



POTOMAC RIVER BASIN DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

Meeting Notes for February 21, 2008

Location: ICPRB, Rockville, MD

Attendees

Utilities

City of Rockville:
Mark Charles

Fairfax Water:
Traci Goldberg
Charles Murray
Mishelle Noble-Blair
Greg Prelewicz

LCSA:
Tom Bonacquisti
Tom Broderick

Washington Aqueduct:
Miranda Brown
Tom Jacobus

WSSC:
Martin Chandler
Plato Chen
M.T. Habibian

State and Local Government

MDE:
John Grace

PADEP:
Patrick Bowling

VADEQ:
Andrea Putscher

WVDHHR
Bill Toomey (via teleconference)

Federal and Regional Agencies:

EPA Region 3:
Vicki Binetti
Chuck Kanetsky
Ellen Schmitt
KR Young

ICPRB:
Cherie Schultz

MWCOG:
Steve Bieber
Tanya Spano

National Park Service
Doug Curtis

USGS:
Carol Boughton
Cherie Miller

Reports from Workgroups

Pathogens Workgroup (Plato Chen, WSSC): Plato reported that the *cryptosporidium* monitoring project is almost finished, though results are not yet in for all storm samples. He expects that the draft report for the project will be done by the end of February. Plato also reported that he attended an EPA workshop on this topic last fall.

Miranda Brown is contacting people with ties and expertise related to agricultural issues, with the goal of developing a dialog with the agricultural community. She is tentatively proposing a one-day workshop on regulatory requirements, state programs, activities of local conservation districts, and other topics related to the impact of agriculture on drinking water sources. Plato noted that information on the location of CAFOS in the Potomac basin was acquired by Julie Kiang from states, though the Partnership is probably not able to share and disseminate this information. Chuck Murray suggested that the Delaware poultry agreement (the EPA's Clean Bay agreement with DELMARVA poultry producers) might be of interest to the Partnership.

Disinfection By-Products Workgroup (Mohammad Habibian, WSSC): WSSC is pursuing a Tailored Collaboration grant from AwwaRF, as a follow-up to a recently completed AwwaRF study. The proposed study will investigate the relative contributions to DBP precursors from land-based and water-based sources. WSSC staff persons are talking with DBP researcher, Dave Reckhow of the University of Massachusetts. A scope of work for the project has been drafted and is being reviewed.

Emergency Response Workgroup (Cherie Schultz, ICPRB): The workgroup has found funding to support its upcoming pipeline spill exercise, which will simulate a release of petroleum product into the river from the Colonial Pipeline Company's pipeline upstream of the Washington, DC metropolitan area. EPA Region 3 will provide funding to hire a contractor to help organize and facilitate the exercise. It is planned that the exercise will take place on two separate days. On Day 1, basic emergency response training and review of existing water utility and regional emergency response plans will take place, and about a month later, on Day 2, a table top simulation of the spill will take place.

The workgroup is waiting for EPA Region 3 to finalize the contract and get the contractor on board before setting dates for the exercise.

Urban Issues Workgroup (Greg Prelewicz, Fairfax Water:): Greg reported on workgroup efforts on road deicers. Last year the workgroup had information-gathering meetings with VDOT and MDSHA. This year Greg will attend the 2008 North American Snow conference. The workgroup proposes to hold a mini-workshop for local environmental managers on best practices, new technologies, and environmental awareness. Fairfax Water staff members have prepared some "talking points", and have been contacted by WAMU for information. The workgroup may try to prepare a more in-depth issues paper for the press.

Greg also reported on Dulles airport's use of glycol as a deicer. Dulles has an NPDES permit to discharge runoff, and this permit is up for renewal. Fairfax Water proposes that the DSWPP Utility Committee comment on this issue. They are suggesting a firm discharge limit for glycol of 100 mg/L and real-time TOC monitoring. Dulles currently does daily monitoring for glycol and reports results via e-mail to Fairfax Water. Dulles uses "food-grade" glycol so the water quality issue is aesthetic. They use vacuum trucks to collect excess deicer fluid, but the recovery rate might be improved. EPA OST will come out with national draft effluent guidelines for airport deicers in the near future.

Reaching Out Workgroup (EPA Region 3): Vicki Binetti reported on the activities of the Source Water Collaborative, a coalition of national partners dedicated to advancing the cause of drinking water source protection. The Collaborative has launched a new campaign, *Your Water. Your Decision*, and has prepared several new brochures suggesting key actions and resources. One of these brochures is customizable (to see brochures, go to http://www.protectdrinkingwater.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=85&Itemid=45). The brochures have information and web links on the topics related to land use planning, water utility financing, and source water protection. Traci Goldberg said she didn't think it was appropriate for utilities to take a position on land use issues. Steve Bieber said that COG could help get information out to local governments. John Grace suggested that the Government Committee could customize the brochure for different regions of basin and distribute it at regional meetings. Greg suggested that this be done through the Potomac Watershed Roundtable.

Cherie Schultz reported that the Partnership has purchased the domain name, www.potomacdwspp.org. The format of the Partnership's website will be upgraded this year as part of an ICPRB website upgrade.

Emerging Contaminants Workgroup (Martin Chandler, WSSC)

Martin discussed AwwaRF's strategic initiative on emerging contaminants (ECs). AwwaRF's 2008 budget includes three EC projects: 1) a framework to give utilities a roadmap (\$150,000), 2) a project on risk communication, and 3) a project concerning standardized laboratory methods.

AwwaRF will sponsor a workshop on EDCs and risk communication. The workshop will be held on April 11 with location to be determined. Kim Linton of AwwaRF has sent out a preliminary agenda, and we would like to get a preliminary headcount. We will publicize this event to smaller Potomac basin utilities.

KR Young gave an update on EPA's perchlorate study. Sampling began in October of 2007 at Luke, Paw Paw, Hagerstown, Leesburg, Fairfax Water, WSSC, and Washington Aqueduct's Dalecarlia and Mc Millan reservoirs. Analyses will be done by ORD in Cincinnati. The laboratory's detection limit is approximately 0.5 ppb. There have been no exceedances of the EPA's "drinking water equivalent level" of 24.5 ppb to date. The highest concentration found to date was in a sample at Hagerstown, which contained 7 ppb. John Grace said that studies are showing that food is a very significant source of perchlorate. Plato requested that the utilities be given clearer guidance on how to share information from the study with customers; perhaps EPA could suggest language for CCR. KR said that guidance should be available in the project's QAPP, or fact sheet, or letter to the states. Maryland's limit of 1 ppb was derived from an EPA toxicity study. Some medium and small ground water systems have agreed to install treatment systems.

As part of EPA's Clean Water Initiative, Vicki's office is proposing a DBP risk reduction strategy, and this may fit in well with the interests of the DBP workgroup.

EPA is beginning several PPCP projects, including a pilot take-back project (not including controlled substances) that will begin this spring in cooperation with Philadelphia Water at several long-term care facilities. Other PPCP projects are in the planning stage, including a science day or series of webcasts or lectures on current research on EDCs, and a southeastern Pennsylvania project with excelleRX, which is a firm that manages medications with hospice-care givers. EPA staff are also meeting periodically with representatives from PHARMA. Also, FWS is partnering with the American Pharmacists Association on a project, SMARxT DISPOSAL, which will publicize the potential environmental and health impacts of improper disposal of unused medications.

The USGS has developed a procedure to give Partnership members advanced notification of the publication of USGS studies on ECs. Vicki Blazer's group will be coming out with two new studies in the coming year.

CBP is coordinating workshop with partners including WERF and MWCOG, on EDCs and WWTPs, entitled "Maximizing the Dual Benefits of Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Processes: Reducing Nutrients and Emerging Contaminants". The workshop will take place on May 12-13.

Information Items on Regional Source Water Protection Efforts

Occoquan and Dulles Policies, presented by Greg Prelewicz, Fairfax Water

Broad Run Water Reclamation Facility and the Dulles Area Regulation, presented by Tom Broderick, Broad Run Water Reclamation Facility