

**Groundwater Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, July 10, 2007**  
**Department of Natural Resources Conference Room G09**  
**101 South Webster, Madison**

Present: Ron Kuehn, Carol McCartney, Todd Ambs, Dan Duchniak, Andrew Graham, Jodi Habush-Sinykin, Lawrie Kobza, Keith Meyers, Bob Nauta

1. Co-Chair McCartney called the meeting to order at 9:37.
2. The [June 7 meeting minutes](#) were approved as written.
3. Ambs explained that the Great Lakes Compact references the term significant environmental impact but the definition is left up to the individual jurisdictions. It was decided that Task Group C should continue discussions and seek input from Chuck Hammer concerning whether the current definition of “significant adverse environmental impact” in NR 820 is consistent with WEPA and NEPA interpretations.
4. Ken Bradbury presented a [“decision tree”](#) and [flow chart](#) for high capacity well approvals. Ambs explained that DNR staff will review a representative sampling of high capacity wells approved in 2006 that were constructed prior to June 4, 2007, utilizing the proposed process. DNR will report back at the August GAC meeting, summarizing how the process worked on these actual well applications.
5. Nauta asked that GAC members send revisions of the previously offered consensus item to him for discussion by Task Group A (Springs) which will meet in July to discuss modifications. After much discussion of the proposed consensus item, Habush-Sinykin offered the following modification:

“All spring sites compiled in the *Wisconsin Springs Inventory* (Wisconsin Wildlife Federation) and in *Assessing the Ecological Status and Vulnerability of Springs in Wisconsin* (Swanson, S.K., Bradbury, K.R., and Hart, D.J.) will be included in the spring GPA category. This will be done provided that high capacity well approval applicants will have the opportunity to construct and operate a well upon showing that both the water supply needs of the applicant and the dependency of groundwater discharge on the local environment have been considered to determine the location, depth and acceptable pumping rate of the well.”

DNR displayed a large map showing GPAs, Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters, and locations of springs of any size as provided by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF). The GAC asked that DNR also provide a map showing the approximately 300 springs that WWF indicated would meet the current definition of a spring (greater than 1 CFS more than 80% of the time).

6. Items for the August meeting:
  - First draft of background sections of the 2007 Report to the Legislature.
  - DNR staff report on using the “decision tree” to review high capacity well applications.
  - Reports from Task group A (springs) on the proposed consensus item and from D (gaps and opportunities) on the topic of conservation.
7. The meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Next meeting – Thursday August 2, 2007 in Conference Room G09, GEF 2, Madison