

**Drinking Water Quality Institute**  
**September 14, 2007 - Meeting Minutes**  
**NJDEP, 401 E. State Street**  
**Trenton, 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 (via conference call)

**Non-members in attendance:** From NJDEP(DWS)– Michele Putnam, Karen Fell, Linda Bonnette, & Kristin Hansen, (DSRT) Eileen Murphy and Suzanne Shannon, (Radon Program) Jill Lipoti, Patricia Gardner and Jenny Goodman; from USGS - Zoltan Szabo; from SE Morris County MUA- Frank Marascia; from NJWSA Amy Shallcross; Ciara O’Connell

**1. Call to Order and Administrative Business**

Chair M. Robson opened the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes from the June 8, 2007 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes with one correction.

**3. DWQI Members Appointment Status**

An updated 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 Paul LaPierre have recently been reappointed. K. Hansen is confirming the status of Mark Robson and Dave Pringle’s reappointments and will start the reappointment process for Judith Klotz.

**4. Perchlorate Rule Status**

K. Fell indicated the Perchlorate Rule is still under review. Comments received from the legal staff have been incorporated and the rule was sent back to them for their final review. Following the review, the rule will be published. NJDEP expects to propose annual sampling at all points of entry for community and nontransient noncommunity water systems, with the first round completed by December 31, 2008, if the rule is adopted in sufficient time. NJDEP also expects to propose perchlorate sampling as part of PWTA parameters for contracts of sale as of January 1, 2009.

**5. PWTA Rule**

The PWTA is expiring September 2007. The rule will be readopted with minor revisions, including Sussex and Warren Counties being required to sample for arsenic. The Department anticipates the proposed rule will be in the New Jersey Register in October 2007.

D. Pringle asked for the status of the PWTA annual document. K. Fell informed the Institute that the report will be completed soon and will include more recent data.

## **6. Subcommittee Status:**

**Health Effects:** L. McGeorge informed the Institute that the Health Effects Subcommittee finalized its review of ethylene glycol and developed a new health based number of 10,000 ug/L, from 290 ug/L previously. So far, the subcommittee has reviewed 29 chemicals (some with existing health based MCLs and others without). The Health Effects Subcommittee will also be reviewing three additional contaminants: dacthal, 1,2,3 trichloropropane, and TBA.

**Testing:** J. Matteo reported the last Testing Subcommittee meeting was held on June 21, 2007. At the meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the entire list of chemicals being reviewed by the Institute. Some of the chemicals reviewed have been fully reviewed and forwarded to the Treatment Subcommittee. Testing is still reviewing six chemicals: nHexane, PCBs, Ethylene Glycol, 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol, Methyl Ethyl Ketone and Formaldehyde.

B. Hamill noted a contaminant list was provided at the beginning of the meeting. The list was developed for the Treatment Subcommittee to assist them in developing the scope of work. The contaminant status list provides a description of the health based MCL and PQL for each contaminant in addition to which subcommittee is currently reviewing the chemical. So far, it appears MCLs for five chemicals will become more stringent and two MCLs will become less stringent.

B. Hamill and K. Fell briefly discussed the PCBs occurrence study. They indicated 10 to 12 sites would be sampled. Most of the sites sampled will be surface water systems where the Department expects PCBs may be detected based upon source water quality. The scope of work has been drafted and it will begin shortly.

P. Cohn asked if the new methods to sample for PCBs include dioxin.

L. McGeorge stated method 1668A is being used for the wastewater side, which will make the PCB study a consistent approach. Dioxin will not be looked at for in wastewater/ambient water.

**Treatment:** P. LaPierre reported that the last subcommittee meeting was June 8, 2007. At the meeting, subcommittee members were given a memorandum from the Testing Subcommittee, which referred 1,1,2 Trichloroethane, Vinyl Chloride, n-Hexane, Formaldehyde, Chlordane, Tetrachloroethylene, and 1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane. As a result of the meeting, NJDEP will develop a scope of work for a small study to analyze the treatment technology available for the referred chemicals. K. Fell reported NJDEP staff are coordinating with NJCAT to develop the scope of work. NJDEP anticipates the scope of work will be similar to the study performed for arsenic. The target completion date for the study is 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008.

**Radon:** J. Klotz reported the Radon Ad Hoc has met four times, in August and November 2006 and in January and September 2007. The Ad Hoc has reviewed three possible options regarding regulating radon in drinking water:

- Do not develop a MCL for radon
- Develop a MCL for radon
- Regulate radon in drinking water using two standards. Develop a low MCL, but allow for a higher MCL with a multimedia approach. This option is similar to what EPA has proposed. EPA proposed a MCL of 300 without mitigation and 4000 with mitigation.

J. Klotz explained the Radon Ad Hoc has evaluated all three of the options above and has decided to recommend developing one MCL for radon in drinking water. Currently, the Ad Hoc is deciding between 800 and 1000 pCi/l for the proposed MCL. J. Klotz noted that 1pCi/l of radon in air has an equivalent health risk to 10,000 pCi/l of radon in water. The Ad Hoc has reviewed several pieces of information including populations affected, point of entries affected, and costs based on a MCL of 300, 500, 800, or 1000. The Department is in the process of updating some of the population versus systems affected information, including lives saved versus lives lost for a MCL of 800 and 1000. The Ad Hoc committee anticipates meeting during the beginning of November to finalize their decision on a MCL for radon. The Radon Ad Hoc committee plans to provide its recommendation of a MCL for radon at the next Drinking Water Quality Institute meeting in December.

L. McGeorge asked what is the level of exposure to radon in outside air. J. Klotz stated outdoor air is not less than 0.4 pCi/l. Since 1pCi/l in air is equal to 10,000 pCi/l in water, 4000 pCi/l in water is equal to outdoor air. Therefore, the values the Radon Ad Hoc is considering (800 and 1000 pCi/l) are less than the radon exposure in outside air.

## **7. DWQI Workplan**

B. Hamill referenced the workplan provided at the beginning of the meeting, which was dated January 2007. B. Hamill indicated the workplan must be revised to reflect the Institute's current status. Some of the tasks listed on the workplan have been accomplished and others are past due. Some of the chemicals provided on the workplan have not been given priority based on the Department's resources. B. Hamill asked each subcommittee to update their portion of the workplan at their next subcommittee meeting.

## **8. Unregulated Contaminant Studies**

B. Hamill briefly discussed the unregulated contaminant studies being conducted within the Department. There are currently two demonstration projects occurring to better understand how treatment addresses unregulated contaminants. These studies are being conducted at Fairlawn and Merchantville-Pennsauken Water, which are known to have high levels of unregulated contaminants from previous studies. Each project is costing approximately \$1 million. Both of the projects are in the design phase anticipating construction beginning next year. E. Murphy mentioned the literature review conducted by the Black and Veatch Consulting firm was used to determine what type of treatment for the unregulated contaminants is to be used. The literature review was very helpful in the development of the studies.

In addition to the studies above, a "SEP" is also being conducted by a water utility as part of a settlement as a result of environmental penalties. This project will benefit the water system and the State. E. Murphy and B. Hamill have made comments on the project.

Thirdly, in regards to unregulated contaminants, the State has contracted with USGS to perform additional sampling. This study will review seasonal variability and old versus new treatment technologies.

A collaboration effort is also in progress with AWWA. Passaic Valley is also providing funding for the project. The collaboration will look at unregulated contaminants using USGS's analytical capabilities.

The DWQI will be kept up to date regarding the above studies.

### **9. Institute Recommendation Document / Rule Process**

B. Hamill informed the Drinking Water Quality Institute that the current NJ Safe Drinking Water Regulations will expire in November 2009. Based on the time frame, NJDEP and the Institute need to determine which chemicals will be included in the rule proposal. B. Hamill anticipates all decisions made by first quarter 2008 in regards to MCL recommendations for the A280 chemicals will be included in the rule revisions.

L. McGeorge reminded the Institute of the three other chemicals the Health Effects Subcommittee is planning to review.

L. Cummings suggested possibly having a roundtable at the next AWWA conference in March to discuss and share ideas.

G. Post asked if changes to MCLs are not included in the 2009 rule proposal, how will they be incorporated? Would we have to wait until the next time the rules expire?

B. Hamill informed the Institute that MCL changes could be added separately, they do not have to be included in the readoption. B. Hamill suggested all work, including the recommendation document, must be completed by June 2008.

K. Fell stated the recommendation document will be similar to the recommendation documents generated in the past (1987 and 1994). Separate documents from each subcommittee will be bundled into one large document.

### **10. Additional Comments**

D. Pringle and L. Cummings had minor corrections on the Institute member status list.

K. Fell briefly discussed the new arsenic MCL of 5 ppb. All community water systems have sampled and the noncommunity water systems are required to sample in 2007. There has been approximately 60 point of entries that have exceeded the new MCL, but not all of them were MCL violations. Flemmington and Ramsey have incurred MCL violations and are in the process of installing treatment.

K. Fell also mentioned the Unregulated Contaminant Rule 2 is starting in 2008. All systems serving >10,000 must sample.

J. Matteo mentioned United Water is upgrading their system in Haworth. The Drinking Water Quality Institute is invited to the groundbreaking scheduled for November.

**11. Next meeting**

M. Robson informed the institute that he has a scheduling conflict for the next schedule Institute meeting in December. The Institute agreed to reschedule the meeting for the following week. The next meeting is scheduled for Scheduled for December 14, 2007 at the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust.

**12. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Kristin Hansen

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Water Supply Operations

September 26, 2007

Revised by K. Fell October 5, 2007