

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

July 19, 2001

Horace R. Collins - Conference Room

ABSTRACT

The July 19, 2001 meeting was devoted to updates and announcements on Agency activities as well as reviewing the Ohio Water Resource Council's goals and objectives.

ATTENDANCE

ODA: Larry Berger

ODH: Rebecca Petty

ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Rick Pavey, Jerry Wager

OEPA: Tom Allen, Vlad Cica, Patrick Fellrath, Kristy Hunt

OSU: Cindy Folck

PUCO: Sue Daly

USGS: Jeff de Roche

JUNE MEETING SUMMARY

No Comments.

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ODH, Bureau of Environmental Health Services, Rebecca Petty announced:

- ODH Water Well Grouting and Drilling Workshops are in progress and being conducted by Bariod Industrial Drilling Products. A workshop was held July 18 in Greene County and it was very well attended. Another training session will be held July 25 at ODNR.

- Numerous residents have been calling ODH about possible contamination of their private wells from the Scott's Plant in Marysville, Ohio. Mike Bondoc of Ohio EPA-

DDAGW provided Rebecca with a list of parameters that Scott's is required to sample for from its monitoring wells. Based on Ohio EPA recommendations, ODH sampled the private wells for the same parameters that Scott's is required to sample for from its RCRA site. The sampling of the private wells was completed 7/13/01. Results of the samples are not yet available. A lot of the residential concerns are due to landfills that were used by Scott's to dispose of currently banned pesticides.

- ODH was contacted by CDC about attending a forum of states to discuss water quality programs with community and small system wells. CDC is sponsoring the forum which will be held in September 2001.

- ODH is coordinating with ODNR on additional well sampling in Allen County.

- Orders were sent to the ODH Director to suspend the registration for Clearwater of Ohio Drilling. A hearing was scheduled but Clearwater of Ohio Drilling withdrew from the hearing.

- The Ohio Water Well Association (OWWA) is forming a workgroup to develop a voluntary certification program for Ohio water well drillers.

- June sampling of private wells near the Urbana wellfield found contaminants in 10 of the 11 wells sampled and 4 of the wells found TCE and PCA above MCL. Urbana public water supply lines run nearby and there is the option for the residents to hook up to the water lines.

Jeff de Roche said that the USGS uses compound specific isotope analysis (CSIA). Each batch of a chemical that is created has a unique isotopic signature, which allows contaminants found in the environment to be linked back to the original pure solvent or compound.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Sue Daly announced:

- The Farm Science Review will be held September 18th - 20th, 2001 from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m. This is also National Farm Safety Week.

Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, Patrick Fellrath announced:

- Mike Joseph is a new Environmental Specialist 2 employee in the Storm Water Phase II Program. The Phase II storm water rules need to be implemented by 2003.

- DSW issued a final permit for a Combined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) site in Marion County. The facility is designed to hold 200 dairy cows. A public hearing was held in March 2001 and a lot of comments were received. As a result of the received comments, the issued permit requires a lot of surface water sampling.

- DSW is receiving many letters from citizens requesting a moratorium on additional large dairy farms. The letters are being forwarded from the Governor's Office. The main issues addressed in the letters are farms that are large but are not large enough to be considered a CAFO and the contamination of private water wells. Ohio EPA is responding to the letters by explaining that the agency does not have the authority to issue a moratorium and is encouraging the citizens to contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Rebecca Petty said that ODH will coordinate appropriate sampling parameters with Ohio EPA if requests for private water well sampling are received because of concerns from large agricultural facilities.

Jeff de Roche said that the USGS is doing some research on identification of fecal source (human, swine, avian, etc.) from analysis of E coli.. The research was prompted by a need to identify the true source of contamination in domestic wells.

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

- The first hearing for several rule packages (landfill siting criteria, design and construction, permit, operations, variance and exemptions, closure and post closure) will be held July 27th, 2001.

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

- The USGS is doing some additional year-end work for USEPA that includes:
- additional monitoring at the Tremont City landfill and
- oversight work at the Pristine Site near Cincinnati.

- USGS is conducting a water quality study for the Bureau of Land Management at Berlin Reservoir.

- Jeff spoke with John Kessler of Ohio EPA - DSW who confirmed that Ohio's 319 Program was approved by USEPA and funding should come through by mid August or September of 2001. With this funding, USGS can begin working on the 319 Groundwater Metadata Project. In preparation for project kickoff USGS will begin contacting the participating State Agencies and other parties in mid September.

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

- The Division of Water will not be moving to the Suburban Building in October 2001.

- It has not been decided if the card file portion of the well logs will be boxed and relocated during the moving process.

- ODNR will be doing a contract for some additional work with the Observation Well Network.

Rebecca Petty said that ODH is planning to coordinate with ODNR on the Observation Well work in order to provide additional training for well drillers.

Tom Allen said that one of the gaps in Ohio EPA's ambient data is the water quality of deep water versus shallow water.

ODNR, Division of Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:

- Thanks to Ohio EPA DDAGW's assistance there is a complete GIS coverage of Ohio karst areas.

- A project will start next month to put all bedrock topography and geology into a GIS coverage.

- The division will be purchasing a seismic unit to collect data.

- The Senate zeroed out the Great Lakes Mapping Coalition funding from the USGS budget.

- Bob Vanhorn will be retiring on 7/19/2001.

ODNR, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Jerry Wager announced:

- A two-day conference will be held November 6th - 7th, 2001 at the Worthington Holiday Inn to provide training on geomorphology and natural channel design. Information is available at <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~channel>.

- The State Agricultural Program will be implementing a cost share effort that has increased from \$7,500 to \$15,000. The goal is to implement a more consistent statewide cost share program. Five new Resource Management Specialists have been hired to provide technical assistance. To facilitate the technical assistance a ranking sheet has been developed that considers a site's pollution potential. ODNR would like to factor in public water system supplies as part of the consideration in giving cost share priority and he has spoken to Mike Baker.

Tom Allen said that it may be possible to look into the TMDL work that has been completed.

Kristy Hunt said that the SWAP program is identifying the susceptibility to contamination as low, medium, or high for all public water systems. The cost share program may be able to use this information in identifying priority sites.

- Jerry will email a copy of the draft ranking sheet to Kristy Hunt for the SWAP program to provide comments.

- With the new Resource Management Specialists working ODNR will be upgrading the database tracking system for management practices. Jerry suggested to John Kessler - Ohio EPA, DSW that the state system for tracking management practices for the 319 Program be linked with the management tracking system that ODNR uses for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. ODNR is also looking to expand tracking of urban best management practices.

- ODNR and Ohio EPA are currently funding 20 Watershed Coordinators and ODNR and other partners are reviewing applications for four new Watershed Coordinator Positions. Rosida Porter of ODNR-Soil and Water Conservation is the main coordinator of statewide activities and training for the Watershed Coordinators. If other State Agencies have specific program activities they'd like to share with Watershed Coordinators to help in their planning efforts, they are encouraged to do a presentation at a training session. ODNR conducts training sessions for the Watershed Coordinators throughout the year. Watershed Coordinators have been receiving a lot of training for the first year. They will be developing a Watershed Plan that will include 208, TMDL, water quality, quantity, and ground water information. ODNR is encouraging Coordinators to focus broadly on all water resources.

Rebecca Petty said that Local Health Districts may want to partner with Local Soil and Water Districts or Watershed Groups to address household sewage disposal problems.

Kristy Hunt said that Ohio EPA's SWAP Program activities should be coordinated with watershed planning efforts being developed by the Watershed Coordinators.

OSU Extension, Cindy Folck announced:

- The Extension is starting an education effort with County Commissioners and Trustees to remind them that anyone in charge of spraying pesticides needs to be licensed.

- The OSU College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences hosts the Ohioline web page (<http://ohioline.ag.ohio-state.edu/lines/ennr.html>). This Web page contains all of the OSU Extension fact sheets. If there are any questions on a particular fact sheet please contact the fact sheet's author.

- Working with ODA to update exams for pesticide use licensing.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Larry Berger announced:

- ODA received a grant from the Lake Erie Commission to develop a database that will track the use of pesticides in the Lake Erie area. This will be useful statewide. The grant funds provided will be used to create the database. ODA will be putting the RFP out soon. Larry will coordinate with laboratories such as Heidelberg's lab to see what their needs are for this type of database. This information will work well with Ohio EPA's TMDL and SWAP Programs.

- Jim Buchy is the new ODA Assistant Director. He was a former Mercer County Legislator from 1983 - 2000.

- The Rule Development Program Position has been filled.

- The Ohio Inter-Agency Council for Environmental Education met 7/18/2001. The Council is looking for someone to represent ODH. The Council has put out an Agency Listing Manual that focuses on education but it is a summary of what each Agency does. Carolyn Watkins represents Ohio EPA.

- Pesticides recycling program continues. ODA is seeing a lot more bulk pesticides. A summary of the pesticides collected in each county has been written. The summary is broken down to pounds of particular pesticides collected in each county. There are a lot of unknowns that cannot be accounted for.

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

- USEPA is not going forward with the second phase of the UIC Class V Program rules. Ohio EPA is looking to get Phase I in place by January or February of 2002. There is not additional funding. Phase I of the Class V Program will be implemented statewide with just one person.

Kristy Hunt said that the Southeast District Office DDAGW has mailed out draft Drinking Water Source Protection reports to 15 public water systems located in Coshocton County. So far Ohio EPA has not heard any response from the 15 public water systems receiving the reports.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

No updates provided.

August 16, 2001 Agenda: The August 16, 2001 SCCGW meeting will be held from 8:30 until 11:30 at the Horace R. Collins Conference room. The main discussion will focus on the Ohio Water Resources Council's Ohio Water Resources Goals.

Ohio Water Resources Council (OWRC): Ohio Strategic Water Resources Goals:

- **Goal 1: Water Resources Planning**

- **Objective 1.1:** Facilitate and enhance communication and coordination among local, state and federal water resource programs.

SCCGW Action Items to Objective 1.1:

- Retain action items C, D, E, and F under the OWRC 1998 strategic plan.

- **Objective 1.2:** Establish a state water resource strategic plan to guide implementation of water resource programs.

SCCGW Action Items to Objective 1.2:

- The objective is self explanatory however, SCCGW can identify what they have recommended to the OWRC strategic plan so far.

- **Objective 1.3:** Promote coordination with regional and local watershed planning efforts by providing support and resources.

SCCGW Action Items to Objective 1.3:

- Strengthening ground water training for the state watershed planning efforts.
- Insure that critical ground water issues are incorporated into local state funded watershed efforts(i.e. household sewage disposal and the Ohio Source Water Assessment and Protection Program).
- Evaluate and update current state water directory and distribute.

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Conference Room**

- 8:30 - 8:35 am CALL TO ORDER
 -Introductions
- 8:35 - 8:40 am JULY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
- 8:40 - 8:55 am LIGHT AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 -Legislation/Rules/Policies
 -Program Developments/Organizational Changes/New Hires
 -Miscellaneous
- 8:55 - 10:30 am OWRC GOALS/OBJECTIVES AND ASSOCIATED ACTION ITEMS:
 - Each Agency, Division and Program is requested to come prepared to
 discuss and submit priority action items associated to the Ohio Water
 Resource Strategic Plan of the Ohio Water Resource Council (OWRC)
- 10:30 BREAK
- 10:45 - 11:25 am CONTINUED DISCUSSION: OWRC GOALS/OBJECTIVES AND
 ASSOCIATED ACTION ITEMS
- 11:25 am AGENDA
- 11:30 Adjourn