

Appendix C

Summary of 1/23/98 SDWA *Ad Hoc*
Advisory Council Meeting

**Minutes: SDWA Ad Hoc Advisory Council Meeting
of January 23, 1998**

The Safe Drinking Water Amendments (SDWA) Ad Hoc Advisory Council met on January 23, 1998 to review the draft State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) emergency rules and potential set aside requests, discuss comments received from the three public information meetings held last fall, and to receive an update of current DNR SDWA activities. Council members present included:

Scott Giese - Wisconsin Rural Water Association
Scott Slattery- Wisconsin Manufactured Housing Association
Cathy Ekendahl - Wisconsin Innkeepers Association
Lawrie Kobza - Municipal Environmental Group
Mike Clark - Wisconsin Section, American Waterworks Association
Dr. Henry Anderson - Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services
Pat Stevens - Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce

The following information was presented:

Don Swailes provided a very brief update of SDWA progress in the State and reviewed the Department's tentative project schedule for the next calendar year (copy enclosed). Lee Boushon, DNR Capacity Development Work Group Leader, invited participation in his work group by Ad Hoc Council members or the organizations they represent. Lee noted that work group meetings will likely be on a monthly schedule and will require a significant commitment from members.

Carol Bentzler, DNR Revolving Loan Fund Work Group Leader, reviewed the timeline to achieve the remaining goals in the SRF Program (copy enclosed). Carol also provided an updated final draft of the Loan Program Emergency Rules which was forwarded to all Council members with the meeting announcement letter. Carol discussed the priority ranking system and summarized results of the initial "Intent to Apply".(ITA) program (copies enclosed). The funds requested total nearly \$500 million, however the program funding totals only \$41.5 million (\$49.5 million with States 20% match). Council members were encouraged to provide any additional comments they might have regarding the SRF program, rules, and priority ranking system. The DNR board considered the emergency rule for approval the week of 26 - 30 January 1998. A public hearing on the proposed emergency rule was held February 4th, 1998 in Madison.

Jeff Helmuth, DNR's new Source Water Protection Work Group Leader (Jill Jonas recently took a promotional transfer to the Bureau of Watershed Management), reviewed the current status of the Source Water Protection Program development efforts. Jeff discussed comments received at the public informational meetings in September 1997, focusing generally on the surface water assessments where many questions still remain. Comments from the Council included remarks from Pat Stevens regarding use of data already collected in other programs and Mike Clark wondering if surface water assessments were even worth doing. Jeff emphasized that those were exactly the type of comments his work group needs to move forward in developing the surface water component of the program. Jeff also reviewed the draft Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) which was previously sent to Council members with the meeting notification letter, and a set of questions provided by USEPA regarding program development and implementation (I've enclosed a copy of the questions). Jeff wrapped up by encouraging further external participation in the Source Water Protection program and a commitment to provide work group access to Council members or their representatives.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Council regarding comments received from the public information meetings held in September 1997 (copy of comments and DNR responses enclosed).

Bob Baumeister, DNR Public Water Supply Section Chief, provided the Council with a draft summary (copy enclosed) of DNR set aside requests from the SRF loan monies. In the ensuing discussion, several Council members supported use of set asides, with the caveat that the DNR should minimize the amounts requested for set asides so as to minimize reduction of available loan funds. Lawrie Kobza commented that while the Municipal Environmental Group supported frugal use of set asides, the groups support would generally be inversely proportional to set aside amounts requested. Bob mentioned that we should have a better handle on the set aside amounts and what they will be used for when the final "Intended Use Plan" (IUP) is forwarded to EPA in May/June 1998. We will keep the Council informed on this issue.

Lawrie Kobza asked if a Council meeting might be held when the draft IUP is assembled in the next few weeks. Although no meeting was scheduled, we will try and forward information on the draft IUP when it is available and we can determine then if there is interest in meeting again. Following this discussion, the meeting was adjourned with no follow on meeting scheduled.

If you have any questions or comments regarding these minutes or the enclosures, please contact Don Swailes (phone # 608/266-7093, email: swaile@dnr.state.wi.us) for assistance or clarification.

Submitted by:

Don Swailes
DNR Safe Drinking Water Ad Hoc Council Liaison

encl:

1. SDWA project timelines and notes
2. Estimated SRF Time Schedule (12/10/97)
3. Final Draft NR 166 (1/9/98)
4. Priority Ranking System
5. Intent to Apply Summary
6. Public Comments and DNR Responses
7. Key Issues for Input on Source Water Assessment Program
8. Draft Set Asides-Drinking Water SRF

cc: B. Krill (w/o enclosures)
B. Baumeister (w/o enclosures)
Work group leaders (w/o enclosures)
Regional Water Leaders (w/o enclosures)
Regional Water Experts (w/o enclosures)