

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

To promote and guide the implementation of a coordinated, comprehensive and effective ground water protection and management program for the state of Ohio

Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Ohio Department of Natural
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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

December 17, 2010
The Dutch Kitchen, Plain City

The December 2010 SCCGW meeting consisted of Agency announcements and a presentation by Ted Lozier (ODNR) on the Great Lakes Compact.

ATTENDANCE

Ohio EPA: Michael Eggert, Barb Lubberger, Aaron Shear
ODNR: Mike Angle, Ted Lozier, Greg Nageotte, Rick Pavey,
TomTomastik
ODH: Rebecca Fugitt
ODOT: Hans Gucker, Kevin Hodnett
USGS: Ralph Haefner
NRCS: John Armentano
Guests: Tom Allen, Larry Berger, Jeff DeRoche

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OEPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters:

Salt Piles. Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water is becoming more involved in permitting runoff from these facilities and is setting up a meeting of stakeholders in mid-February, 2011. Given this, SCCGW's plans to organize a workgroup to address this issue may be redundant. Meanwhile, DDAGW will continue to track regional chloride trends in ground water through its ambient ground water monitoring network.

Donnelsville PCE Contamination. OEPA's Division of Emergency and Remedial Response is investigating an area near Donnelsville (Clark County) where 15-20 private wells are contaminated with perchloroethylene (PCE). The source is unknown, but it has been noted that the contamination appears to follow fracture traces in the karstic bedrock. DDAGW staff recently participated in a field visit to evaluate the geologic setting.

Marcellus Shale Gas Pipelines. Three pipelines have been proposed extending from southeast Ohio near Monroe County to Toledo. They will transport natural gas liquids from the Marcellus Shale Basin to existing pipelines connected to fractionation plants and urban markets. The 250-mile Kinder-Morgan pipeline is currently under review by the Ohio Power Siting Board. In some cases, it appears that preliminary routing did not consider the presence of drinking water source protection areas.

Marysville Injection Well. The City of Marysville is pursuing the siting of Class I injection wells for injection of brine from the municipal water treatment plant's water softening process.

Unsafe Water Supply Investigation in Devola. On December 20th the preliminary results from the Devola unsafe water supply investigation will be presented to the Muskingum County Health District and representatives of the public water system. Although all of the isotope results are not yet available, the data indicate the primary source of nitrate contamination is coming from the septic systems. DDAGW is requiring the public water system to submit a general plan to address the elevated nitrate levels by April 1, 2011.

Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management

C&DD Ground Water Monitoring. The division is preparing for monitoring at prioritized construction and demolition debris (C&DD) landfills. With the assistance of DDAGW hydrogeologists, they are developing criteria to score the sites for hydrogeologic sensitivity, which will enable them to target the most sensitive sites for ground water monitoring.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Resources

Rules for Distressed Watersheds. Two new rules (Administrative Rules 1501: 15-5-19 and 1501: 15-5-20) are being adopted to enable the designation of a distressed watershed by the Director of ODNR with concurrence from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Also, pollution abatement rules have been revised to require that in distressed watersheds, all livestock operations must implement an approved manure management plan (1501:15-05-19) and no manure application will be permitted between December 15 and March 1st (1501-15-5-05). The rules can be viewed online at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/23035/Default.aspx>

Designation of Distressed Watershed. Currently the division is developing a report designating Grand Lake St. Marys as a distressed watershed. Target date for completion is mid-January, 2012, which means the winter prohibition of manure application will need to be implemented no later than 2014. Grand Lake St. Marys is the only Ohio watershed currently being considered for such a designation.

Watershed Coordinator Grants. The Division recently awarded eight new watershed coordinator grants for the following watersheds: White Oak, Rocky River, Upper Olentangy, Chagrin River, Lower Muskingum, Lake County Shoreline Tributaries, Rocky Fork, and Blacklick Creek.

Observation Well Network. The division is working with USGS to enhance and upgrade approximately 139 wells in the State Observation Well Network. The \$500,000 project is projected to take two years to complete.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey

Ohio Mineral Industries. The division recently released the *2009 Report on Ohio Mineral Industries: An Annual Summary of the State's Economic Geology*. The value of geologic commodities decreased from the previous year, especially the values of oil, gas and industrial minerals. However coal and salt increased slightly in value.

Injection Well. The deepest well in Ohio (13,727 feet deep) has been completed in Belmont County. This will be a Class II saltwater injection well for disposal of oilfield fluid waste, and will be regulated by ODNR's Division of Mineral Resources Management.

Division Hiring. Due to the number of projects the division has picked up recently, it is hiring several 3-year project employees, including a GIS specialist and four geologists.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management (MRM)

Kelleys Island. In September 2004, the division issued eight administrative orders for water supply replacement for private water systems on Kelley's Island, and they have been monitoring water levels on the island since 2006. As a result, there is a wealth of ground water data for Kelleys Island.

Dewatering Complaints. The division has received complaints about activities at a quarry in Marion lowering water levels in private wells. Staff are conducting an investigation that includes ground water modeling.

Marcellus Shale Fact Sheet. The inter-agency committee discussing issues related to the Marcellus Shale has developed a Fact Sheet that is now available on OEPA/Division of Surface Water's website at http://www.epa.state.oh.us/portals/35/pretreatment/marcellus_shale/Marcellus_Shale_Fact_Sheet.pdf.

Pennsylvania Visit. On December 7th division staff met with Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection and CNX Energy representatives to learn about Pennsylvania's experience with oil and gas exploration of the Marcellus Shale. In Pennsylvania there are already 1,300 wells in the Marcellus Shale and this has reportedly created 40,000-50,000 jobs.

Ohio Department of Health

Private Water System Rule Revisions. The private water system rule revisions will go to JCARR on December 22nd, 2010.

United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Science Center

Stream Gages. Currently the division is upgrading five stream gages on Lake Erie, which will be outfitted with autosamplers that can provide data on various constituents, including pharmaceuticals.

New Publications.

- "Concentration Data for Anthropogenic Organic Compounds in Ground Water, Surface Water, and Finished Water of Selected Community Water Systems in the United States, 2002-10", by Janet M. Carter, James A. Kingsbury, Jessica A. Hopple and Gregory C. Delzer, USGS Data Series 544 (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/544/>)
- "Relations That Affect the Probability and Prediction of Nitrate Concentration in Private Wells in the Glacial Aquifer Systems in the United States", Kelly L. Warner and Terri L. Arnold, USGS Scientific Investigations Report, 2010-5100 (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/5100/>)

Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO). The next Water Luncheon will be held Tuesday, January 18th, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Center for Automotive Research at 930 Kinnear Road. Charley Hickman, a geographer with USGS, will speak about improvements being made to the electronic National Map, which supports numerous applications, including new topographic maps. Deadline for registration is January 11, 2011.

Natural Resources Conservation Services

Natural Gas Leases. In eastern Ohio, sales of land rights to oil and gas companies have played havoc with the NRCS conservation programs. Rural landowners are being offered up to a couple thousand dollars per acre for prospecting rights, so landowners are less motivated to put their land into a conservation easement.

Signups. Program signups are underway for the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program, the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, and northwest Great Lakes.

Conservation Innovation Grants. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is making available \$25 million through the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program to address natural resource concerns nationwide with a special emphasis on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the Mississippi River Basin. Pre-proposal applications must be received at the NRCS National Headquarters by close of business December 28, 2010.

Ohio Department of Transportation

New Director. Governor-elect John Kasich has appointed Jerry Wray the new director of ODOT.

3C Rail. The incoming administration rejects the 3C passenger rail project that was championed by the Strickland administration. However, \$51 million will be used for a study of the rail corridor for improved commercial transport.

Tom Allen (retired DDAGW assistant chief)

Ground Water Display. The Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Dayton is installing a ground water display as one of its permanent exhibits.

Storm Center. TV channel 5 (Cincinnati) has launched its Storm Center/Envirocast program titled PROJECT EARTH. Joe Bonnell is Ohio Water Resources Council's representative to the group sponsoring the program, which is headed by Holly Utrata-Halcomb, Director of the Hamilton County SWCD

Great Miami Observatory. The University of Cincinnati (UC) is proposing construction of a Ground-Water Observatory in the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer System south of Fernald. The observatory would continuously monitor the flow and quality of ground water, store and distribute these data from a server at UC, and provide a site for conducting basic ground water research. Also, children from local K-12 schools would be brought here to learn how to sample, test and evaluate their local water.

DISCUSSION

[Due to lack of time, discussion items were deferred to the next SCCGW meeting]

PRESENTATION

Ted Lozier (ODNR/Soil and Water Conservation) gave a presentation on the Great Lakes Compact Advisory Board's recommendations on how to implement the Compact in Ohio. Their final report was completed in early December and is available on ODNR's website at http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/portals/7/Compact_Advisory_Board_Final_Report_12_15_10.pdf.

NEXT SCCGW MEETING

... will be held February 17, 2011 at ODNR (conference room to be announced). Agenda will include updates and discussion of salt piles and the ground water metadatabase.

REMINDER:

Meeting agendas and final meeting summaries are posted on the SCCGW Web site:

<http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/SCCGW/>