget constraints; ODA is assuming that they will be expected to fund most of the effort. Some SCCGW members suggested that it might be better to first identify what needs to be done to answer the questions concerning actual risk, then look for money to fund the effort.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- 1.) There were no comments on the SCCGW By-Laws revision (Handout #4 from August meeting).
- 2.) Larry Berger requested that SCCGW members forward to him citations of any their agency's regulations *that are relevant to pesticide management*.

## **OCTOBER AGENDA**

OEPA, Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO) Presentation  
Briefing on reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act  
Possibly a briefing on Voluntary Action Program  
Briefing on well construction standards work group



