

# STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

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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  
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Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture  
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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

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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

March 16, 2000  
Ohio EPA-Lazarus Government Center  
Conference Room 5A  
Columbus, Ohio

### ABSTRACT

The March 16, 2000 meeting was devoted to updates and announcements, and continued discussion of ground water issues that need to be prioritized and addressed by SCCGW over the next year or two. Ohio EPA GIS and Source Water Assessment staff members provided a presentation regarding GIS applications within the Ohio Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program.

### ATTENDANCE

ODA: Larry Berger  
ODH: Tom Grigsby  
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Rick Pavey  
ODOT: Juliet Denniss  
OEPA: Tom Allen, Tim Christman, Kristy Hunt, Heather Raymond  
NRCS: John Armentano  
PUCO: Sue Daly  
USGS: Jeff de Roche

### FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY

No corrections.

## **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:***

- Anticipating the arrival of funding from the Central Great Lakes Surficial Mapping Coalition. Starting to put some of the 3-D Surficial Maps into an application that will make them available for use. The 3-D Surficial Mapping project is a 10 year project that is aimed at depicting all of the subsurface surficial materials and their thicknesses down to bedrock throughout Ohio. By the end of the 2000 summer ODNR will have 5 of the 1:100,000 areas for the state completed.

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

- Distributed the USGS Publication “ Water Levels and Ground-Water Discharge, Regional Aquifer System of the Midwestern Basins and Arches Region, in Parts of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan” Hydrologic Investigations Atlas HA 725 1999 by Sandra M. Eberts.

- The Ohio USGS Office will be getting a National Mapping staff assignment that will serve as a coordinator position.

- The Center for Disease Control is looking at antibiotics and endocrine disruptors within surface and ground water. USDA RFP is looking for projects on this issue. A farmer has offered USGS his farm for use in the research.

- WMAO Spring Conference will be held May 9-10th, the conference topic is Fractured Tills. There will be a field trip on the second day, Marble Cliff Quarries will be one of the sites.

### ***USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, John Armentano announced:***

- Kevin Brown was appointed by Chief Pearlie Reed as the new State Conservationist for Ohio; the appointment began January 3, 2000. Brown filled the vacancy created by the former Ohio State Conservationist Patrick Wolf, who accepted an appointment as NRCS's liaison to the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC) in Illinois. Kevin Brown began his career with NRCS in 1977 as a Soil Conservationist in Henderson, Tennessee and most recently worked in Alexandria, Louisiana, where he served as the Deputy State Conservationist from 1997 to 1999.

- Tom Sommer, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in the NRCS Southwest Administrative Unit has accepted a liaison position with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) in Washington, DC. Presently there are three District Conservationist positions open.

- The USDA has launched a new web site to provide farmers and ranchers with information on USDA's proposed Conservation Security Program that was announced on February 2,

2000. This information is available at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>. The Conservation Security Program's proposed funding of \$1.3 billion in FY 2001 would:

- Fund a new Conservation Security Program at \$600 million in FY 2001 and 2002
- Increase the Environmental Quality Incentives Program by \$125 million per year
- Increase the Wetlands Reserve Program to enroll 250,000 acres per year
- Increase the Conservation Reserve Program to 40 million cumulative acres
- Increase bonuses for "Continuous sign-ups" under the Conservation Reserve Program by \$100 to \$125 million per year FY 2000 to 2002
- Increase the Farmland Protection Program to \$65 million per year
- Increase the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program to \$50 million per year
- Provide the necessary USDA technical assistance to implement those programs.

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

- ODNR's State Aquifer Maps are nearing completion. On April 3 the contractor will install the software for the well log computerization effort and ODNR staff will be trained on how to use the software. Well log images will be available on the internet within a few years.
- Because of recent rains the City of VanWert has not had to pump their wells to resupply their reservoir. Therefore, ODNR's plans to assist them with monitoring possible well interference with near by domestic wells will not occur at this time. The communities of Wadsworth, Seville, and Lodi located within Medina County are looking for additional water supply. Local citizens in these areas are concerned about the interference of new water supply wells with domestic wells.

***ODH, Bureau of Local and Environmental Services, Tom Grigsby announced:***

- The Ad Hoc Committee for the proposed Household Disposal System Rules have provided their comments to ODH on the first draft of the rules. ODH has delayed meeting with the Local Health Districts because House Bill 105 (Household Sewage Disposal Oversight) will soon be moving forward within the Ohio Senate.
- ODH and Ohio EPA are still working together to develop a general NPDES permit for homes with off-lot discharges.
- ODH is beginning its 319 study which deals with on-site disposal systems in Ohio.

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

- Latest Drought Briefing - Drinking water supplies will have continued problems. Forecasts suggest conditions could worsen in some areas of the state.

***ODOT, Division of Environmental Services, Juliet Denniss announced:***

- Employee update: Andrea Stulnick has been hired to head the ODOT Policy Section.

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

- Scott Potter has accepted the Utility Department Director position at PUCO. Scott has 7 years of Telecommunication experience with PUCO. Kim Wissman has accepted the Utilities Department Deputy Director position. Kim has 20 years of experience with PUCO with an electricity background.

- PUCO did not allow rate base return for the Ohio American Water WHP area request. After the Staff Report has been released the issues addressed then fall into a negotiation stage, Ohio American Water will have 30 days to provide justification for their request. The request for rate base was ruled against mainly because of the fact that it will set a precedence and PUCO wants to be fair to all rate payers. PUCO is not opposed to working with Ohio EPA on this issue.

- Attended the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners meeting in Washington D.C. Sue is the Staff Capacity Liaison to USEPA for Capacity Development. Peter Shanahan of USEPA is working on the development of 1 day workshops addressing Capacity Development which will be held within each of the USEPA Regions. Sue will be working with Peter Shanahan throughout the Capacity Development Workshops.

- With regards to the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) appropriations, Sue had provided a comment concerning Ashtabula County's request for SRF money to acquire Consumers Ohio Water. Her comment, "SRF money is meant for drinking water applications and not for acquisition purposes", did not appear to have been addressed. She is currently anticipating a response to her comment from Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters.

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

- The Pesticide Management Plan will be mailed to ODNR for signing, it will then be mailed to Ohio EPA.

- A News Release was issued addressing the recent collapse of five fertilizer storage tank failures in Ohio within two months. All of the tanks were manufactured by Nationwide Tanks, Inc. and most of them are about 3 years old. The workmanship of the welds or tank integrity is being questioned. There is no agency involved with inspecting tank integrity.

**Featured Presentation:** Ohio EPA GIS and Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Program staff provided a presentation outlining GIS applications within the Ohio SWAP Program. This presentation was attended by 26 State Agency staff from ODNR, PUCO, ODH, ODOT, and OEPA as well as NRCS and USGS who were interested in learning how Ohio EPA has applied

their electronic GIS data coverages within Ohio's SWAP Program. Brian Gara and Robert Hanover demonstrated the use and manipulation of ArcView data coverages, as well as the use of writing ArcView script programs to address SWAP Program technical needs. Dick McClish provided an outline of the organization of Ohio EPA's GIS effort and also explained how Ohio EPA plans to distill GIS capabilities within each of its District Offices, which involves GIS communication capabilities between the Central Office and each of the District Office locations. Chris Kenah and Kristy Hunt provided support for specific SWAP Program questions.

## **WORKGROUP UPDATES**

### **I. 319 Work Group/Screening Committee:**

-The 319 RFP went out on February 29<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for applications is May 31, 2000. The two statewide projects that the SCCGW recommended (DRASTIC mapping and ground water data) were included in the RFP. Many of the SCCGW's recommended revisions to the FY2000 RFP and application forms were included in the FY2001 RFP and application forms.

### **II. Midwest Ground Water Conference Workgroup**

- The flier for the Call for Abstracts is back from the printer. The fliers will be mailed out next week. Received some money from Minnesota, previous host state, and are in the process of setting up a checking account. The Midwest Ground Water Conference web page is available at [www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/mwggwc.html](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/mwggwc.html) this page will provide up to date information concerning the Conference Agenda and Field Trip information.

## **HAND-OUTS**

1. Midwest Ground Water Conference Flier.
2. USGS Publication: Water Levels and Ground-Water Discharge, Regional Aquifer System of the Midwestern Basins and Arches Region, in Pats of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan.

## **APRIL 20<sup>th</sup> AGENDA**

**The meeting will be held at Horace R. Collins Laboratory-ODNR Repository Building, 8:30 to 12:00 AM.** The meeting will include Agency updates and further discussion of SCCGW Workgroup activities.

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