

HRPDC Summary
WATER SUPPLY PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Presentation: **State Water Supply Planning Efforts in Other States** - Andrea Wortzel

- Review of 7 states (GA, MD, NC, PA, SC, TX, VA)
- All of these states originally followed riparian doctrine; most still follow riparian doctrine.

Key observations:

1. Planning is usually advisory and did not have a direct link to permit approvals.
2. State funding was important to success.

Interesting differences in State approaches:

Georgia – only state that makes permit decisions based on the water supply plan, water quality and quantity are both part of the water supply plan.

South Carolina – replaced riparian doctrine last year with permitting program.

North Carolina – proposed the same legislation as South Carolina but it was not adopted

Presentation: **State Water Resources Report 2010** - Scott Kudlas

- Annual report goes to General Assembly; started in mid '80s
- Provides a summary of water sources and use.
- State still needs better data and reporting
 - Can't afford to add stream gauges
 - Only 35,000 well construction records, estimate 1.5 million wells in VA
 - Geochemical analysis of samples from 12,400 wells
 - Agricultural water use under reported; data indicates Ag is 6th largest sector of water use in Virginia. Ag use is 1st or 2nd largest sector in all other states.
 - Water discharges are not tracked so the state can't assess total basin losses or gains.

Presentation: **Environmental Flow Project** - Rob Burgholzer (DEQ)

- DEQ and The Nature Conservancy received EPA grant to develop ecological flows for Virginia streams. Study will be completed December 2011.
- Ecological flows would be a range of flows and could be dependent on seasons or other water users.
- Study characteristics of healthy streams to provide to guidance on how to maintain water quality standards and avoid impairments.

Discussion: **Proposed Content of Water Supply Plan**

- Legislation requires consideration of three elements:
 - Procedures for incorporating local and regional water supply plans into state plan;
 - (Identification) Minimization of potential conflicts among various submitted plans;
 - Development of methodologies for calculating actual anticipated future water demand.
- Created Subcommittees to address 3 elements

Proposed Agenda for next meeting:

- Presentation: DEQ's Existing authority with regard to Water Supply Planning and Water Allocation;
- Presentation: Legal Framework in Virginia for Allocating Water;
- Subcommittee reports
- Finalize suggestions on content of State Water Supply Plan;
- Discuss Findings and Recommendations for Status Report to State Water Commission

Committee Members:

- Mark Bennett, USGS, Virginia
- Tom Botkins, MeadWestvaco
- Kevin Byrd, New River Valley Planning District Commission
- John Carlock, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
- Dr. William Cox, Virginia Tech
- Larry Dame, New Kent County
- Judy Dunscomb, The Nature Conservancy
- Katie Frazier, VA Agribusiness
- Dr. Greg Garman, Virginia Commonwealth University
- John Kauffman, VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Dr. Wes Kleene, VA Department of Health
- Michael Lawless, Draper Aden Associates
- Rick Linker, Dominion Virginia Power
- Mark Mansfield, Norfolk District, USACE
- Rob McClintock, VA Economic Development Partnership
- Chuck Murray, Fairfax Water
- John O'Dell, Water Well Association
- Bill Pennell, Lancaster County
- Art Petrini, Henrico County
- Tom Roberts, Smurfit Stone
- John Staelin, Clark County Board of Supervisors
- Ed Tankard, Tankard Nurseries
- Bob White, Region 2000
- Beate Wright, VA AWWA

DEQ staff working with the Committee:

- Dr. Ellen Gilinsky, Director, Water Division
- Scott Kudlas, Director, Office of Surface and Ground Water Supply Planning
- Jeffrey Reynolds, Esq., Office of Policy, Water Resources
- Angela Neilan, Community Involvement Specialist
- Tammy Stephenson, Water Supply Planning Program Coordinator