

Upper/Middle Susquehanna Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting

May 16, 2007

DEP Northcentral Regional Office
208 W. Third Street, Suite 101
Williamsport, PA 17701

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Tom Beauduy	David Kaufman
Mike Cavanaugh	Doug Manning
Karen Chapin	Gary Petrewski
Todd Giddings	David Snook
Dennis Hameister	Jerry Walls
John Hood	Harold Webster
Tim Horner	

Committee members not in attendance:

Drew Hadley	Richard Wardrop
Bill Manner	Dorne White
Jennifer Means	John Yamona

Others in attendance:

David W. White, Assessment Analysis	Rachel Delavan – DEP
Kenneth Lambert, Farmer, Ulysses, PA	Lori Mohr - DEP
R. Wayne Baumann, Agronomist/Farmer, Potter County	Bill Gast – DEP
	Mark Stephens – DEP

Chairman Doug Manning called the meeting to order at 10:15 am. Introductions were made around the room including guests and new Committee members.

Administrative Items

The Committee approved the draft meeting summaries from November 2007 and February 2007 with no changes.

November 2006 & February 2007 Draft Meeting Summaries:

Motion made by: Tom Beauduy

Motion second by: Jerry Walls

Motion carried.

The Committee conducted elections of 2007 Chair and Vice Chair. Hank Webster is the new Chair and Todd Giddings is the new Vice-Chair.

2007 Committee Chair:

Nomination of Hank Webster made by: Doug Manning

Second by: Todd Giddings

Motion to close nominations made by: Tom Beauduy

Motion second by: Jerry Walls

Motion carried.

2007 Committee Vice-Chair:

Nomination of Todd Giddings made by: David Snook

Second by: Hank Webster

Motion to close nominations made by: Doug Manning

Motion second by: Tom Beauduy

Motion carried.

Comments from the Public

David White, Kenneth Lambert, and R. Wayne Baumann of Potter County shared their concerns with the Committee about 79-80 industrial windmills that may be sited along 3 ridges in Ulysses Township. They are concerned about adverse effects on water resources due to site-specific circumstances (high springs located along these ridges). They noted that the windmills have 30' deep footers.

At this point, they want to gather information to help determine what kind of impact this project will have. The Committee explained its role and offered some suggested contacts to help gather the necessary information.

Regional Action Agenda

The Committee worked on finalizing their Regional Action Agenda. Committee members wrote comments and notes on large flip chart sheets. Rachel Delavan will revise the draft based on this work and distribute the updated goals and objectives to the Committee. After reviewing the updated draft, Committee members may send additional comments to Rachel Delavan at rdelavan@state.pa.us.

The Committee also selected and discussed two goals that will be advanced for developing more detailed work plans and recommendations in the 2008 State Plan.

Public Meetings and Hearings

The Committee agreed to schedule a Public Meeting/Public Hearing for the evening of Thursday, November 1 in Williamsport. DEP staff agreed to look into Lycoming College as a possible location. Further details will be made available to the Committee once the time and location are set.

DEP Summary of Activities

Rachel Delavan provided a list of current Committee members with the category they represent and the date their term expires. This list should be updated to include one more new committee member, Dennis Hameister ("local government"), who was in attendance. Rachel updated the Committee on the status of nominations for the remaining vacant positions. DEP staff will continue to seek nominations for these openings and will accept any suggestions from Committee members, particularly for the "environmental" category.

The Statewide Committee update memo dated March 15, 2007 was provided to the Committee along with a draft document outlining the Organization of the 2008 State Water Plan.

The Contractor selected to complete the Paper Atlas and Public Information Document is Greenhorne and O'mara in association with Land Logics Group and Robinson Group. The Notice to Proceed was issued on April 10th and work commenced immediately.

DEP will be providing materials for regional committee members to review before the August meetings and is currently trying to determine the best way to provide these materials and collect comments.

Forests and Aquifers Presentation and Discussion

Sam Berkheiser, Assistant Director of DCNR's Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey spoke to the Committee about the role of forests and aquifers. Sam presented groundwater data and water budgets and showed where data gaps exist in forest lands in the Upper/Middle Susquehanna Basin.

Update on Water Budget Screenings- Bill Gast, DEP

A presentation was given to update the Committee on the schedule and sequence of the water budget screenings.

Follow-up/Next Steps - The next meeting will be held on August 15, 2007 at the Centre County Solid Waste Authority in Bellefonte.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.