

## Meeting Minutes

### Drinking Water Advisory Group Monday, June 24, 2013

**Location:** Kent, WA with video conference to Spokane regional office

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

1. Denise Clifford: **What we've changed based on your feedback at the last meeting**

- Receive the agenda and handouts sooner.
- Org charts have been posted online.
- We are still working to address technical issues.

2. Denise: **Emerging issues**

- EPA and FDA are hosting a web training to showcase the interdependencies between drinking water and food. We will add a link to this training on our website.
- We have continued to work with hospitals about their drinking water systems and issues.

3. Dave Christensen: **Group A Rule review and discussion of ideas from other rules**

- Our rules aren't entirely dictated by EPA requirements; some requirements are based on policy choices.
- On those issues that we have flexibility, we are asking: Can we make improvements?
- Our chance to hear from you "what's working well" and "what's not," before we file a CR101 and enter rulemaking.
- Encourage everyone to email thoughts until the end of July.

**Comment:** Planning: Requiring a plan every six years is too often. Local government consistency is very unclear and local governments interpret differently. Changes need to be made to make this process better. Want clarity and consistency between DOH staff for requirements for a small water system management plan.

- Operations and maintenance and how we can do a better job with financial viability.
- Does financial viability fit in with operations and maintenance?
- Cross-connection control: allow electronic reporting.

**Related note:** The Water Quality Monitoring Report (WQMR) will be electronic hopefully by next year's reporting cycle.

4. Scott Torpie: **Alternative water**

- We have been working on these alternative water supply papers for a couple of years.
- Not a finished product; they are a work-to-date.

### *Seawater*

- Should the treatment of seawater be subject to the surface water treatment rule? Looked at what other states are doing.
- We don't subject seawater to our surface water treatment rule currently, but we may rethink this in the future.

### *Interruptible water rights*

- Ecology has to let people know what the period of interruption is.
- We can comment on the adequacy of water used during a period of interruption.
- There needs to be an uninterruptible water supply.

### *Leased water rights*

- If the only water supply is a non-federally leased supply, Ecology is going to say no.
- However, if there is some other water right available that is not interruptible and is not a lease, then our job is making sure that the utility is ready to operate forever.

### *Temporary water rights*

- Except if this is a temporary solution, forget it. ODW is not going to approve it.

### *Purchased water agreements*

- We identified as best we could that there are a number of different kinds of purchased water agreements.
- ODW looks at existing agreements and new agreements differently.

### *Bottled water*

- Is not a permanent fix for complying with a standard, but it is an appropriate source of water when the permanent source of water is unsafe.

### *Point of use*

- Our rules don't support the use of point of entry in drinking water and consequently we don't approve projects that use point of use.
- One of the challenges is that the operator/manager has to be able to get inside all customers' homes to install the device, for maintenance, etc.
- Would take several years to implement an effective regulatory scheme.
- We are trying to provide more technical and financial assistance because we feel it will be more helpful in the long run than point of use treatment.

### *Trucked or hauled water*

- Use of trucked water is acceptable in the short-term, but isn't a long-term solution.

## 5. Dave: **Draft policy: Short-term alternative water**

- This is a draft policy and we are looking to get your feedback.
- If you have additional comments please email them by July 15.

6. Heather Bartlett and Dan Alexanian: **Queuing up the next meeting**

Heather: Engineering program review

- Sent out surveys about two months ago to purveyors, engineers, and consultants to see how we've been serving you. Expect an update next meeting.

Dan: Revised total coliform rule

- EPA adopted the rule in February 2013 and the State Board of Health approved us to move forward about a week ago.
- Want to bring more to you next meeting.

7. Denise: **How did this work for you today?**

- How do you like the structure of this meeting (more conversational) versus a more polished presentation?
  - PowerPoint would be helpful.
  - Would like PowerPoint ahead of time.
  - Without the PowerPoint it was hard to conceptually understand what parts of the CR101 we could really dive into.
    - A diagram would have made that easier.
  - Spokane couldn't see us, so a PowerPoint wouldn't have been helpful to push through.
  - We will continue to work out the technical problems and do a more formal presentation next time.
- Would it be useful to have a PowerPoint on a side wall?
  - Consensus is that it would be useful in both Kent and Spokane.
- What worked today and what didn't work today?
  - Liked the give and take style of the meeting.
  - Felt they got handouts at the right time.
  - A short PowerPoint with a lot of discussion would work better.
  - Valuable to have other stakeholders involved such as EPA or other stakeholder groups in the future.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, August 21, 2013

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Kent and Spokane