



**Southern Regional Office (SRO)
400 W. Congress, Suite 433, Tucson, AZ 85701**

**Final Minutes of the
Broadway-Pantano Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting – 45th meeting**

December 2, 2008, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Eastside City Hall, Room A
7575 E. Speedway Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona

CAB Members Present: Cheri Bludau, Mark Brusseau, Judy Burns, Janet Marcus, Aubrey McMullen, Bill Petroustson, Wanda Ryckman, Jean Sabo, Michael Smith

CAB Members Absent: Carla Casler, Dolores Fife, James Garrett, Mike Mahan, Jackie Olson

ADEQ Southern Regional Office Staff Present: Gretchen Wagenseller, Project Manager; Eileen Palese, Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the Public Present: Bill Holbrook, Jeff Drumm, Joe Huerstel, Larry Cox

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Co-chair Judy Burns conducted introductions of CAB members and public participants.

2. Approval of Minutes for 6/18/08 and 9/24/08 CAB Meetings

Janet Marcus motioned to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2008, and September 24, 2008, CAB meetings. Michael Smith seconded the motion. The CAB voted. All were in favor; none opposed.

3. CAB Discussion of Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report for the Broadway-Pantano WQARF Site

Eileen Palese said that the CAB was mailed the seven page Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report for the Broadway-Pantano WQARF Site, but not Appendix A and B, to save postage and paper. She said if anyone wants the entire report, a hard copy of the full report, as well as the full report on a CD, is available on the handout table. Gretchen Wagenseller said the two remedial objectives [one for potable water and one for non-potable water use] are highlighted in bold in the report. She suggested that if the CAB had not had a chance to review the remedial objectives before the meeting, that the group might want to take five minutes to

read them. Judy Burns asked if the CAB needs the time to review. CAB members said they did not so she opened up a discussion of the remedial objectives.

Michael Smith asked about a reference to a perched aquifer on page 3 of the report. Gretchen Wagenseller said there is no perched aquifer at the Broadway Pantano WQARF site, but these aquifer formations do exist at other WQARF sites. She drew a diagram to explain where a perched aquifer is located in relation to a regional aquifer. She said sometimes they occur intermittently. She said she included a mention of a perched aquifer in the report to point out that this formation makes a site more difficult to remediate.

Michael Smith asked for an explanation about the reference to “commercial and non-potable water use” in the report. He wondered why this is a concern if the water just goes down the storm drain. Gretchen Wagenseller said that there may be some cleanup requirements. The Simonize car wash facility is an example, and there are some irrigation wells within the site, so they need to be mentioned. She said the aim is to have the cleanup standard fit the need under the WQARF program. What this means is you might need to have a less stringent cleanup level for industrial use.

Eileen Palese explained that once the 30-day comment period has ended, this report then becomes part of the final Remedial Investigation (RI) Report. Gretchen Wagenseller said that a Responsiveness Summary will be written for all of the comments received. She said that the Feasibility Study (FS) has to meet these remedial objectives, which is why they are written broadly. This allows freedom to look at a lot of cleanup technologies and final remedies.

Judy Burns asked if there was any more discussion. Michael Smith asked about the reference to “municipal water use.” He asked why the report does not include anything about the need for additional wells at the site, which is a concern of Tucson Water. He wanted to know why this was not addressed in the report.

Gretchen Wagenseller explained that the Water Use Study was updated, which is part of the RI report, and protecting drinking water wells is covered in that report. She pointed out all of the wells that could be impacted by contamination from the site. She said the main concern is to determine what drinking water wells could be impacted on a display map. And then to make sure these wells will be protected through the final remedy. She said as long as the wells are in the overall study, it states ADEQ will be concerned with the drinking water wells; therefore, installing additional wells at the site does not need to be mentioned as a remedial objective.

Michael Smith said that he still believes that the report should mention the wells to show the CAB is being responsive to the city’s concerns and we are making sure that this won’t affect the central well-field. Eileen Palese said that what he is articulating would be a comment to the report, not a remedial objective.

Gretchen Wagenseller said again that this is also more of a Feasibility Study (FS) concern. She reiterated that as long as the wells are included the overall study, the installation of additional monitoring wells is covered--ADEQ is going to deal with the protection of drinking water wells in the final remediation.

4. Call to the Public

Judy Burns asked is anyone wished to ask questions or comment on the Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report. No public participant wished to comment.

5. Formulation of CAB Comment on Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report

Judy Burns asked the CAB if they wished to comment on the report, and the CAB agreed that they did. She asked if the CAB thought the report covered everything. Janet Marcus said the CAB can comment that they agree with the two groundwater remedial objectives, but the CAB hopes that in moving forward to achieving the objectives, the monitor wells will be installed to protect the city drinking water wells.

Mike Smith asked if the CAB wanted to also add to the comment a statement on what will be done about the source at the landfill. He thought something should be mentioned about the long-term cleanup, such as bioremediation, to treat the source of the contamination.

Gretchen Wagenseller said the CAB can comment as it pleases, but to keep in mind that the remedial objectives deal with the groundwater operable unit. In order to move the site investigation along at a faster pace, the landfill operable unit is being with dealt with separately. The RI report for the Landfill Operable Unit will come out in a year or so, depending on funds available in the budget.

The CAB discussed how they might want to comment on the Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report, including the source issues. The costs of removal and the possibility of using bioremediation was discussed. Gretchen Wagenseller described what the options might be to clean up the landfill. She said that the FS will address these issues and look at the costs for the different cleanup methods.

The CAB continued to discuss and ask questions regarding the feasibility of bioremediation. Members discussed the importance of formally commenting on all of the issues when there is an opportunity to do so. The CAB does not want the cleanup to go on endlessly. Gretchen Wagenseller said that there is no other time for the CAB to officially comment until the FS is completed and the Proposed Remedial Action Plan is released for public comment, so this would be a good time to comment on the issues that concern the CAB, during this current 30-day comment period.

Judy Burns drafted a possible comment for the CAB. The CAB discussed the wording.

Judy Burns read the draft comment:

The Broadway-Pantano Community Advisory Board (CAB) agrees with the proposed remedial objectives as outlined in the Proposed Groundwater Remedial Objectives Report for the Broadway-Pantano Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) site, dated November 25, 2008.

The Broadway-Pantano CAB also supports the installation of three more monitor wells west of the existing Western Containment System (WCS), and east of the City of Tucson central well field, to identify the extent of the groundwater contamination that has escaped the WCS.

The CAB also strongly recommends remediation of the source of the contamination from the Broadway-North Landfill.

Judy Burns said she will finalize the wording of the comment and send it to Eileen Palese to include it in a letter to submit to ADEQ. Janet Marcus moved to accept the comment Judy Burns drafted. Michael Smith seconded the motion. The CAB continued the Discussion.

Bill Petrtroutson asked about the definitions in the report. Gretchen Wagenseller said they came from the official WQARF rules. He asked if there is a definition for a remedial objective. Gretchen Wagenseller pointed out on page two of the report, the last paragraph, that this is the exact wording from the rule. She said essentially, a remedial objective is a cleanup goal.

Judy Burns asked if there was any other discussion. There was none, so the CAB voted on the motion. All accepted; none were opposed. Eileen Palese said the end of the comment period is December 24, 2008.

6. Site Update Plus Q&A

Jeff Drumm, City of Tucson, Environmental Services, reported to the CAB that the Western Containment System (WCS) is running now with no issues. Gretchen Wagenseller said the site-wide data report from the end of October is not ready to report on at the meeting. She said a presentation will be given at a future spring meeting by the groundwater flow modeling team. The consultants are running an analysis at this time. She said simulations of the model will be run in January.

She said the Mayor and Council did OK the work share agreement between the City of Tucson and ADEQ to install the two monitor wells beyond the capture zone of the WCS. Tucson Water is in the process of obtaining property access for the wells. The drilling should take place in early '09.

Gretchen Wagenseller said that most likely everyone is aware that Governor Janet Napolitano will be leaving to become part of the new Administration and that Janet Brewer will become Governor in her place. She said that ADEQ's director, Steve Owens, will also be leaving at the end of January 2009. She does not know what this means for future environmental policy. She outlined the critical state of the budget and said the WQARF program will most likely lose additional money in the new fiscal year. Cutbacks would mean less groundwater monitoring, but the operation and maintenance of the WCS would continue.

7. CAB Member Report on the 11/18/08 Groundwater Modeling Meeting

Mark Brusseau attended the meeting as the CAB representative. He said ADEQ's consultants presented results of the groundwater flow model. He said they demonstrated more results of particle tracking. They also showed a scenario of what would happen if the WCS went down. He said the consultants will show this when they present the model to the CAB.

8. Other Administrative Business

Eileen Palese reported that some CAB members and ADEQ staff attended a tour of the Los Reales Landfill, hosted by the City of Tucson. She put a notebook of photos together which was being passed around the table for the CAB's information. She thanked the city for the opportunity to be informed about the construction of a new waste disposal cell at the landfill.

9. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

It will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Eastside City Hall, Room A, 7575 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ. The CAB will discuss the date for the next meeting on February 11, 2009. Call Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, SRO, at (520) 628-6712, or email at palese.eileen@azdeq.gov, for meeting information and proposed agenda.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on a digital device as a record of the proceedings. To listen to a recording, or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.

Minutes prepared by: Eileen Palese 1/9/09
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