

NJ Water Monitoring Coordinating Council

Measuring What Counts for Clean & Plentiful Water

February 25, 2004
MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Leslie McGeorge, Rick Kropp, Alena Baldwin-Brown, Lisa Barno, Kirk Barrett, Randy Braun, Bob Connell, Becky Cosgrove (for Bill Simmons), Jeannine Der Bedrosian, Danielle Donkersloot, Jack Gibs, Mike Glogower, Howard Golub, Jawed Hameedi, Nancy Immesburger, Mike Kennish, Al Korndoerfer, MaryAnne Kuserk, Karl Muessig, Nick Procopio, Bob Reiser, Ed Santoro, Mike Serfes, Amy Shallcross, Dave Stedfast, Bob Tudor, Mike Weinstein, Paula Zevin

➤ **Council Charter**

The draft charter for the Council was reviewed and discussed. The Charter includes the Council's vision, mission, goals and structure. A revised version, which incorporates suggested modifications, has been prepared and is attached for review of all Council members.

➤ **Council Communication and Logo**

A webpage for the Council is being developed by NJDEP. A draft Logo was circulated for review – suggested revisions are being incorporated by USGS. A revised Logo should be available at the next Council meeting.

➤ **Meeting Frequency and Structure**

Meetings of the full Council will be held 3x/year (January, May, October) and will generally run 10:00 am-3:00 pm. Location of meetings may vary (USGS, NJDEP, etc).

➤ **Potential Agenda Items/Presentations for next Meeting**

The following topics were suggested as potential agenda items/presentations for the next meeting:

- National Coastal Assessment Program - *National Coastal Condition Report 2000*
- Emerging Contaminants – Pharmaceuticals
- NJ's Long-Term Water Monitoring Strategy
- Remote Sensing as a Monitoring Tool

➤ **National Water Quality Monitoring Council**

Council members agreed that they would like to have the National Council Co-chairs (Charles Spooner – EPA and Gail Mallard – USGS) attend a future meeting, as they are available. Members indicated that they would be interested in hearing advice to a new Council, what support the National Council can provide to NJ, as well as lessons learned from the National or other State Councils. Leslie McGeorge will extend an invitation to both Co-chairs.

➤ **NJ's Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report**

Nancy Immesburger (NJDEP – Water Assessment Team) provided an overview of NJ's Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report, which contains both the 305(b) water quality information as well as the 303(d) impaired waterbodies list. The 2004 Report is due to EPA shortly. Water quality data collection for multiple data sources for the 2006 report will begin later this year.

➤ **First Activities**

There was discussion regarding the list of potential first activities for the Council. Council members agreed that having a basic on-line directory of NJ water monitoring activities would be extremely beneficial, that coordinated data management/data exchange was an important issue to pursue, that development of NJ's long-term monitoring strategy was timely since this product is due to EPA by September 30, 2004, and, at Bob Tudor's – DRBC- suggestion, a new activity "Growing the Monitoring Infrastructure" was added. A suggestion was made that subcommittees be formed to address these activities. In order to solidify this suggestion, a request for participation on/chairperson(s) of these subcommittees will be shortly circulated to Council members.

With regards to developing an on-line water monitoring directory, Ed Santoro (DRBC) offered DRBC's monitoring matrix as an example that the Council may wish to consider – the matrix is in an Access database which could be easily duplicated. Paula Zevin (EPA Region 2) mentioned that there is an existing National Volunteer Monitoring Directory that should be linked to NJ's on-line directory; Paula offered to provide the link when it's needed. We will forward these suggestions to the Data Management/Exchange subcommittee when it is formed.

➤ **Next Meeting**

Possible dates in late-May or early-June. Tentatively scheduled for June 9.