

Appendix E

Summary of 6/9/98 SDWA *Ad Hoc*
Advisory Council Meeting

SDWA *Ad Hoc* Advisory Council Meeting Summary
June 9, 1998 - 2421 Darwin Road, Madison

Attending: Don Swailes (Dept. of Natural Resources [DNR]), Caryl Terrel (WI Ch.- Sierra Club), Lawrie Kobza (Municipal Environmental Group), Ross Kinzler (WI Manufactured Housing Assoc.), John Robinson (WI Water Well Assoc.), Catherine Eckendahl (WI Innkeepers Assoc.), Mike Clark (American Water Works Assoc./ Cudahy Water Utility), Ken Blomberg (WI Rural Water Assoc.), Rochelle Jackson for Henry Anderson (Dept. of Health and Family Services), Don Frederick (Washington Co. Farmer), Jeffrey Sanders (Oneida Nation), Bill Schuester (Door Co. Soil and Water Conservation Dept.), Bill Ryan (US Environmental Protection Agency - Region 5), Sarah Van Tiem (DNR), and Jeff Helmuth (DNR).

Introductions were made. Several people in attendance were invited to the meeting by Jeff Helmuth to participate in the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) portion of the meeting. Don Swailes welcomed the Council and other participants and gave an update on the status of the Intended Use Plan for the State Drinking Water Loan Program.

Jeff Helmuth gave a short overview of the process that the DNR had gone through to develop background materials and questions on key issues for the Ad Hoc Council. Jeff had sent out a package of those materials prior to the meeting. Jeff asked for comments on the key issues in the following sections of the proposed SWAP plan:

Public participation

John Robinson suggested that bankers be educated on naturally occurring groundwater contaminants and that informational brochures on these contaminants be provided with the assessment results. John also asked why taverns were not represented on the *Ad Hoc* Council. Don Swailes said that the Council representation was compiled by looking at groups representing the largest numbers of public water systems. John also suggested that a web page would be an excellent way to get information on the SWAP to the public.

Caryl Terrel suggested general media coverage as a way of educating the public about the SWAP.

Ross Kinzler suggested that Jeff contact Council members that were not in attendance for their input. Ross added that a list of acronyms would be helpful in subsequent documents.

Jeff Sanders suggested getting more input from a greater variety of land use experts, not just land conservation professionals and farmers.

There was a consensus that a web page and newsletters were the best way to disseminate information on the SWAP.

Groundwater System Delineations

Jeff Sanders stressed the importance of acknowledging surface water/groundwater interactions, groundwater flow in karst environments and doing conjunctive delineations. Jeff suggested that the assessment approach be left flexible so communities would not be discouraged from using other methods of delineation, especially in confined aquifer settings.

Bill Schuester said that he understood that budget constraints dictated using simple delineation techniques such as the proposed calculated fixed radius, but he recommended larger radius delineations for systems in karst environments and consideration of radii based on geologic conditions.

John Robinson said that a uniform approach is more easily understood and that one method should be used in all geologic environments. The DNR has special casing requirements in certain areas of the state where there are geologic conditions that require added protection. John added that the radius should not be arbitrary.

Jeff Helmuth said that the SWAP funding was not adequate to do advanced delineations for every public water system in the state and that the calculated fixed radius delineation method was selected because it was a compromise between fixed radius delineations and advanced delineations. Jeff added that the calculated fixed radius delineations considered aquifer porosity which provides for some variation in geologic environments.

Caryl Terrel questioned whether 200 feet is an adequate radius for protecting transient noncommunity systems. Ken Blomberg said that 200 feet is an adequate radius for these systems based on the low pumping rates used. Ken added that the educational component was important. Caryl added that it should be stated in the draft plan that only nitrate and bacteria would be looked at in assessment areas for transient noncommunity wells.

There was consensus that the DNR should look at doing more advanced delineations for groundwater systems in certain geologic settings such as karst and confined aquifers.

Surface Water System Delineations

Mike Clark suggested not putting any more resources into the delineations and assessments for surface water systems than was necessary. Bill Schuester agreed that these assessments would lack meaning. There was no support for routinely segmenting watersheds for varying levels of assessment. There was consensus that the surface water assessment strategy should be reduced and that resources saved there should be targeted at groundwater systems.

Jeff Helmuth suggested basing the surface water system assessments on land use data and targeting a few key potential contaminant sources beyond that.

Inventories of Significant Potential Sources of Contaminants

Jeff Sanders suggested looking at non-metallic mining as a potential source of contamination for groundwater systems.

Bill Schuester suggested using county staff to do contaminant inventories. Their expertise could benefit the quality of data and the efficiency of its collection.

Integration/Coordination with other Programs

There was a consensus that the SWAP should be coordinated with other programs to avoid redundancy.

There was support for carrying out a Source Water Protection Program when the SWAP is completed.

Funding

Lawrie Kobza said that the 10% set-aside for the SWAP was an appropriate amount. She reiterated that surface water assessments should be kept to a minimum.

Jeff thanked the participants and asked that written comments on the SWAP be submitted by June 23rd.

Don Swailes announced that there would be a public hearing on the Drinking Water Loan Program Intended Use Plan on June 18th in room 027 of the GEF 2 building, and that the IUP would go to the Natural resources Board at the end of June.

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