

MEMORANDUM

To: Groundwater Advisory Council
From: H. Bokuniewicz
Concerning: Minutes of the meeting of 20 January 2004 (**REVISED**)
Date: January 26, 2004

PRESENT

N. Bartilucci
H. Bokuniewicz
D. Mancuso
R. Mazza
M. Nofi
D. Paquette
S. Robbins
K. Roberts
W. Spitz

REGRETS

L. Koppelman
J. Milazzo
B. Nemickas
G. Proios
W. Prospect
K. Willis

1. The minutes for the meeting of 24 November and 22 December were distributed.
2. The workshop on developing Power Point presentations for the VEEP (Volunteer Environmental Educator Program) and NEMO (Non-point Education for Municipal Officials) was held at BNL on 15 January. The weather was bad and only about a third of those registered actually showed up, but we went ahead. We feel comfortable with the comments we received and will be producing CD's of these power point images to be tested by the presenters.

The VEEP program is doing about one school presentation a week and we hope to be able to keep this pace through the spring semester.

Assemblymen DiNapoli and Weisenberg are having a hearing on groundwater issues on Friday 23 January at Long Beach. The hearing seems to have been initiated by Morris Kramer ("Environmentalist") and Assemblyman Weisenberg to address saltwater intrusion and NYC's plan for Lloyd aquifer recharge and recovery. Morris Kramer is concerned with preserving the Lloyd for use in Long Beach where saltwater intrusion in the upper aquifers is a problem. Offshore monitoring wells had been proposed by the Comprehensive Study (Greely and Hansen?) and the 208 Study to identify the offshore, saltwater-freshwater interface. Sarah Mayland will also be giving testimony, presumably on the caps. Water suppliers continue to be in an awkward situation with the caps since they are a utility and required to supply water; they can't withhold water from landowners. That is construed as a "taking", denying productive use.

The DEC, the Water Authority, the USGS and Suffolk County Health Department will be among those giving testimony. From Stony Brook, I will speak along with Larry Swanson who will provide comments on water reuse. Riverhead has a proposal to reuse treated sewage water on golf courses. This is to be funded through the Bond Act. A draft of my testimony was distributed.

Nassau DPW will also be providing testimony on their monitoring program. In addition, the Water Conference will meet on Wednesday and will also discuss providing testimony.

Steve Jones will encourage curbs on lawn sprinkling. The legislators are planning to license contractors for the installation of automatic irrigation systems, but other, county-wide measures are probably needed, like "enforcement" (somehow) of the odd-even rules or perhaps, restricting lawn watering after one-quarter inch of rain has fallen in a 24 hour period.

A problem with all these measures is that everyone is entitled to "due process". We may be getting into establishing "water police" and some "court" hearing process. It seems, however, that stopping the "next condominium" will have little impact on problems of water supply (even if could be done) but controlling the summer outdoor water use would.

The NY DEP is also scheduled to provide testimony on ASR (Aquifer Storage and Recovery). The City may also be looking into reactivating wells in the old Jamaica Water Company. They seem to be looking to withdraw 60 mgd from Brooklyn and Queens, and if they had to shut down one of the aqueducts for repair, they would need to supplement the water supply by 200 mgd. They need an exception to the Lloyd moratorium to do a pilot study. The ASR may turn out to be impractical. In other places recharge had a problem with clogging of the aquifer at the well point and there's concern with recharging chlorinated water due to THM's (trihalomethane) and TDMS.

3. The Suffolk County Legislature water quality database was discussed. A first step would be to get the input from the SWAP models into GIS shape files from CDM. This would cost about \$7,500. We would next look into getting the quality data from the Consumer Confidence Reports and adding the rainfall data. Ongoing data like pumpage files are reported to the DEC but may be available in Nassau County anyway, in DBASE 4. These data would include monthly aggregates by county and by well. In Suffolk it may be that only the data from 1994 (used to calibrate the model) is available electronically.

The mapping of contaminated aquifer segments (i.e. the mapping of plumes) may be another "first-order" task. This may fit into the GIS requirement placed on the DEC in the Brownfield legislation.

4. The next meeting will be Monday, 1 March 2004 at the offices of the Suffolk County Water Authority in Oakdale.