

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Water Management

Nov. 29, 2005
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SUBJECT: Water Resources Planning Process Status and Update

TO: Statewide Committee Members

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As a follow up action to the July meeting of the Statewide Committee and a meeting held among DEP, the Chair/Vice Chair of the Statewide Committee and the Chairs of the Subcommittees, we respectfully submit the following current activities update report.

Regulations

The draft regulations continue to proceed through the Department's internal review process. Anticipated date for presentation to the Environmental Quality Board is January 2006.

USGS Screening Tool Update

Delivery of the complete screening tool is anticipated in the next month.

Projection Methodologies

Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM) has delivered a final report to the Delaware River Basin Commission on the demand projection methodologies for use by DEP for both uses with the USGS screening tool and for later critical water planning area evaluations and plan development. Additional computations and report on a pilot study for the Lehigh River Basin will follow in early December. The Department is working with the DRBC and SRBC in seeking contractor assistance in developing the Geographic Information System tools necessary to utilize the projection methodologies developed by CDM in performing statewide demand projections and the tools necessary to assess the capabilities of public water suppliers to meet the projected demands.

Registration Update

The Department has continued to receive and process registrations from all water use sectors, including 2003 and 2004 Annual Water Supply Reports from public water suppliers.

Total Source Registrations

	April 26	July 11	Sept 20	Nov. 23
Public Water Supply Agency	4,239	4,966	5,067	5111
Agriculture	937	1,173	1,188	1197
Golf Course	310	374	454	521
Mining	331	352	362	375
Hydropower	16	16	20	21
Thermoelectric	61	57	70	71
Other (institutional, industrial...)	1,561	1,639	1,493	1,582
Total Source Registrations	7,455	8,577	8,654	8,878

Total Number of Estimated Sources in PA: 12,000

Public Water Supply Registrations

Public Water Supply (PWS) Agencies in PA	2,179
PWS who have submitted registrations (complete or partial)	1,653
PWS who have not submitted any registrations	526
PWS Sources (from WUDS)	6,431
Registered PWS sources	5,111

Population Projections

DEP has received comments back from a number of counties and regional planning agencies on the draft population projections that were mailed to all county and regional planning agencies for review and comment. We have met with the Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg and reviewed the DEP projection figures and those presented by the counties and planning agencies. The State Data Center will be contacting the Federal Census Bureau to determine the availability of new statewide census projections through 2030. The DEP projected and county obtained data will be compared with these federal census figures and adjustments performed to come up with a final set of projections by the end of December.

Subcommittee Status and Reports

CWPA Subcommittee– The CWPA Subcommittee met on Oct. 20 to discuss the development of the guidelines for development of Critical Area Resource Plans (CARPs). Their next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 20, 2005 to further develop writing the CARP guidelines.

P&I Subcommittee– The P&I Subcommittee conducted a conference call on Nov. 22 to discuss the Template for Completion and future activities of the Subcommittee. The next conference call is scheduled for Jan. 10, 2006.

Regional Committee Activities

During the November regional committee meetings, the drafting of regional components was once again the focus for the committees. Most committees met with county planners in the basin and discussed local planning activities. All of the committees received copies of the “Template for Completion” which identifies lead DEP staff persons who will be directing specific sections of the Plan to completion. In addition, all of the regional committees discussed “Building the State Water Plan” - a presentation explaining the basic strategy for the next 20 years of water planning in Pennsylvania.