

TASK LIST

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION AREA SUBCOMMITTEE

At our Groundwater Advisory Committee meeting on August 5, 2005, I volunteered to send out a draft outline on tasks for the Groundwater Protection Areas (GPAs) workgroup to work on.

Attached is my first draft of this Task List. I would like comments by Wednesday, August 17, and I will send out a revised draft on Thursday, August 18.

I would like to get a volunteer task leader for each of the first two identified tasks (see I.A. and I.B.). That person would be responsible for working with other interested people in between the full Committee meetings to gather, analyze and summarize information which can be presented to the full Committee. Volunteers for tasks II.A., B. and C. are also welcomed but these issues will receive priority after the October meeting. If you are interested in volunteering to be a task leader, please identify which task(s) you would be willing to lead.

For the Committee's next meeting in October, our subcommittee will prepare a report on Tasks I.A. and B. I would like to also hear comments from others on that so we can let our task leaders know what will be expected from them and by when.

This subcommittee of the Groundwater Advisory Committee is required by Wisconsin Statute 299.05(2)(g) to address the substantial number of issues relevant to the implementation of section 281.34 of the Wisconsin Statutes. A number of these issues are required to be completed by December 31, 2007.

This memo will recite those issues and then prioritize them based on the discussion that was held by the advisory committee on Friday, August 5, 2005.

- I. Issues that the subcommittee should begin addressing for purposes of providing a preliminary report to the council at its October meeting.

The committee examined the issues relevant to groundwater protection areas that the advisory committee is obligated to address. The committee gave highest priority to the following issues:

- A. "Recommendations for changes in the regulation of high capacity wells that have a significant environmental impact on a spring.
- B. "Recommendations regarding the factors to be considered by the Department of Natural Resources in determining whether a high capacity well causes significant environmental impact for the purposes of Section 281.34 of the Wisconsin Statutes ..."

The above two priority issues require the committee to address the definition of a spring as well as the definition of a significant environmental impact.

- II. Other issues, required by statute, for the committee to address relevant to groundwater protection areas.

In addition to those two issues which the subcommittee for dealing with groundwater protection issues should report to the full committee at the October meeting, are the following issues which must be addressed no later than December 31, 2007:

- A. “Recommendations for changes in the regulation of high capacity wells that are in groundwater protection areas, and that have a water loss of 95% or more.”

- B. “Recommendations for statutory authorization for groundwater management strategies that permit adaptation of the regulation of high capacity wells as relevant information becomes available or as groundwater conditions change.”

- C. “Recommendations regarding the potential for the use of general permits for high capacity wells.”