Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Summary for Drinking Water Advisory Work Group
TCEQ Complex, Building F, Room 2210, December 7, 2004
12015 Park 35 Circle (I-35 North between Braker and Yager), 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Welcome/Introduction: Greg Rogers, Team Leader, Drinking Water Protection (DWP) Team, Public Drinking Water Section (PDW), for Buck Henderson, Section Manager, PDW, Water Supply Division (WSD).

- Drinking Water Advisory Work Group (DWAWG) members, guests, and attendees introduced themselves and their affiliation.
- Welcome and introduction of two new WSD employees:
  - Ginger Rogers, Homeland Security Coordinator, TCEQ/OPRR/WSD/PDW
  - Benjamin Kidd, Data and Software Development, TCEQ/OPRR/WSD/PDW/DWQ

Federal Rules: Tony Bennett, Technical Specialist, WSD

- Radionuclides Rule (Rad R)
  - Commissioners adopted on December 1, 2004
  - Federal Rule effective January 1, 2003.
  - State of Texas Rule effective December 1, 2004
- Arsenic Rule (As R)
  - Commissioners adopted on December 1, 2004
  - Federal Rule effective January 1, 2006.
  - State of Texas Rule effective January 1, 2006
    - TCEQ will be working with potential violators over the 2005 year.
- Ground Water Rule (GWR):
  - Rule will require public water system (PWS) utilizing susceptible groundwater to achieve viral inactivation.
  - Estimated final federal rule adoption date: Spring 2005
    - No update information available on federal rule adoption, more information will be made available as soon as EPA finalizes this rule
  - Projected TCEQ final rule adoption date: December 2006
  - Projected TCEQ final rule effective date: December 2007
  - Greatest impact will be on the smaller PWSs

Questions for Tony Bennett:

Q1: Will the TCEQ be opening up the 290 Rules for minor changes needed any time soon?

A1: The TCEQ will address necessary minor edits in the 290 rules when it is opened for the upcoming Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBP2) or with the GWR implementations. It is standard operating procedure to address rule clean-up with the opening for addition of a new rule.

Q2: With the recent changes in the TCEQ rule development process, please provide an update status on the process of getting rules adopted, in reference to the Rad R.

A2: A Crosswalk document which compares the State rule with EPA rules was submitted on the proposed language. There were secondary changes made last minute in response to comments received. These were mainly references back to Federal language only. The TCEQ does not anticipate EPA will have any problem(s) with TCEQ implementing the rule.

Q3: The LT2 Stage 2, DBP 2 Rule, was on track for mid 2005. Has TCEQ received any information from EPA concerning time lines for adoption?

A3: Yes, EPA is on track for summer 2005.

PDW 290 Rules & Technical Review: Cindy Bronnenberg, Acting Team Leader, Technical Review & Oversight Team (TROT)

- New staff member:
  - Judy Rogers, Phd.
    Public Drinking Water Homeland Security Coordinator
    Technical Review & Oversight Team
    Public Drinking Water Section
    Water Supply Division
    jrogers@tceq.state.tx.us
    512-239-4691

TROT Update Activities:.

- Contact Time (CT) Studies
  - routine number received this last quarter
- Data Sheets for Federal reporting
  - ongoing efforts to comply with Federal needs
- Water Utilities Division (WUD) database updates
  - ongoing efforts to support WUD development data migration
- Implementing Surface Water Monthly Operating Reports (SWMORs) for PWSs serving populations less than 10,000 with only two filters (pop <10K w/ 2 filters).
  - Regulatory Guidance (RG) 11; SWMOR pop <10K w/ 2 filters
    - Available on the web, January 2005.
      - http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/waterperm/pdw/reportingforms.html
- Total Organic Carbon (TOC)
  - Small PWS TOC form, Excel 2000, .xls file format, has been revised to calculate PWS's raw and final water quality calculation ratios, e.g., running annual averages. Enables the PWS to identify whether they are eligible for Alternative Compliance Criteria.
  - The new Monthly Operating Report (MOR) Form for large surface water PWSs to report SWMORs has been improved. Improvements include ability to hook up to Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems, aka SCADAs. This more 'user friendly' form includes double checks for water operators as well.
  - Forms available online at:
    - http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/waterperm/pdw/reportingforms.html
      - MOR Form
      - TOC Form
      - SWMOR Large PWS Form
      - SWMOR Small PWS with 2 filters Form

Source Water Assessment & Protection: Greg Rogers, for Buck Henderson, Section Manager, PDW, WSD.

- Source Water Susceptibility Assessments (SWSAs)
  - Roll-up Project completed December 8, 2004.
    - Assessing PWSs susceptibility by entry point
    - Supports drinking water sample schedule generation for next triennial cycle, 2005 - 2007.
- Hydrogeologic Susceptibility Assessments (HSAs)
  - Susceptibility assessments for the GWR
  - Head start on assessing small groundwater PWS's susceptibility to waterborne pathogens
    - Defining issues such as, 'what parameters will be used to identify sensitive wells?'
  - Assessing approximately 4000 wells for Hydrogeologic Sensitivity (HS)
    - Project 1000/4000 PWSs using groundwater will be affected
    - Current defining factors for sensitive aquifer designations

        - Karst (carbonate) aquifer(s)
        - Alluvial aquifer(s)
        - Volcanic aquifer(s)
        - No well data on file w/ TCEQ: flags 'unknown' qualifier
        - No known well location on file w/ TCEQ: flags 'unknown' qualifier
        - Spatial analysis assessments to assess set back distances for wells from:
            - concentrated animal feeding operations
            - onsite septic systems
            - land use categories
            - surface waters bodies, rivers, springs, etc..
            - other permitted facilities
- Source Water Protection Federal Reporting Guidance
    - Source Water Measures Reporting Guidance (December 2004)
        - EPA's final guidance
    - Holding States accountable for reporting Best Management Practices (BMP) implementation and efforts by State environmental agencies toward SWP efforts.
    - Looking for better handle on tracking and reporting BMPs implemented.
- SWP Contract w/ PBS&J
    - Currently working on two pilots
    - Assessing highly susceptible contaminants based on SWSAs through a partnership approach, e.g., Clean Rivers Program & local River Authority, addressing river basin specific issues of susceptibility concern.

Questions for Greg Rogers:

Q1: With over 3000 wells anticipated to be okay, can you tell us geographically where the other 1000 wells are located?

A1: These will be located throughout the state where the aquifer in these areas is either of volcanic origin (Bolson & Range aquifer of Southwest Texas), carbonate (Edwards aquifer of Central Texas), or alluvial (Seymour aquifer in North Central Texas). This will exclude deeper wells, or wells with sufficient shale/clay layers of overburden.

Q2: With the letters recently mailed to all PWSs by the Texas Water Development Board informing them of a February 2005 deadline for submitting applications for loans, information was included stating a PWS could claim extra points if they were implemented SWP BMPs. What ideas do you have for those pursuing proposing to the TWDB for State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loans? Does a guidance exist for PWSs seeking to implement BMPs?

A2: The TCEQ wants to see the SRF money used for SWP implementation and our staff are available to meet with requesting parties, one on one, to help design a SWP Plan. By design, the TWDB SRF points awarded to applicants is for PWSs which actively participate in a State approved SWP Plan. Don't want PWSs getting too far ahead into BMP implementation without an approved SWP Plan. First Step to achieve these points is to participate with the TCEQ to develop a SWP Plan and implement under a State approved Source Water Protection Program (emphasis: "must be implemented under approved Source Water Protection Program"). Also, TCEQ will mail letters to all HSA list targeted PWSs. This letter will help PWSs focus on waterborne pathogen related BMPs. "How to address SWP" components are under development for 2005 and include a Brochure and Guidance.

Q3: Two parts:

Q Part I: If/When the TCEQ meets with PWSs, what direction will be provided for reporting SWSAs to customers through the Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs)? Will EPA be willing to meet with stakeholders to discuss this issue?

Q Part II: During the last meeting a Small PWS CCR Rule was proposed. How did this fare?

A3: A Part I: Last years language in CCR states "SWSAs are complete and available through the PWSs". EPA is open to some discussion and TCEQ anticipates meeting with EPA early in 2005 to discuss how to address degrees of susceptibility. Hopefully this susceptibility language will relate and encourage consumers without undue strain on the PWS. Will EPA be willing to meet? Hopefully, EPA will be comfortable with the development group's consensus of last year, that EPA needs to come to meet with the Stakeholders and hear their comments. TCEQ will pursue arranging for this meeting to occur some time in January, 2005.

A Part II: No comments on CCR were received. There was some very minor cleanup of language generated from EPA comments. CCR is currently set for Agenda on December 15, 2004. Allowing PWSs serving <500 population to post the report and meet CCR delivery requirements will assist small water systems and should greatly reduce violations. Instructions will be provided to these small water systems with their CCR template explaining this allowance.

Q4: Can TCEQ provide an example of what PWSs should be informing their constituents, e.g., high, medium, low? Larger systems can do this without TCEQ, and TCEQ may want to consider providing something before May, 2005 for them, e.g., electronic copies via e-mail. With most Utilities, everything has to go through the Board of Directors prior to being implemented, and receiving the language in May will only allow two months to meet the compliance time line. Larger water system managers and utilities, e.g., Tecon, Aqua Source, will not be able to meet this time line for all water systems managed by them, e.g., 200+ PWSs.

A4: TCEQ is currently looking at presenting this information in a table format. The CCRs will take approximately three months to generate and mail out after the language has been determined. Last years CCRs were received by PWSs in May. Additional delays, such as contract development, susceptibility language generation, and pursuing a meeting between EPA and Texas Stakeholders, can have some impact on this time line. TCEQ will make best faith effort to get them out as soon as possible.

Q5: Any rift(s) from small PWSs in meeting the CCR?

A5: Approximately 300 community water systems (CWSs) did not meet the rule. These same 300 fail to meet the rule year after year. One failure signifies Significant Non-compliance with EPA and strong follow-up enforcement actions do follow. It is hoped that with the Posting allowance, they will meet the rule. Posting at a community get together would be better than enforcement for non-delivery.

Q6 follow-up: As far as those participating PWSs, the smaller utilities, those that did do the delivery, that are compliant. Any questions from them?

A6 follow-up: Yes, it is a huge effort involving 1000+ phone calls. TCEQ does this more than willingly. Anything to keep a water system compliant. If they don't call, we can't help them. We don't mind the extra phone calls. Meanwhile, 4200 PWSs are doing a wonderful job.

Drinking Water Quality Updates: Alicia Diehl, Team Leader, Drinking Water Quality Team (DWQ), PDW, WSD

- Emerging Issues: Nitrite (NO2) & Nitrate (NO3) build-up in the distribution system.
  - The DBP I Rule applies to all non-transient non-community water systems (NTNC) and community water systems (CWS) starting in 2004. There are currently approximately 130 PWSs in violation of the standards for one or both of the trihalomethanes (THMs) or haloacetic acids (HAA5s). Violation of these standards results in Public Notification (PN) of a potential carcinogen in water and generates many articles in media. Chloramines are one of the easiest, most economically feasible alternatives to free chlorine disinfection of drinking water. While free chlorine reacts with natural organic matter to form these unwanted THMs and HAA5s in the distribution system, chloramines form very little THMs or HAA5s. However, chloramination has side effects, too.
  - What are chloramines?
    Chloramines are made from the reaction of chlorine and ammonia. There are different species of chloramines; mono-, di-, & tri- chloroamines. The ratio of chlorine to ammonia must be controlled to keep monochloramine the dominant species.
  - What are the side effects of chloramination?
    Chloramine use is an issue only when the growth of microbes into a bio-film in the distribution system results in nitrification, the generation of NO2/NO3. There are no regulations in place to monitor NO2/NO3 in the distribution system, but this is an issue of public health concern for the drinking water industry. This issue affects water wholesalers, surface water producers, systems which purchase surface water, as well as some groundwater systems.
  - What is nitrification?
    Nitrification occurs when nitrifying bacteria (nitosomonas, nitrobacter) grow in the distribution system. These bacteria use free ammonia as a food source and convert it to a nitrite (NO2), then nitrate (NO3). Usually the reaction only goes to nitrite in distribution systems. The normal decomposition of chloramines results in some free ammonia. Over feeding ammonia can also cause free ammonia to be present.

- What regulations exist?

  Federal regulations for NO2/NO3 exist for monitoring at the entry point, but do not exist for monitoring in the distribution system.
  - NO2 maximum contaminant level (MCL) at the entry point is 1 milligram per liter (mg/L)
  - NO3 MCL at the entry point is 10 mg/L
  - NO2/NO3 can cause methemoglobanemia, or Blue Baby Syndrome.
  - boiling the water increases levels of NO2/NO3

  While no regulation exists for monitoring NO2/NO3 in the distribution system, from a health standpoint, a concern exists. TCEQ Field Operations Division (FOD) Investigators have identified NO2 in distribution systems, e.g., surface water using chloramines up to 1.1 mg/L which had disinfectant residuals of 1.5 mg/L to 2.0 mg/L. Other similar detections have occurred.
- This issue is not addressed in the DBP 2 Rule, but may be targeted for the impending Distribution Rule, which is not even on EPA's time line of rules at this time. Rather, this Distribution Rule is not targeted for development until way down the road.
- DWQ will include the opportunity for potentially affected water systems to collect distribution system samples for NO2 analysis in the 2005 sampling schedule.
  - Voluntary NO2 sample analysis to go along with scheduled DBP analysis.
  - Similar to early DBP analysis PWSs were offered opportunity to take advantage of in 2002 and 2003. Opportunity to get ahead of the curve and get more data on NO2 in the distribution system.
  - The TCEQ has very little data on NO2 in distribution systems and sees a value in generating data for decision making purposes. This data could be used to let EPA know if this is an actual issue of concern or not.
- Reasons for concern about NO2/NO3 in the distribution system:
  - Infants under 2 to 3 months are major public health concern
  - MCL is based on concentration of nitrite in water boiled for babies' formula.
  - NO2/NO3 inhibits ability of hemoglobin to carry oxygen.
  - Education & PN targeted toward mothers and women of child bearing age who may be pregnant or considering pregnancy.
- Bio-film: How to get rid of it!
  - Monitor the distribution system for baseline pH, HPC, nitrite, and free ammonia.
  - Shock the distribution system with free chlorine
    - It is very important for PWSs which provide water to a purchasing water system and/or PWSs with interconnections with other PWSs communicate with both up and down stream users when preparing to shock a system.

  - Unidirectional flushing
    - Moving water greater than 5 ft per second through the distribution system can sluff bio-film from distribution pipes.
    - Important to move water from larger to smaller pipe versus simply flushing water mains.
- EXAMPLE: City of Houston
  - Shocks distribution network during the early spring and fall
  - Has a unidirectional flushing program for the entire system.
    - Unidirectional flushing can save the City of Houston as much as 40% water loss.
  - Notifies purchasing and interconnected PWSs prior to shocking.
  - Monitors baseline water quality parameters, including NO2/NO3, flushes when these parameters vary, and shocks when levels get out of control.
  - Taste and odor were affected somewhat during this time frame.

Questions for Alicia Diehl:

Q1: The Texas Chemical Council supplies water to facilities which provide drinking water for adults, not for children. Is there any way to exclude such a PWS which provides water for industrial purposes and not for daily consumption? Example provided: cull out NTNC and transient-noncommunity water system (TNC).

A1: No rule exists for this at this time. This would be something for the TCEQ to consider if/when such a rule is considered. It would be easy enough to cull out such PWSs, but the TCEQ would have to ensure that a NTNC or TNC was not a school or day care.

Q2: When you say voluntary data, is there such a thing? What is to happen when a PWS which submitted voluntary data receives a letter of non-compliance concerning this data? Will the TCEQ be informing our constituents that data indicates there is NO2 in there water? I see problems with this in providing data to support or nix a rule and feel this data will need to be PWS maintained.

A2: Any data the State collects is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, as is data collected by municipalities. However, voluntary data is not subject to any routine public notification requirement, such as the Consumer Confidence Report CCR. Therefore, no compliance issues arise, and no letters of non-compliance will be sent. Collecting the data is positive because it allows public water systems and the State to plan rationally for the future. The PWS would have data necessary to make informed decisions. While this decision may be difficult for PWSs, they must address risks to public health as they are identified.

Plans Review Team: Joe Strouse, Utilities Technical Review Team Leader, Utilities & Districts Section (U&D), WSD (handout)

- The WSD Utilities Technical Review Team will be accepting Engineering plans and specifications for water system upgrades and new water systems on compact disc (CD). This is the brain-child of Jerry Salgado, Engineer with the Team. Mr. Salgado's challenge was to identify how the TCEQ could receive plans and specifications on CD and still meet Board of Engineers requirements. The Texas Department of Transportation currently conducts business in this manner.
- Acceptable formats: picture format in form which can be opened by agency supported software
  - .pdf file format, Adobe Acrobat
  - .jpg file format, most Graphics Software
  - .tif file format, most Graphics Software
  - .gif file format, most Graphics Software
- Savings for State of Texas Engineers
  - Estimate $40,000 to $100,000 saving for private industry per year
- Soliciting ideas:
  - Asking Engineers "how the TCEQ can accomplish this?"
  - Letter being sent to 10 major firms in the State of Texas
    - Comments due withing 23 of receipt of the letter
    - DWAWG Members are welcome to provide comment as well
- Alternative methods for submitting plans & specifications to be acceptable to TCEQ:
  - CD - Linework only
    - Accepted by the TCEQ beginning January 1, 2005
  - CD
    - Accepting all forms by March 1, 2005.
- Allowing these forms of submittal for Rule Exceptions will be addressed during the next round of acceptable format revisions.
- Other alternative methods considered:
  - E-mail submittal: Agency firewall precludes this with restrictions for 1 meg size per E-mail file.
  - FTP site: Considered, but not deemed feasible at this time.
- Strictly optional:
  - Rules state "must be legible," and the TCEQ is looking for:
    - Signature
    - Seals

    - Dates
- Next step: Provision for Internet Instructions and Forms, to include statements of assurance for contracted and subcontracted Engineers hired by PWS to perform work.
- Revisions to the Web Page (with instructions) coming soon.
- Possibility for bonds/Districts-related submittals on CD to follow, as well.

Dear

We are beginning the process of allowing the submittal of public water system engineering plans, reports and specifications on a compact disk (CD) format as an **option**. Within a few weeks, we will initiate this procedure by accepting waterline designs on CD.

In time, the widespread use of this procedure for all submittals will prove to be efficient, cost-effective and environmentally friendly. We suggest that planning materials be computer generated or scanned and downloaded to a CD. We will accept submittals in pdf, tif, gif and jpeg file formats.

The Texas Engineering Practice Act and Rules, §§137.31, 33 and 35 allow the use of electronically reproduced planning materials with either a scanned original signature or an electronic signature. If a computer-generated seal is used without an electronic signature, the following text or similar wording is required: "The seal appearing on this document was authorized by (Example: Leslie H. Doe, 0112)".

Another requirement of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers for an electronic signature is that it be linked to the document in such a manner that the electronic signature is invalidated if any data in the document is changed. This concern will be addressed by submitting a Read Only Memory (ROM) compact disk, such as a CD-R disk.

Accompanied with a hard copy transmittal or cover letter, and a hard copy submittal form, the CD should contain a design report, construction plans and specifications all properly sealed. We will not object if only selected and pertinent plan sheets and specification sections are submitted.

To help us transition to this new procedure, we are asking for your assistance by providing suggestions that would make this new procedure easier on your end.

Please respond in writing or you may call me at 512/239-6953 to voice your comments.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Strouse, P.E., Team Leader
Utilities Technical Review Team
Water Supply Division, MC 153

JLS/JS/ac

Field Operation Division: Robert "Bob" Burrell

• FOD is implementing the use of Hand Held Computers for Comprehensive Compliance Inspections (CCIs) and Investigations in a pilot project
• 1st JAG session completed
• Roll out for testing on September 1, 2005
• Testing will be conducted by the FOD Public Water Supply (PWS) and Waste Water (WW) Programs
• Will include other program areas as progress is made
• Looks to be a very successful effort.

Questions for Bob Burrell:

Q1: Will PWSs be able to file Plans & Specifications with Regional Offices in the same manner allowable by the WSD PR?

A1: This is a very good idea and will be considered by TCEQ FOD.

Utilities & Districts (U&D): Earl Lott, Section Manager

•CCN Rule Petition received from Greater Houston Builders Association:
- Request to amend existing rule or create new rule(s) expanding required notification of pending purchases to all land owners.

•October 13, 2004, Commissioners Agenda item
- Directed to study the issues through stakeholder meetings
- Two stakeholder meetings held

•Scheduled for December 15, 2004, Commission Work Session
- Discuss issues and positions of Stakeholders
- Receive additional feedback

•Chapter 291 Rule Revision:
- Published in the November 24, 2004 Texas Register
- http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.html
- 30 day comment period ends *December 27, 2004*

•30 TAC Chapter 293 Rule changes
- Published in the October 29, 2004 Texas Register
- 30 day comment period ends December 15, 2004
- Pending Adoption

•Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set Aside (DWSRF SA)Loans:
- Letters are in the mail!
- DWSRF SA Loan applications are due by February 7, 2005 !!!!!!!!

•If you need assistance:
- TWDB point of contact is Bruce Crawford
  Telephone: (512) *463-8033*
  E-mail: Bruce.Crawford@twdb.state.tx.us
- Applications are ranked by the TCEQ.
  TCEQ Project Coordinator is Dorothy Young
  Telephone: (512) 239-4691
  E-mail: Dyoung@tceq.state.tx.us
- Permit Time Frame for U&D Section is less than 2.

Questions for Earl Lott:

Q1: What are the U&D time frames?

A1: Expedited is 60 days, and un-expedited is 180 days, for Bond Issues.

Q2: Notice must be provided by retail utilities under the 13.428 Trade Agreement. This serves as a contract which must be filed with the TCEQ. The Commissioners must approve/disapprove, and CCNs will be amended accordingly. Within this process, will this involve notice to customers within new areas?

A2: There have not been too many of these and we cannot say at this time if there will be. We aware the question is out there but don't know if they are going to have to notify. We recommend holding a pre-Commissioners Agenda meeting.

Q3: When are these Commissioners work sessions? When do they start? When were the two stakeholders meeting held?

A3: Sessions start at 9:00 or 9:30 a.m. with four or five items. The two stakeholders meetings were held on November 12, and November 30, 2004. Invitation to participate was mailed to all on the DWAWG member mailing list.

Q4: Can you tell me if there were any Consumer Group representatives present?

A4: Cannot say if there were any Consumer Groups present. The letters of invitation were sent to the same mailing list members as the DWAWG invitations are sent to. Examples from this list are the Sierra Club and Clean Water Action. Though neither were present we are aware of.

Q5: Is the list of attendees posted on the website?

A5: Yes.

Q6: With the comment period for the 30 TAC Chapter 293 Rule being extended until December 15, 2004, and the December 17, 2004, Work Session focused on how much has been asked for by the Greater Houston Builders Association which can even be granted, will staff provide an preliminary analysis of changes in a part of an Executive Summary or back-up material? Will this be available to Stakeholders prior to Agenda?

A6: The U&D must turn in all information for the Work Session by December 8, 2004 to the Commissioners Executive Assistants. U&D are currently scrambling to get it to them first, and if they direct we will make available to the Stakeholders. An example of what this might include is summaries of Stakeholders meetings.

Operator Licensing Program Update: Alex Hinz, Operator Licensing, Compliance Support Division

Update information on the Operator Licensing Program activities.

- License Renewals:
  - Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester (BPAT) and Customer Service Inspector (CSI) Licenses coming up for renewal
  - 80% of these License holders do not meet current renewal requirements
- Texas Small Public Water System Training Program
  - $9.5 million contract
    - License testing reimbursement
    - Training
  - 3500 PWSs eligible
  - 940 small PWSs currently enrolled
  - 1400 individuals currently enrolled
  - TNC are not eligible
- TCEQ Required examination testing has been turned over to the Council of Governments (COGs)
  - $20.00 fee for testing and re-testing imposed by COGs
- 30 TAC Chapter 30 Rule opening for revision
  - Notification of Public Comment period and anticipated changes coming soon
- Licensing issues:
  - Surface Water II close to approval.
  - Will need to take Surface Water I & II for Class C and B Surface water licenses and the Class A one year after Surface Water II becomes available.
  - Allow for adjustments to the process.
  - Required by 2007.

Stakeholder Updates & Issues:

Association of State Water Board Directors

- Mid-Winter Conference
  Austin Hilton
  January 28 & 29, 2005
  http://www.awbd-tx.org

Texas Water Law Association & Texas Rural Water Association (TRWA)

- Annual Water Law Conference
  Austin, Texas
  January 27 & 28, 2005
  www.trwa.org

Debate on CCNs

- Ken Petersen, TRWA Deputy Executive Director & General Counsel, vs. Bill Calgary, Legislative Reporter on Water Issues
- Legislative Guest Speaker(s)

IW Scott seeking speakers

- February 13, 2005 Water Conference
  Golf Tournament Sunday February 12, 2005
  Contact IW Scott for more information

Water Protection Seminars

- Texas Water Conference
  Moody Gardens
  Galveston, TX.
  April 4 - 8, 2005

Texas Chapter of the American Water Works Association (TX AWWA)

- Teleconference Update:
  - Agenda items included DBP Rules, GWR, Arsenic & Radiochemical treatment methodologies (membranes technologies and ultra-violet light), Nitrification. Issues deemed specific to the State of Texas and pertinent at this moment in time.

Speakers panel included:

- Roger Hulbert, City of Houston
- Charlie Maddox, City of Austin
- Jack Schulze, TCEQ PDW
- Alicia Diehl, TCEQ PDW
- 700+ attendees/viewers
- Broadcast in Arkansas and Illinois
- Tapes will be available soon.
- Very successful!
- Thanks TCEQ!

Community Resource Group

- website available: ***http://www.crg.org***
  Rates
  Operators Articles
  Helpful information for Small PWSs

Closing Questions and Comments:

Q1: "Pharmaceuticals & hormones are viewed as next new concern for water." Pilot sampling was discussed at a previous meeting? Where is this on the TCEQ list? Internal? In-house? In review with EPA? Up coming issues

A1: Yes, pharmaceuticals in drinking water is an up and coming issue. Conventional treatment processes should remove these. Sampling is expensive. TCEQ is concerned, but we cannot speak on any policy decisions to be made. The project of which you reference did not fly as it was too expensive.

Commentary: I need to see the Executive Director (ED) about his asking legislature for monies to support this sampling project (pharmaceuticals and hormones). The DWAWG really needs to follow-up with him. Concern is that low level detections will grow into costly treatment requirements. Want to elevate this to the ED to address need for money from legislature. There is no evidence EPA will be providing these much needed monies.

Q2: Concerning Nitrification in the distribution system. Is there any rule of thumb or guidance to be used to determine when residence times are too long and in identifying if a PWS has a problems? Secondly, is there any assurance data will remain non-public?

A2: Data cannot remain non-public once the TCEQ has acquired it. A PWS can perform process control monitoring at will. This will help identify residence times and residual levels through the distribution system. It is unknown how long is takes for the Nitrification process to arise and become a problem. There are several articles and books out there, e.g., Greg Madison, Wisconsin University. Mr. Madison asserts that six months is a bench mark time line for concern. However, there is evidence to support that once these microbe species colonies start growing, the problem will recur on a more frequently basis.

Q3: Could EPA's information collection, not sure how to structure it, organize voluntary information to where individual entities were not identified? Could the State of Texas require notification to PWSs prior to release of this information?

A3: The Public Information Act prevents this within the TCEQ. PWSs are governed by the Texas Freedom of Information Act. Once data is generated, it is deemed suitable to open to the public for viewing. There is no notification prior to release required.

Q4: When will the TCEQ be mailing CCRs?

A4: March 1, 2005. CCR Contract Invitation for Bid goes out late January, 2005.

Next DWAWG Meeting:

- **March 1, 2005**, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg F, Rm 2202, Austin, Texas, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Proposed topics:

- 290 Rule Revisions : to make it easier to go from free chlorine to chloramines
- Update on recent Legislative Issues for Drinking Water
- Water Conservation Initiatives
- SWP BMP Manual
- Hydrogeologic Susceptibility
- Operator Licensing Rules
- Homeland security
- Enforcement
- Line flushing.