

Approved Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

December 20, 2016

Attendees: Roger Thompson	John Beauchamp
Sille Larsen	Peter Boemig
Claude Chevalier	Ernest Christianson
Tim Raymond	Sarah Vose
Steve Revell	Mary Clark
Scott Stewart	Craig Heindel
Chris Russo	Justin Willis

Scheduled meetings:

January 10, 2017	1-4 PM	Winooski Rm. at National Life Bld.
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Minutes:

The draft minutes of the June 28, 2016 meeting were approved.

Surface Water Sources:

Ernie circulated a draft of the proposed rules for limited use of surface water sources prior to the meeting. Ernie discussed some of the main concepts used in drafting the proposed rules. One underlying thought is that it is not possible to develop and implement a water quality testing program that would cover every possible contaminant or that would predict how the water quality might change in the future. The nature of surface water is that water quality is subject to temperature changes, rainfall events, wind direction, and unpredictable discharges from humans to a greater degree than groundwater sources. Therefore, the proposed rules are based on testing for a representative suite of possible contaminants along with limitations on which surface waters may be used for a source. A second underlying concept is that a surface water source can only be used for an owner-occupied single-family residence with the owner taking responsibility for being informed about the risks of surface water sources and for operation of the water treatment system. As part of this second underlying concept the proposed rules do not require routine testing or submission of testing results to ANR, but do require a time of sale inspection to ensure that all of the components required in the ANR permit are present and in proper operation.

Ernie then proceeded with a section by section review of the proposed rules. There were many editorial comments and a few sections were found to be unclear. Ernie will revise the document

as needed. John noted that the proposed rules do not impose the same requirements that would be imposed for a public water system using surface water. One major difference is the requirement for a licensed operator and routine water quality testing.

Testing of New Water Sources:

The legislature is also interested in whether all new water sources should be tested for quality. Under current rules all water sources are tested except for single family residences so the question is whether new sources for single family residences should also be required to do water quality tests. It is estimated, based on well driller registration forms, that about 800 additional water sources would need to be tested. The cost for a basic suite of potential contaminants is about \$150.00. The Vermont Department of Health has indicated that they have the capacity to do the additional testing. There is a current program that provides an informational brochure to licensed well drillers that they are to provide to the well owner. The brochure explains why a well should be tested, the cost of testing, and how to submit samples for testing. It is not known if the process is functioning well. This change would only affect single family residences with individual water supplies because all other sources are currently required to test the water prior to use.

The legislature has requested that the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources seek recommendations from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) about testing all new groundwater sources. Ernie circulated a draft report prior to the meeting indicating that there is majority approval of the draft language while outlining general areas of agreement and disagreement. Ernie asked for TAC approval of the draft language which led to discussion of how the TAC should make the decision and how the results should be reported. It was decided that this is a significant question related to human health risks and therefore worthy of a more formal process. It was decided that the decision should be postponed until the next TAC meeting which is scheduled for January 10, 2017. Ernie will circulate a revised draft incorporating the TAC comments and notify the TAC members that this issue will be discussed at the next meeting so that all who wish to participate in the decision can participate. Assuming there is a quorum at the meeting, the decision will be based on the vote of those present or connected by speaker phone. Ernie will arrange for the speaker phone connection upon request.

Executive Committee: Steve Revell, Ernest Christianson, Roger Thompson
Alternates – Claude Chevalier, Craig Heindel

Subcommittees:

Hydrogeology

Craig Heindel, Bill Zabiloski, Mark Bannon, Scott Stewart, Steve Revell, Mary Clark, Roger Thompson, Peter Boemig, Ernie Christianson

Bottomless Sand Filters

Peter Boemig, Mark Bannon, Mary Clark, Denise Johnson-Terk, Craig Heindel, Ernie Christianson

Seasonal High Water Table Monitoring

Craig Heindel, Steve Revell, Roger Thompson, Ernie Christianson, Bill Zabiloski, Mary Clark

Well Driller's Reporting Form

Rodney Pingree, Craig Heindel, Claude Chevalier, Peter Boemig, Mary Clark, Ernie Christianson

Surface Water Sources

Tim Raymond, John Beauchamp, Ray Soloman, Peter Boemig, Mark Bannon, Claude Chevalier, Perry Thomas, Mark Clark, Scott Stewart, Rodney Pingree, Chris Russo, Ernie Christianson