



NJ Water Monitoring Coordinating Council

Measuring What Counts for Clean & Plentiful Water

June 9, 2004
MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Leslie McGeorge, Rick Kropp, Alena Baldwin-Brown, Randy Braun, Bob Connell, Becky Cosgrove (for Bill Simmons), Jeannine Der Bedrosian, Danielle Donkersloot, Jack Gibbs, Mike Glogower, Howard Golub, Jawed Hameedi, Nancy Immesburger, Mike Kennish, Al Korndoerfer, MaryAnne Kuserk, Karl Muessig, Steve Nieswand, Bob Reiser, Mike Serfes, Dave Stedfast, Fran Varacalli (for Chris Obropta), Mike Weinstein, Paula Zevin

Absent

Lisa Barno, Kirk Barrett, Nick Procopio, Ed Santoro, Amy Shallcross, Bob Tudor

Guests

Chuck Spooner – EPA HQ and Co-Chair of the National Water Monitoring Council
Lee Lippincott – NJDEP/Division of Science, Research & Technology

➤ **Council Charter**

The charter for the Council was reviewed and adopted with amendments. The final Charter will be sent to all Council members as well as posted on the Council webpage.

➤ **Council Webpage**

A draft webpage for the Council, including the new Logo, was distributed for review and comment. The webpage will be housed off NJDEP's Water Monitoring and Standards' homepage. The Council webpage is expected to be "live" prior to the next meeting (NOTE: the webpage went "live" on 6/21/04. Webpage address is www.state.nj.us/dep/wmm/wmchome.html).

➤ **Technical Presentations**

The Council heard technical presentations on the following 2 topics:

- National Coastal Assessment Program - *National Coastal Condition Report 2000* (Bob Connell – NJDEP, Mike Weinstein – NJMSC, Paula Zevin – EPA Region 2)
- Emerging Contaminants – Pharmaceuticals (Paul Stackelberg – USGS)

Copies of the presentations have been posted to the Council's webpage

➤ **National Water Quality Monitoring Council**

Chuck Spooner, EPA Co-chair of the National Water Monitoring Council, spoke to the Council members regarding advice to a new Council, potential support the National Council can provide to NJ, as well as lessons learned from the National and other State Monitoring Councils. Copies of his presentation have been sent to all Council members and posted on the Council webpage.

➤ **National Water Monitoring Conference**

Al Korndoerfer, Karl Muessig and Danielle Donkersloot provided a summary of important information/presentations from the National Water Monitoring Conference. Al and Karl, as members of the National Council, helped to plan/organize the conference; Danielle gave a presentation regarding NJ's Volunteer Monitoring program. Besides Al, Karl and Danielle, several other NJWMCC members also attended the conference – Jeannine Der Bedrosian (NJWRRI), Bob Reiser (USGS), and Ed Santoro (DRBC). As a result of the summaries presented, Council members indicated that they would like to hear presentations on Volunteer Monitoring, Source Trackdown activities, and NEMI at future council meetings.

➤ **NJ Long Term Water Monitoring Strategy**

Leslie McGeorge presented NJDEP's plans for development of the NJ Long Term Water Monitoring Strategy, which is required by EPA in order to continue receipt of 106 funds. EPA's Guidance Document (*Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program* – March 2003) details that the Strategy needs to include long term monitoring and assessment plans for all waters of the state including rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, coastal areas, ground water and wetlands. The Strategy is due to EPA Region 2 by September 30; a description of the Council will appear within the strategy as well as the inclusion of or reference to the Council's NJ-Related Water Monitoring Activities document. Council members will be asked for their continued input into the development and implementation of this Strategy.

➤ **Subcommittees**

2 subcommittees have been formed – Data Management/Data Exchange and Growing the Monitoring Infrastructure. Al Korndoerfer (NJDEP/WM&S) and Dave Stedfast (USGS) volunteered to co-chair the Data Management/Data Exchange subcommittee and Danielle Donkersloot offered to coordinate its activities. Bob Tudor (DRBC) will be chairing the Growing the Monitoring Infrastructure subcommittee. Both subcommittees are requested to hold at least 1 meeting prior to the next full Council meeting and to report back with a list of key activities as well as a charter. Subcommittee report-outs will become a standing agenda item at all future Council meetings.

➤ **Possible Agenda Items/Topics for Next Meeting**

- Remote Sensing as a Monitoring Tool
- USGS Website Development

➤ **Next Meeting**

Scheduled for September 24, NJDEP Headquarters (401 E. State St., Trenton), Public Hearing Room.