

January 20, 2009

Water Quality Forum

draft
draft

1. Introductions
 - a. Doug Kemper invited people to the Water Quality Congress Water Quality Workshop Jan 28, 2009 www.cowatercongress.org
2. Legislative Update: No money to do anything...(Jeannette Hillary, Amy Woodis, Barb Biggs, Doug Kemper)
 - a. SB001: Wildfire protection plans by county gov't. Gibbs.
 - b. House joint resolution1002: Dick. SRF loans. Request to open up the SRF list to include additional projects for the economic stimulus package.
 - c. HB1062: Curry: Water quality monitoring in Peance basin. Will be PI'ed.
 - d. HB 1067: Palmer/White: Donation of water rights to CWCB for instream rights.
 - e. HB1129: Authorization of pilot projects for CWCB; collection of rainwater
 - f. SB80: Isgar: limit exemption for rooftop water collection.
 - g. HB1060: McKinley Signage and language at RFETS.
 - h. HB 1142: Fisher; conservation board
 - i. HB1159 Groundwater management
 - j. SB: oil and gas
 - k. HB1056: Increase penalties for haz/solid waste1056
3. Other Updates:
 - a. WQCD: Fee bill: Martha Rudolph
 - i. Letter from Jim Martin: Not going forward with the clean water and drinking water fee bill (except the ag part). Still talking to ag folks. Will be cutting back on current work, refocus priorities. Details in the letter.
 1. eliminate participation in workgroups
 2. shift funds from ww to water
 3. hope to develop fee bill for next year
 4. http://www.cwqf.org/docs/WQCD_Proposed_FeeBill_Jan09.pdf
 - b. WQCC: Paul Frohardt
 - i. January:
 1. Chatfield Control Reg revisions
 2. Temp mods in Ark and S. Platte basins
 3. Rad numbers on RFETS
 4. Final action in February
 - ii. Colorado Salinity standards
 - iii. Policy 96-2: Health based standards
 - iv. February:

1. Proposal for S. Platte hearing review
 2. Rulemaking Hearing Reg 61
 3. Rulemaking Hearing Reg 21, procedural rules
 4. Informational briefing from CDOW, toxicity studies, and EPA and how they are used to establish water quality criteria
 5. HB1341
- v. March:
1. Cherry Creek control reg (Tuesday)
 2. Update from Division staff on irrigated crops (produced waters)
 3. TMDL work session
 4. Start Commission meeting on Monday afternoon
- c. Permit Update: Janet Keiler
- i. Staffing changes
 1. Domestic permits – Andrew Neuhart acting manager
 2. Rick Koplitz for domestic groundwater
 3. Close to filling stormwater manager position
 4. Priority permits and backlog
 - a. Designated the list for their commitment to EPA
 - i. Expired >2 years as of October 1
 1. 29 permits
 2. Next 2 years looks worse...
 3. Treated water general permit – convert to a low risk
 - ii. Groundwater – chloride and sulfate variances
 - iii. MINDI FY 2010, more low risk discharges
 - b. General policies
 - i. SB181 implementation
 - ii. Compliance schedule
- d. Drinking Water Update: Ron Falco
- i. Waterborne outbreaks
 1. Alamosa, issue a report in the spring
 2. Conejos county norovirus
 - ii. Disinfection waivers: sanitary surveys at all community systems, evaluating what to do
 - iii. Radionuclides
 1. Phase 3 of compliance evaluation: Point of Use (POU), or proprietary systems
 - iv. Regs
 1. LT2ESWTR/Stage 2 DDBP
 - a. Primacy: some time this year

2. Groundwater rule package submitted last year, effective to systems in December 2009
 3. Lead/Copper (Pb/Cu) minor revisions, scheduled for August
 4. Lined up:
 - a. Total Coliform Rule (TCR) revisions
 - b. Radon
 5. Working on reducing monitoring requirements
 - a. Save \$300K for 2009
 6. Advanced training for operators: hope to fill the FTE this spring
4. Healthy Rivers Fund (Chris Sturm)
 - a. www.coloradowater.org
 5. Water Quality standards and discharge permit implementation: Dick Parchini and Dave Akers
 - a. They have been working with Sarah Johnson and Janet Keiler to work out a process to better coordinate between the standards group and the permit implementation group. Need to have a defined process to get from the adoption of standards to the implementation in to a discharge permit. They want a transparent, defined process.
 - b. Coordination has to start early with new or revised water quality criteria. Where new standards will have significant impacts – i.e. ammonia and temperature, or narrative or temporary mods, there needs to be some discussion about how these standards will be incorporated in to discharge permits. They have identified some work activities, like making sure they have the correct level of communication between groups. They will identify the correct staff and mechanisms for regular communication both internally and externally. They need to describe a timeline to accommodate Commission and permit schedules and deadlines. The expectation is that they would like joint recommendations.
 - i. Examples of issues to be addressed:
 1. “Current condition” of temp mod
 2. Aquatic life WET testing requirement
 3. Discharge specific variance
 4. Nexus between compliance schedule and temp mod timing
 - ii. They have set up a framework and are handing it over to Janet and Sarah
 - c. Steve Gunderson:
 - i. This is a priority for the Division; he has discussed this with Martha. The goal is to streamline permitting.
 6. Oil and Gas issues: HB07-1341 implementation (Paul Frohardt)
 - a. Several legislative measure looking at new rules

- b. Consult with COGCC during permit process
 - c. Rules finalized, in effect April 1, under review at legislature now
 - d. New environmental requirements
 - i. Protect public water systems
 - ii. Underground disposal rules
 - iii. Coal bed methane well specific
 - iv. Dust and odors
 - v. Waste management pits
 - vi. Stormwater management during operational stage
 - e. Rule 317b: new protections for water supply systems – 3 different protection zones
 - f. Rule 900 series: pit requirements
 - g. Rule 1002f: stormwater during operations
 - h. When does consultation responsibility come in?
 - i. When local gov't requests
 - ii. A variance request
 - iii. Increase well density in a basin
 - iv. Encourage comprehensive drilling plans
 - v. Kent Kuster working with the consultants
7. Work group updates: level of effort discussions will be happening in the division
- a. Standards framework workgroup
 - i. Schedule was developed, but don't know what will happen
 - ii. Dick: lot invested so far, significant importance
 - iii. Have to look at how this fits in with the priorities
 - b. Nutrient criteria
 - i. Dick: similar to basic stds. 309 report – lot of effort; same with nutrients, working on this for over 8 years. What can we accomplish with the reorganization of resources?
 - c. Membrane treatment – check in mode
 - d. PQL – work mostly done by people outside of division
 - e. Discharge permit: conference call tomorrow
 - i. Policy and practice and implementation
 - ii. Possible to cut...
 - iii. Get feedback
 - f. Ag diversions
 - i. Gary Beers: tied closely to the permitting process
 - ii. Combine next meeting with commission update
 - iii. CBM permit issues
 - g. E. coli
 - i. Hand the keys to Jim; division level of effort not significant
 - h. Site ap regs
 - i. Resolved a lot of issues already. 2 more meetings Jan 27, 9:30, and Feb 12
 - i. 303d LM
 - i. Close to wrapping up

- j. Anti deg
 - i. Earmarked not to continue
 - ii. Decide how to proceed if they get some comments
- 8. Future topics:
 - a. Farm bill
 - b. Emerging contaminants
 - c. CSM Jorge Drewes study; 2 new WERF studies
 - d. Technology migration (ISIS)
 - e. Amy: more holistic assessment...triple bottom line reporting
 - f. Consistency in uses of water quality data (Canton)
 - g. Retreat planning