

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Office of Water Management

July 15, 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

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Director  
Bureau of Watershed Management

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

**2005 Staff Goals:**

In late winter 2005, staff set a series of tangible goals for the remainder of 2005. The status of those goals is as follows:

- Goal #1 Complete USGS Budget Screening Tool for statewide application
  - Status: Anticipated to be completed in the fall.
- Goal #2 Formulate workplan and tangible products with the River Basin Commissions (example: Delaware and Susquehanna MOUs).
  - Task Complete and the workplans for the supplemental funds FY 2005-2006 are being initiated.
- Goal #3 Refine and enhance water use registrations in the interim Registration Program.
  - Efforts are 75% complete and have served as the basis for the future registration program
- Goal #4 Develop the draft regulations for the future Registration Program.
  - Complete for Statewide Committee Concurrence.
- Goal #5 Enhance programmatic support to the committees through product development.
  - Ongoing

- Goal #6 Initiate the development of the Policy and Procedures for the State Water Planning Process and each component including:
  - *Goal 6A Level of Detail*
    - *Ongoing preliminary draft completed by staff and being considered.*
  - *Goal 6B Draft Regional Component*
    - *Draft outline completed for the Delaware and being reviewed by the other regional committees.*
  - *Goal 6C Final Critical Water Planning Area Criteria and Nomination Process*
    - *Draft Complete for Statewide Committee Concurrence*
  - *Goals 6D Final Public Participation Process including first round of Public Hearing/Meetings*
    - *Complete as of September.*
  - *Goal 6E Critical Area Resource Plans (post 2005)*
    - *Ongoing*

### **Regulations**

The Statewide Committee will review the final draft regulations at the July 21, 2005 meeting. At the same time, the regulations continue to proceed through the Department's internal review process.

### **USGS Screening Tool Update 07/11/05**

USGS continues to process pour points across the state to include basin delineations and basin characteristics for each watershed. As processing is completed for each major watershed (HUC), the pour point information will be added to the screening tool. The regional regression equations for the 7Q10 have been developed and programmed into the screening tool. Other low-flow regression equations have been developed for 7Q2, 30Q10, 30Q2, and harmonic mean. Statewide regression equations have been developed for the 1-in-10-, 25-, and 50-year baseflow statistics.

A working prototype of the screening tool was delivered to DEP on June 22 and again on July 6 for selected basins. Features include:

- Show Basin function displays watershed delineation, drainage area, total withdrawals (per category), total discharges, surface-water supply (7Q10), and net surface-water availability.
- Edit Basin function displays same as Show Basin function plus any upstream edited pour points. Edit Basin function allows users to change the total withdrawals, categorical withdrawals, or total discharges in the watershed by selecting the pour point or typing pour point ID. Users can return to baseline water use.
- Recalc Selected Area function allows the user to recalculate the availability for selected pour points in an area.
- Save Scenario function saves a generated scenario.
- Reload to Saved function loads previously saved session.
- Recalc Entire function recalculates the entire state, usually done when a new WUDs database is pulled.

As USGS continues to increase functionality within the screening tool, updates of the tool will become available to DEP.

Processed GIS data and other supporting layers for the Delaware, Susquehanna, and Ohio River Basins have been sent to USGS StreamStats team for inclusion in the national StreamStats program. StreamStats is a Web-based tool that allows users to obtain streamflow statistics, drainage-basin characteristics, and other information for user-selected sites on streams.

**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. Due to the time in acquiring employment data from the Department of Labor and Industry that will be used in performing demand projections, the schedule to complete the work, including the pilot projection project for the Lehigh River watershed, may be extended until the end of September.

**Registration Update**

Since May, 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.

**Total Source Registrations**

	March 14	April 26	July 11
Public Water Supply Agency	3,639	4,239	4,966
Agriculture	835	937	1,173
Golf Course	257	310	374
Mining	296	331	352
Hydropower	10	16	16
Thermoelectric	53	61	57
Other (institutional, industrial...)	1,436	1,561	1,639
Total Source Registrations	6,526	7,455	8,577

Total Number of Estimated Sources in PA: 12,000

**Public Water Supply Registrations**

Public Water Supply (PWS) Agencies in PA	2,186
PWS who have submitted registrations (complete or partial)	1,589
PWS who have not submitted any registrations	597
PWS Sources (from WUDS)	6,387
Registered PWS sources	4,966

### **Population Projections**

Draft population projections were recently mailed to all county and regional planning agencies for review and comment. The Department will review received comments and local population projections and adjust our municipal and county figures while maintaining the total statewide projection from the US Bureau of Census as a control.

### **Subcommittee Status and Reports**

CWPA Subcommittee– At the CWPA Subcommittee meeting on June 14, the Subcommittee reviewed the combined Criteria and Process document. The Subcommittee recommended DEP revise it accordingly and send it to the Statewide Committee for their consideration at the July 21 meeting. Camp Dresser and McKee attended the Subcommittee meeting to brief the Subcommittee on their progress with developing the water use projection methodologies. A full report of the Subcommittee meeting will be made at the July 21 Statewide Committee meeting.

P&I Subcommittee–The Subcommittee met on June 22 to discuss how the non-technical and non-critical areas of the state be addressed. The Subcommittee used the Vision statement as a starting point for the discussions. A full report will be made at the July 21, 2005 Statewide Committee meeting.

### **Regional Committee Activities**

The Regional Committees held public meetings and hearings throughout the state in May. A document attached to this memo describes the comments that we received from the public at the meetings and hearings. In addition to the evening public meetings and hearings, the committees held their regularly scheduled business meeting in the afternoon. Each of the committees discussed the draft Registration and Reporting regulations, the draft CWPA criteria and process documents, and the regional components. In August, the committees will be meeting with county planners to discuss the regional component.

The Delaware and the Upper/Middle Regional Committees have scheduled their second public meeting/hearings that will follow their August business meeting.

#### **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