

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Water Management
May 2, 2005
787-4686

SUBJECT: Water Resources Planning Process Status and Update

TO: Statewide Committee Members

FROM: Donald Bluedorn
Chair
Statewide Committee

John T. Hines
Executive Director
Water Planning Office

Stuart I. Gansell
Director
Bureau of Watershed Management

As a follow up action to the March meeting of the Statewide Committee, we respectfully submit the following current activities update report.

Regulations

The draft proposed regulations are currently being revised based upon input from committee members.

USGS

The Department and the Chair of the Statewide Committee met with USGS on April 29 to discuss the status of the project, which included a preliminary demonstration by USGS of the water budgeting screening tool. It was agreed to bring this demonstration to the Statewide Committee meeting on May 4 for communicating how the tool will be utilized.

USGS has continued to work on the preprocessing of basin delineation and statistical work for the USGS budget-screening tool. USGS broke the state down into five regions for development of Q7-10 low flow statistics. Those statistics have been completed. GIS based information including basin characteristics and the ArcHydro network for the Delaware and Ohio basins have been sent to the nationwide USGS repository for later use in the model and the nationwide "Streamstats" project that will provide better access to water resource information through the web. The Susquehanna and remaining basins will follow shortly. USGS has continued to build

upon and refine their working development system. Ongoing staff level technical meetings will be held with DEP to continue to work out specifics on data management issues.

The Department, after a period of time in waiting for statistics from USGS, has continued in its work to develop “hand” water budgeting test computations for several watersheds. The DEP is utilizing watershed delineations, “pour points” and background statistic from the USGS in conjunction with available water withdrawal and discharge information to evaluate procedures in applying the current draft criteria.

Population Projection Methodologies

Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM) is developing demand projection methodologies for use by DEP for both use with the USGS screening tool and for later critical water planning area evaluations and plan development. The schedule remains to complete work and provide methodologies by the end of June. A pilot projection project is being developed for the Lehigh River watershed, which will coincide with the pilot work by USGS for the budget tool. CDM has been evaluating the availability of data used for projections and how to best utilize this information with GIS down to a subwatershed level that the USGS budget tool will be working at.

Registration Update

Since March, the Department continued to receive and process registrations from all water use sectors, receive and process both 2003 and 2004 Annual Water Supply Reports from public water suppliers.

The Central Office DEP Act 220 staff has also coordinated with DEP Regional staff to reach out to public water suppliers to perform registrations. A listing of public water suppliers who have not registered has been posted to the internal DEP web for access by regional staff.

As of April 26, 2005, the following are the registration statistics:

Total Source Registrations

	March 14	April 26*
Public Water Supply Agency	3,639	4,239
Agriculture	835	937
Golf Course	257	310
Mining	296	331
Hydropower	10	16
Thermoelectric	53	61
Other (institutional, industrial...)	1,436	1,561
Total Source Registrations	6,526	7,455

Formatted Table

Total Number of Estimated Sources in PA: 12,000

Public Water Supply Registrations

Public Water Supply (PWS) Agencies in PA	2,193
PWS who have submitted registrations (complete or partial)	1,560
PWS who have not submitted any registrations	633
PWS Sources (from WUDS)	6,387
Registered PWS sources	4,239

Subcommittee Status and Reports

CWPA Subcommittee– At the CWPA Subcommittee meeting on April 26, the Subcommittee agreed to incorporate several changes and edits to both the Criteria and Process documents and recommends the Statewide Committee distribute these documents to the Regional Committees subsequent to the P & I Subcommittee review. A full report will be made at the May 4, 2005 Statewide Committee meeting.

P&I Subcommittee–On the April 28 conference call, the Subcommittee addressed the CWPA Process and Criteria documents received from the CWPA Subcommittee. The Subcommittee agreed to move these two documents to the Statewide Committee and recommends that the Statewide Committee distribute them to the Regional Committees. A full report will be made at the May 4, 2005 Statewide Committee meeting.

Public Participation Subcommittee – Press releases are planned for each basin, opening statements to the Public Hearing portion have been drafted, and the mailing to the stakeholder list has been completed.

Regional Committee Activities

The dates and locations of the Regional Committee Public Meetings and Hearings are below. Registration for the public meetings and hearing will begin at 5:30 PM. Background information and presentations will be provided at 6:00 PM followed by an informal comments, questions, and answers period and a formal hearing at 7:30 PM, unless otherwise noted below.

May 9, 2005

Ohio Regional Water Resources Committee
Seven Fields Community Center
380 Castle Creek Drive
Seven Fields, PA 16046

May 10, 2005

Great Lakes Regional Water Resources Committee & Ohio Regional Water Resources Committee
Erie County Conservation District
1927 Wager Road
Erie, PA 16509

May 12, 2005

Delaware Regional Water Resources Committee
Hearing begins at 8:00 PM
Montgomery County Community, College Hall Student Cafeteria, Room 106
340 DeKalb Pike
Blue Bell, PA 19422

May 16, 2005

Lower Susquehanna Regional Water Resources Committee
Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center
1150 Camp Hill Bypass
Camp Hill, PA 17011

May 19, 2005

Potomac Regional Water Resources Committee
Penn State Mont Alto Campus – Multi-Purpose Center
One Campus Drive
Mont Alto, PA 17237

May 26, 2005

Upper/Middle Susquehanna Regional Water Resources Committee
Days Inn, Penn State
240 South Pugh Street
(College Avenue & Pugh Street)
State College, PA 16801

August 11, 2005

Delaware Regional Water Resources Committee
Hearing begins at 8:00 PM
PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center
Route 6, ¼ mile east of Route 590 Intersection
Hawley, PA 18428

August 18, 2005

Upper/Middle Susquehanna Regional Water Resources Committee
East Mountain Inn & Suites
2400 East End Boulevard - Route 115 (Exit 170A off I-81)
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702