

## **NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL**

**June 14, 2005**

### **Meeting Highlights**

#### **Location:**

NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, Building 6, Suite 201, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ

#### **Attendees:**

Members: Ferdows Ali, Russ Furnari, Amy Goldsmith, Pat Matarazzo, L. Mason Neely, Pasquale Pittore, James Requa, Dan Van Abs, and Ray Nichols.

Others: Barbara Rich (Rancocas Conservancy).

Meeting convened by Chairman Pat Matarazzo

#### **GUEST PRESENTATION BY DEP STAFF:**

James Hamilton, Administrator of the Water Enforcement & Compliance Program, and Jonathan Berg, Coordinator of the Underground Storage Tank Inspection Program, discussed the development of the Underground Storage Tanks Enforcement Initiative, which focuses attention on the requirements of tank owners to maintain and operate their tanks as to reduce the number of releases/discharges from UST systems and to hasten the response to, and resolution of, possible releases/discharges from those systems.

#### **APPROVAL OF MAY'S MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

The highlights were approved as submitted.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Planning for the annual CWC public hearing:**

Ray announced that the hearing has been scheduled for Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, in the Public Hearing Room on the first floor of 401 E. State Street.

Since last month's meeting, Ray and Pat have tried to get someone from the Water Supply Advisory Council (WSAC), to attend this meeting to discuss possibilities for holding a joint hearing in October on a topic that relates to both water quality and water supply. Ray Nichols has discussed the matter with Joe Mattle, who noted that the WSAC did not meet in May and their next meeting is June 24. He encouraged representatives of the CWC to attend that meeting and discuss the subject then.

**Fluoridation:** Amy Goldsmith reported to the group about the public hearing held on June 6 by the Public Health Advisory Council on its proposal to require the addition of Fluoride to all public drinking water supplies in NJ. Although she did not attend, she learned that 80-90 people did. Although about 10 were in favor, the rest were opposed, including representatives of water and sewer utilities. She had drafted and submitted via e-mail a letter describing why the CWC was opposed to the proposal. She noted that one speaker at the hearing who has studied the fluoridation of public water supplies reported that because flouride is corrosive, one of the

unanticipated side effects of fluoridation is the release of additional lead into the water from the distribution system. She noted that since it was a public hearing, the Public Health Advisory Council took no action, but that they might act at their next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS/ OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**Council Member Status:** James Requa, of the Office of State Planning in DCA announced that he would be attending the CWC meetings on behalf of CarminValentin. An updated list of Council members was distributed. Members suggested several additions and corrections for Ray Nichols to incorporate into the final version, which will then be put on the Council's web page.

Ray Nichols distributed copies of an article about stormwater management in Maryland, which described some of the innovative management practices being implemented there.

Russ Furnari discussed a news release that USEPA issued on June 11 regarding TMDLs for Chesapeake Bay. It quoted Benjamin Grumbles, EPA's assistant administrator for Water, as saying "EPA has determined that existing regulations, coupled with the collaborative partnership outlined in the *Chesapeake 2000* agreement, will get us results faster than developing new federal rules." Grumbles' statement is part of EPA's formal response to a petition filed by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, an environmental advocacy organization. The petition requested that EPA develop additional federal regulations to achieve nutrient controls in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Pat Matarazzo announced that the annual national TMDL conference will be held in Philadelphia on June 27-29, 2005. He and Russ are planning to attend. He expressed hope that many NJDEP staff with interest in TMDLs would be able to attend.

Other topics discussed by the members before the meeting was adjourned included:

CSO/SSO Blending policy will

The Residential site Improvement Standards for roadway widths and the the goals of reducing stormwater runoff.

The open invitation to Adam Zellner, of the Highlands Commission staff to make a presentation at some future CWC meeting.

The open invitation to Debra Hammond, of DEP to make a presentation in the near future to CWC regarding the revisions to the Surface Water Quality Standards.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*\*\*THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JULY 12, 2005, BEGINNING AT 10:00 A.M. \*\*\*\***

**The Primary topic for discussion will be the CWC's upcoming Public Hearing**