

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
1800 WaterMark Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1099

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Fountain Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

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

Ohio Department of Transportation  
25 South Front Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

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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

February 20, 1997  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
1800 WaterMark Drive  
Conference Room 1A

### **ABSTRACT**

The February 20th meeting was devoted to update of the Nonpoint Source Management Program and agency updates and announcements. A planned presentation by USGS was rescheduled for the March meeting. Larry Berger chaired the meeting for Bob Wulforst.

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Pam Allen, Larry Antosch, Michael Baker, Tim Christman, Barb Lubberger, Jeff Mayhugh

ODNR: Dave Hanselmann, Scott Kell, Rebecca Petty

ODH: Scott Golden, John Wells

ODA: Larry Berger

USGS: Jeff de Roche

### **DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY**

The January Meeting Summary was approved as written.

### **DISCUSSION OF NPS PROGRAM UPDATES**

The agenda was modified to include a general discussion of the effort to update the Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management program. The NPS program was last updated five years ago. The current revision of the NPS Management Plan is focusing on:

- (1.) Establishing firm goals that address *causes* of nonattainment. Previously, the projects tended to address specific *sources*. The causes of nonattainment (i.e., sediment, habitat modification, nutrients, etc.) may be related to various types of sources.
- (2.) Soliciting local input at local or regional stakeholder meetings. These meetings will be coordinated by area assistance teams, including NPS coordinators at Ohio EPA, ODNR, and OSU Agricultural Extension. (No

meetings have been scheduled yet.) Local and county staff involved in NPS projects, including staff from County health departments, will be encouraged to participate.

Rebecca Petty passed out copies of the ground water portion of the NPS Management Plan. The group agreed to read this and be prepared to discuss SCCGW's role in updating the Plan at the March SCCGW meeting. The committee should also review the monitoring section as it relates to ground water. It was pointed out that the NPS committee will need to establish the new format (i.e., based on *causes of nonattainment*) before SCCGW members can draft an update to the ground water portions of the NPS Management Plan.

## **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***OEPA, DERR, Tim Christman announced:***

- 1.) The Voluntary Action Program (VAP) rules are finally in place.
- 2.) DERR is writing draft guidance for "pollution abatement procedures", i.e., procedures for cleaning up the residues of past spills.

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

- 1.) A conference on manure management has been scheduled for March 18, 1997, at the Fawcett Center.
- 2.) A livestock industry task force has drafted legislation to:
  - o Provide additional regulation for withdrawal of ground water at new "super-sized lots" that are pumping more than 100,000 gallons per day; and
  - o Transfer regulatory authority for water quality at facilities holding over 1,000 animal units from Ohio EPA to ODA.
- 3.) A land use conference titled "Growth and The Future" will be held on March 25-26 at the Athenaeum--the old Masonic Temple in downtown Columbus.

### ***ODA, Feed and Fertilizer Section, Larry Berger announced:***

- 1.) ODA has moved its offices and now has ample meeting rooms!

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

- 1.) A new call for 319 proposals will soon be put out. The Division will no longer use a two-step application process. As a result, the State will have more say in project selection. For ground water projects, the contact person is Julio Perez or Mike Smith.
- 2.) Mark Wilson is now the lead for the Farm-A-Syst/Home-A-Syst programs.

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

- 1.) This year's Darcy Lecturer, Dr. Philip C. Bennett, will speak on "Water, Microbes, and Rocks: The Geochemical Ecology of Contaminated Ground Water". In Ohio, the lecture will be presented at Kent State University on April 17, and at Wright State University on April 18. Rebecca passed out copies of the announcement.

- 2.) The Comparative Risk Project is in its third phase--prioritizing risk reduction strategies. Each of the four technical task forces was asked to list their top ten strategies. The Public Advisory Group will prioritize the top forty. During its next meeting on March 6, 1997, the Public Advisory Group will start categorizing these strategies as legislative, educational, or programmatic strategies.
- 3.) The Division has submitted the detailed workplan for the CWA319 aquifer mapping project to Ohio EPA. The aquifer mapping advisory committee is trying to establish a methodology for mapping aquifers, including criteria for potability and yield. They have decided to digitize these maps using ARCVIEW/ARCINFO, and make paper maps available upon request to those who lack the equipment to access them digitally. The advisory committee's next meeting will be March 7, 1997.
- 4.) The Division is waiting for the final report from its consultant on updating and expanding the observation well network. Rebecca will make their report available to SCCGW members when it is complete.

***OEPA, Division of Hazardous Waste Management, Pam Allen announced:***

- 1.) The Division has initiated a program called Drinking Water at the Tap that will focus on inspections and education for hazardous waste handlers within a two-mile radius of public water supply wells. District staff will decide which strategies will be used in their own Districts (i.e., inspections, fliers, seminars, etc.) and what percentage of handlers will be targeted. The division wants to use this opportunity also to conduct educational outreach on other regulatory programs (e.g., UIC/Pollution Prevention/BUSTR programs). The project is supposed to be complete by mid 1998. Pam would like suggestions and examples of Fact Sheets that members may have. She can be reached at 644-2980.

***OEPA, Division of Hazardous Waste Management, Jeff Mayhugh announced:***

- 1.) The Division has been authorized by U.S. EPA to do corrective action at permitted facilities. They will be proposing rules for RCRA cleanups. Among other issues, new rules will address used oil, boiler industrial standards, and facilitating collection of pesticides, mercury thermostats, and batteries.

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

- 1.) Gary Rowe has been named the project chief for the Great and Little Miami River Valley National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA).

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

- 1.) The Division is looking at criteria (including access, plumbing, etc.) for expanding the state's ambient ground water monitoring network. A total of almost 200 "new" sampling sites were proposed, and this has been narrowed to 76 sites. These will be incorporated into the Spring sampling round. The program will then have approximately 220 sampling sites, most of them community public water supply wells. State maps are available showing the locations of sampling sites.
- 2.) The Division's GIS staff have updated county-by county maps showing the locations of endorsed wellhead protection areas and of public water systems. Such maps are invaluable in addressing siting criteria, DERR's Spill Response and VAP programs. These maps also have been requested by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (for identifying potential areas to include in the

Conservation Reserve Program) and by county Emergency Management Agencies (for identifying areas that may warrant special emergency response procedures).

- 3.) U.S. EPA and OEPA are cosponsoring a "Source Water Protection Stakeholders Conference" to be held Monday, April 14th, 1997, at the Holiday Inn East in Columbus. U.S. EPA's draft guidance for source water protection will be discussed.
- 4.) The "Ohio Water Resources Council"--the outcome of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force--convened at a retreat held on February 13-14, to lay out its agenda for the next two years. This group consists of approximately 20 representatives: ten from State agencies and ten from local government, industry and regional planning agencies, etc.. Jim Rozelle has been named Executive Director. The Council will try to take a more proactive approach to water resources planning, supporting not only protection of water quality and quantity, but also economic development.

***ODNR, Division of Oil and Gas, Scott Kell announced:***

- 1.) The Division of Oil and Gas' reorganization is complete. The Division will be able to sustain all its ground water-related programs, but staffing is "skeletal", consisting of a part-time manager and one full or part-time staff for each major program. No inspectors or district staff were cut.
- 2.) A debate is occurring in Trumbull County (Mosquito Creek area), where some companies are trying to obtain rights to extract natural gas from beneath a lake, on federal land managed by the U.S. Corps. of Engineers and the Bureau of Land Management. The lake provides the public water supply for the City of Warren. The nearby Village of Cortland is supplied by ground water. Both communities are concerned about possible contamination of their water supplies by extraction activities. The City of Warren has asked the USGS to assess the aquifer--primarily to provide baseline data. Trumbull County is pursuing litigation against the developers. Scott noted that this area produces mostly gas, and very little oil or brine. He distributed a copy of the citizens' petition.

***ODH, Scott Golden announced:***

- 1.) He is waiting for a response from the Legislative Service Committee, but knows that they have many questions about the intent of the legislation. Scott still hopes to have draft legislation ready this Spring.
- 2.) The Sewage Plan is to be updated. The advisory committee must first be reconstituted, including representatives from ODNR and OEPA, local agencies, and industry. Scott will bring copies of the Plan to the next SCCGW meeting.
- 3.) The annual four-day training for sanitarians will be held in March at ODA's facilities. This year it will include a section on 319 projects, and a panel discussion on large-animal operations (which local health officials are often called about, though they have no regulatory responsibility for them).

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

- 1.) Kevin Hodnett has resigned from BUSTR and taken a position with a local consulting firm. Tom distributed a letter of thanks and support from Kevin to the SCCGW representatives.

- 2.) The Division has completed its annual report for 1996. Tom will make copies available at the next meeting.
- 3.) The Ohio Water Education Program will hold a leadership class in March at Burr Oak Lodge.
- 4.) A conference will be held in Dayton on June 18-20 on "connecting Ohio watersheds".

## **WORKGROUP UPDATES**

### ***Well Construction***

Rebecca Petty reported that two more meetings have been held since the last SCCGW meeting. Recently they have discussed general procedures for drilling, including: types of grouting, minimum recommended casing lengths, minimum recommended annular space, and grouting criteria (methods of grouting and depths of emplacement). The next meetings are scheduled for March 11 and April 15. Topics to be discussed will include venting caps and special considerations for drilling.

### ***State Management Plan (SMP)***

Larry Berger reported that the SMP's proposed monitoring component was discussed during the latest meeting, held January 30. Although ODA intends to focus its sampling program on vulnerable areas, they would like to sample about 300 wells at random this summer. There was some discussion of including ODNR and OEPA ambient network wells in this program. However, Mike Baker pointed out that OEPA's ambient wells are primarily deep public water supply wells producing large amounts of water, and pesticides would be least likely to be detected in such wells.

U.S. EPA still has not provided comments on Ohio's draft generic SMP.

A workshop is scheduled for February 21 at the USGS, to discuss the vulnerability assessment and establishing a monitoring network that is focused on vulnerable areas.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- 1.) Scott Golden recommended that the SCCGW request another representative from BUSTR, to replace Kevin Hodnett. Larry Berger will pursue this recommendation.

## **MARCH AGENDA**

1. (Rescheduled): Presentation by Dr. Gary Rowe, USGS, on ground water dating using Tritium-Helium3 and chlorofluorocarbons
2. Agency updates and announcements
3. Discussion of the NPS Management Plan
3. Work Group updates

## **HAND-OUTS**

1. Ground water section of NPS Management Plan (pages 27-34)
2. Notification of Darcy Lecture: abstract, dates, and sites
3. Letter from Kevin Hodnett

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March 20, 1997

**\*\*\*\*\*ODNR Assembly Hall\*\*\*\*\*  
Fountain Square, Building E-3**

8:30 - 8:35 am	CALL TO ORDER -Introductions
8:35 - 8:40 am	FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY
8:40 - 9:20 am	PRESENTATION by Dr. Gary Rowe, USGS <i>Ground Water Dating Using Tritium-Helium3 and Chlorofluorocarbons</i>
9:20 - 9:50 am	AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS -Legislation/Rules/Policies -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires -Miscellaneous
9:50 - 10:00 am	BREAK
10:00 - 10:30 am	DISCUSSION OF NPS MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATES
10:30 - 10:45 am	WORK GROUP UPDATES
10:45 - 10:55 am	MISCELLANEOUS
10:55 - 11:00 am	APRIL SCCGW MEETING AGENDA
11:00 am	ADJOURN