



DRAFT REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION GROUP MEETING

Southeast Connecticut Regional Drinking Water Quality Management Plan Groton, Ledyard, Preston, North Stonington, Norwich, Montville, and Waterford Thursday, July 17, 2008

A meeting of the DWQMP Administration Group was held on July 17, 2008 at the Groton Utilities Operations Complex Julio H. Leandri Administration Building Conference Room. The meeting commenced at approximately 11:50 a.m. and was facilitated by Jeanine Armstrong Bonin, P.E., Vice President of Milone & MacBroom, Inc. (MMI). Also present from MMI was David Murphy, P.E. The following members were in attendance:

Administration Group Members	Representing	
Al Dion	PRI – Groton Utilities	X
Rick Stevens	ALT – Groton Utilities	
Mike Murphy	PRI – Town of Groton	
Deborah Jones	ALT – Town of Groton	X
Mayor Fred Allyn	PRI – Town of Ledyard	X
Mike Cherry	ALT – Town of Ledyard	X
Marcia Vlaun	PRI – Town of Montville	X
Tom Wagner	PRI – Town of Waterford	
Neftali Soto	ALT – Town of Waterford	
Mike Schaefer	PRI – City of Norwich	X
John Bilda	ALT – City of Norwich	
Kathy Warzecha	PRI – Town of Preston	
1 st Selectman Robert Congdon	ALT – Town of Preston	X
1 st Selectman Nicholas Mullane	PRI – Town of N. Stonington	
Juliet Leeming	ALT – Town of N. Stonington	X
Robert Birmingham, AICP	PRI – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	
Ken Greenwood	ALT – Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	
Jennifer Pagach	PRI – State & Federal Agencies	X
Lori Mathieu	ALT – State & Federal Agencies	X
Sharon Mann	PRI – Water Planning Council	X

An open discussion format followed. The points listed below are arranged by topic and not necessarily in the order in which they were discussed.

Web Site Preview

→ Administration Group members viewed a demonstration of the web site being coordinated with Brown Bear Creative. Initial feedback was provided and members will be provided with a web link such that they can view the site in more detail. Comments are to be directed to D. Murphy of Milone & MacBroom, Inc. for compilation. Groton Utilities will then convey comments to Brown Bear Creative.

DWQMP Recommendations and Implementation

- A discussion took place focusing on the types of recommendations (general vs. specific) that would be in the region-specific DWQMP and the State's model DWQMP. M. Vlaun expressed concern that there would not be sufficient buy-in if the region specific plan contained too many specific recommendations. She further explained that if the plan instead offers a toolbox or menu for towns to utilize, there is a better chance for consensus. L. Mathieu indicated that the region-specific plan can reflect differences of opinion.
- M. Cherry believes that the language used for recommendations in the Acquisitions and Security/Recreation memorandums is appropriate. Relative rankings are used instead of mentioning specific properties or parcels.
- It remains a common goal that the region specific plan not result in any mandates from the State legislature. Rather, the process should guide the upcoming revisions in the State Plan of Conservation and Development. Likewise, the plan should not present any local mandates. Implementation of recommendations in the DWQMP should take place in each local Plan of Conservation and Development, and thus in the regulations that come from the commissions acting in each town.
- L. Mathieu reminded the group that the DWQMP is meant to be proactive rather than relying on the same reactive procedures when proposals for development come forward.
- B. Congdon would like a statement in the DWQMP that recognizes EPA's preference for local control of watersheds. The group discussed the fact that EPA prefers that water quality problems be solved locally.
- J. Bonin sketched a figure on the dry-erase board that depicted the process, shown on the following page.

DWQMP Schedule

- L. Mathieu reminded the group of the January 1, 2009 deadline for the legislative report. DPH will begin that report soon.
- Milone & MacBroom, Inc. has a contract with Groton Utilities that specifies a draft southeastern Connecticut DWQMP is due October 1; completion of review by the communities and the public by October 24; and final plan by November 1, 2008. This schedule was linked to Groton Utilities' contract with the Department of Public Health. While it is possible to meet these deadlines, the schedule does not provide reasonable timeframes for review by the Advisory Committee and Administrative Group members, or the public and could seriously undermine the process. F. Allyn believes that an important step is also missing with this schedule; after October but before January, town councils and boards of selectmen need time to review the DWQMP.

- The January 1, 2009 deadline to report to the State legislature can not be changed, making it difficult to postpone the deadlines for the draft and final draft documents. L. Mathieu suggested that Groton Utilities petition her office for an extension of the deadlines, recognizing that the January reporting could occur with a draft document completed.
- At a minimum, a table of contents and preliminary recommendations are needed for review at the August 21, 2008 meeting.

DWQMP Schedule

- F. Allyn would like someone to check chloride levels at the sample locations relative to road salt usage, and asked about detention vs. retention for water quality and stormwater management.

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DWQMP Flow of Information and Policy Setting Trends

