

# 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  
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Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Ohio Public Utilities Commission  
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Ohio Department of Agriculture  
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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

February 19, 2004

Horace R. Collins Conference Room

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building

3307 South Old State Road

Delaware, Ohio

### **ABSTRACT**

The February 2004 meeting consisted of Agency announcements, discussion of ODNR-Division of Water's Strategic Plan, discussion of the effort to update the Nonpoint Source Plan, and a brief presentation of the interactive SWAP training CD developed for the State of Illinois

### **ATTENDANCE**

OEPA: Tom Allen, Michael Eggert, Bob Knipmeyer, Barb Lubberger

ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Scott Kell, Greg Nageotte, Rosida Porter

USGS: Jeff DeRoche

ODH: Rebecca Petty

ODOT: Rob Lang

PUCO: Sue Daly

OSU: Cindy Folck

Audience: Melissa Adams, Delaware General Health District; Larry Berger

### **JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY**

Some edits were provided for paragraphs 1 and 3 of the OSU Extension update, and for the PUCO update.

### **AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- According to an article published in the *Toledo Blade* on January 29, 2004, Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio has received \$350,000 in federal funds to buy equipment and provide staffing at the school's Water Quality Laboratory.

- The television special “After the Storm” (a half-hour program on watersheds produced by USEPA and The Weather Channel) premiered nationally on February 4, 2004, and will be aired again sometime in May.

-Sue proposed that SCCGW members consider a coordinated educational effort for National Drinking Water Week, May 2-8. A joint press release was suggested.

***United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff deRoche announced:***

- The President has proposed a budget of \$919.8 million for the USGS in FY2005. This budget will emphasize core USGS science programs and will focus on water availability, invasive species, and responding to natural hazards.

- USGS has published a report titled “Arsenic in Midwestern Glacial Deposits—Occurrence and Relation to Selected Hydrogeologic and Geochemical Factors”, Water-Resources Investigations Report 03-4228.

***Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management, Scott Kell announced:***

- New regulations for plugging oil and gas wells are in JCARR. For the first time, the rules and standards for coal-bearing and non-coal-bearing townships are combined.

- New regulations are in JCARR requiring a hydrogeologic investigation for any proposed new mine that will involve dewatering, to predict the extent of aquifer drawdown and determine the potential impact on nearby private wells.

-The federal Abandoned Mine Land Reauthorization bill has been reintroduced in Congress. The Administration’s version provides funding for environmental restoration of streams denuded by acid mine drainage. An alternate bill (Cuban-Rayhal) provides only 10 percent of ‘improvements’ funding to environmental restoration.

- The Ground Water Protection Council filed an amicus brief in federal court concerning FPL Farming vs. the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, wherein the plaintiff charged that the siting of a Class I Underground Injection Control well constituted a ‘taking’.

- Scott was asked about the proposal by an aggregate company to site a new ‘wet’ aggregate mining operation in Bellville, within 350 feet of the public water supply wells. Ohio EPA has received numerous letters from residents who oppose this, but no state environmental regulations prohibit such a siting. Early-warning monitoring for the drinking water wells would be desirable, at the least.

***Ohio Department of Transportation, Rob Lang announced:***

- As part of its MS4 Stormwater Permit requirements, ODOT is seeking to partner with 33 county health districts in its MS4 regulated area on identifying HSTS discharges.

- ODOT has been in contact with USEPA to ensure that the appropriate steps have been taken regarding the Eastern Corridor Multi-Modal Projects being planned for Hamilton and Clermont counties. These projects are in the early planning stages and they will cross the Buried Valley Aquifer System, a designated sole source aquifer. A Draft Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared for these projects.

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

- Jason Rennick, with the Water Withdrawal Program, has left ODNR to take a position with the Adjutant General's Office. His duties will be distributed among other staff.

***OSU Extension, Cindy Folck announced:***

- ODA's water quality program has been eliminated, including the State Management Plan for Pesticides' ground water sampling program, the residual pesticide recycling program and the pesticide container recycling program. Extension is trying to see if the pesticide manufacturers might pick up the pesticide container recycling program.

- OSU Extension is finishing up Winter recertification. About 2,500 commercial applicators were recertified at the Columbus programs, and another 6,000 will be recertified at the county programs.

- Regulations are being tightened for applying pesticides—even common household products—at schools, daycare centers, restaurants, and hospitals.

- A satellite conference on the West Nile Virus will be offered at OSU (Room 244, Kottman Hall) on March 24, 2004, 2:00 pm. CEU credits for Registered Sanitarians may be offered.

- OSU Extension will sponsor a Community Mosquito Management Conference on May 7, 2004, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This will be an overview of "how-to" information for setting up an integrated mosquito management program. Registration information is posted at <http://pested.osu.edu>.

- In June OSU Extension will host a "Rodeo", which brings in pesticide sprayers to calibrate and certify their spraying machines.

***Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Michael Eggert announced:***

- USEPA (Region V) recently conducted an audit of the Ohio UIC program, and gave it excellent marks, calling Ohio a "national leader" in UIC.

- DDAGW is working on a set of arsenic rules, to bring the state drinking water quality standard down to 10 ug/l. This standard will become enforceable in January 2006.

- Arvesta (formerly RES), a hazardous waste handling site in northeast Ohio with a Class I UIC well, has announced that it is closing the facility. The well will be closed and sealed by October, but will continue to be monitored.

- BTEX was detected during the October sampling of eight wells at the EnviroSAFE hazardous waste disposal facility near Toledo. Confirmation sampling in December indicated that one bedrock well continued to test positive for BTEX type compounds. This is significant because the facility has never had any confirmed detections in the bedrock. EnviroSAFE believes that the detections, including the confirmation detection, result from a gasoline spill that occurred in the sampling vehicle during the October sampling. Ohio EPA's northwest district office is reviewing the data.

- House Bill 278 shifts some of the authority for siting oil&gas wells from townships to ODNR's Division of Mineral Resources Management. Scott Kell indicated that this was an industry proposal.

- ODA is revisiting the Source Water Protection Area setbacks for manure management at CAFOs. They believe the setbacks may be too restrictive and are requesting documentation of any incidents of well contamination by CAFOs, particularly in Ohio.

***Ohio Department of Health, Rebecca Petty announced:***

- Household Sewage legislation is still in the works.

- ODH has received complaints about some Class V (storm drainage) wells that were installed around a hospital in Bellevue, in an area underlain by karst. Ohio EPA has also been notified and will investigate.

- Private Water System rules are still in the works. One goal is to have health-based standards for permissible levels of constituents such as arsenic, chloride and sodium which, if exceeded, would trigger at least an advisory from the Health Department.

- Two Fact Sheets for homeowners have been distributed to the Health Districts, on Disinfecting Drinking Water Wells, and Disinfecting *Flooded* Drinking Water Wells.

- A number of small noncommunity public water systems are abandoning their wells and purchasing hauled water. Ohio EPA no longer considers them a "public water system" because they do not treat or distribute water through lines, but they also are not regulated by ODH as a private water system. This issue will be discussed with DDAGW.

**DISCUSSION**

***Ground Water Metadata Project.*** SCCGW members were encouraged to contact Ralph Haefner (USGS) regarding the Ground Water Metadata Project. Specifically, ODA, ODNR-Division of Mineral Resource Management, ODOT and BUSTR still haven't made arrangements for including their metadata and establishing links to their data.

**Nonpoint Source Program Questionnaire.** SCCGW members were encouraged to complete the NPS questionnaire, due February 27<sup>th</sup>. The questionnaire is available online at. <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/nps/NPSMP/QuestionnaireResults.html> Just click on “Word” to download as an MSWord document.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**ODNR Division of Water Strategic Plan.** Mike Hallfrisch distributed a pamphlet describing the Division’s Strategic Plan, and reviewed each of the seven 5-year Strategic Statements for the Ground Water Resources Program. He noted that the statements reflect what the Division wants to achieve in the next five years, but without a guarantee that full funding will be available.

**Interactive SWAP training CD.** Barb Lubberger briefly presented the “ground water basics” portion of a CD that was developed by the Montana Water Center for the State of Illinois. Designed to train public water system operators on Source Water Protection, the material can also be accessed via Internet at <http://www.tacnet.info/swp/IL>. OEPA currently is working with the Montana Water Center to develop a training program specific to Ohio’s SWAP program, which should be completed by July 2004.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

-National Ground Water Awareness Week is March 14-20. SCCGW members will work on a joint press release.

-OWEA and WMAO will sponsor a Watershed Workshop on April 28<sup>th</sup>. They are encouraging members to submit papers on potential workshops or presentations that address OWRC Strategic Plan critical issues or priority activities.

## **NEXT SCCGW MEETING**

will be held March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Horace R. Collins Conference Center, ODNR Repository Building in Delaware.

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**Delaware, Ohio**

- 8:30 - 8:35            CALL TO ORDER  
                              - Introductions
- 8:35 - 8:40            FEBRUARY DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
- 8:40 - 10:15          AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
                              During Agency updates please provide status/update on OWRC  
                              Strategic Plan action items, being addressed by your agency or program
- 10:15 - 10:25          BREAK
- 10:25 - 10:50          Status of update of the NPS 319 State Management Plan
- 10:50 - 11:25          OWRC Strategic Plan and associated ground water protection priorities
- 11:30                    ADJOURN