

Drinking Water Quality Institute
June 8, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Rutgers Eco-Complex
Bordentown, NJ

MEMBERS PRESENT: Perry Cohn, Laura Cummings, Russell Ford, Barker Hamill, Steve Jenniss, Judith Klotz, Paul LaPierre, Jean Matteo, Leslie McGeorge, David Pringle, Gloria Post, Mark Robson, Carol Storms

Non-members in attendance: From NJDEP(BSDW) – Karen Fell, Linda Bonnette, & Kristin Hansen, (DSRT) Ravi Patraju and Suzanne Shannon, from USGS - Zoltan Szabo; from SE Morris County MUA- Frank Marascia

1. Call to Order and Administrative Business

Chair M. Robson opened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

2. Minutes

The minutes from the March 2, 2007 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes.

3. DWQI Members Appointment Status

A spreadsheet illustrating the appointment status of the DWQI members was provided. Currently, there is one vacant appointment (Environmental/Public Health Governor Appointment). NJDEP has made a recommendation for this position and will keep the DWQI informed of the status. K. Hansen indicated Carol Storms and Dave Pringle have been suggested for reappointment. Several members had questions regarding the dates individuals were appointed versus when their term expires. On several occasions people have been recently reappointed but are also expiring soon (less than the standard 3-year term). K. Hansen stated she would look into the process and confirm everyone's status.

4. Subcommittee Status:

Health Effects: D. Pringle reported that the subcommittee met earlier in the day to review the Benzene Reevaluation document. The recommendation has been approved; therefore, the health-based number will be changed from 0.15 ug/L which rounds to 0.2 ug/L to 0.12 ug/L which rounds to 0.1 ug/L, based on analysis of current human epidemiology data.. P. Cohn briefly explained the human studies for benzene. The Benzene Reevaluation document needs some minor edits, and will be completed within the next two weeks. Once the benzene document is complete, it will be forwarded to the DWQI members. The Health Effects Subcommittee has 3 additional contaminants to review: ethylene glycol, methyl ethyl ketone, and 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol.

Testing: S. Jenniss reported that the subcommittee has not met since the last meeting, but a meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2007. In a memo, dated June 8, 2007, the Testing

Subcommittee recommended four chemicals to the Treatment Subcommittee for evaluation. Included in these chemicals is formaldehyde, which a PQL has not been developed, but the subcommittee wants to keep moving forward with the chemical.

Treatment: P. LaPierre reported that the subcommittee met earlier in the day in which they reviewed the memo from Testing to Treatment. It has been decided that NJDEP will develop a scope of work for a small study to analyze the treatment technology available for the referred chemicals. Chemicals currently being reviewed by the other subcommittees and not yet referred to the Treatment Subcommittee will be included in the contract.

Radon: K. Fell reported that the subcommittee has not met since the last meeting, but that NJDEP staff have met internally to discuss various issues with radon. K. Fell discussed the possibility of not moving forward with a multi-mitigation approach. Recently the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water met with the Radon Program within NJDEP. There have been discussions of a mandatory air bill, which will affect how we look at radon in drinking water. NJDEP is gathering information regarding radon levels and their effects. A Radon Ad Hoc meeting will be scheduled following the DWQI meeting.

The discussion of radon continued regarding exploring the legislative route for regulating radon in air. D. Pringle stated that he thought there was already mandatory air testing of homes. K. Fell stated it is not mandatory, although approximately 20% of the homes are tested. D. Pringle recommended determining how much radon testing is occurring, who is testing (high radon areas), how large is the radon in air a problem, and how many are affected.

J. Klotz mentioned the most recent radon studies indicate small cell lung cancer (most fatal) is associated with radon. This may assist with backing radon legislation.

Z. Szabo mentioned USGS is getting ready for radon testing in the Northwest portion of the State.

5. Other Business

Unregulated Contaminant Studies

B. Hamill briefly discussed the unregulated contaminant studies being conducted within the Department. The DWQI will be kept up to date regarding the studies. NJDEP anticipates the studies will be completed by 2009; at that time DWQI will be able to provide some guidance. Regulations regarding these studies will not be included in the 2009 revisions to the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act.

Perchlorate

The rule proposal is almost complete. The rule will propose a MCL of 5 ppb, as per the DWQI's recommendation. The NJDEP hopes to have the rule adopted by the end of 2007.

Clean Water Council

L. McGeorge reported the NJDEP is working with the Clean Water Council focusing on water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. It was suggested that the DWQI may want to reach out to them for discussion.

Next meeting

Scheduled for September 14, 2007 at the NJDEP, Public Hearing Room, 401 E. State Street, Trenton. Meeting time 1-3 PM.. Commissioner Lisa Jackson will be attending the next meeting.

6. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Kristin Hansen

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Water Supply Operations

June 19, 2007

Comments received from:

Gloria Post and Jean Matteo

Incorporated September 13, 2007