



MEETING MINUTES

Phoenix-Goodyear Airport (PGA) Area/Western Avenue Plume Community Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting

Thursday, February 7 at 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Goodyear Justice Center
195 N. 145th Avenue, Goodyear, AZ

DRAFT MINUTES

CAG Members in Attendance:

Diane Krone
Lisa Amos
Jeff Raible-Co-chair
David Ellis
Earl Smith
Karl Havlicek - Alternate
Tim Birdsall

ADEQ Staff in Attendance:

Delfina Olivarez, Western Avenue Project Manager
Travis Barnum, PGA North and South Project Manager
Wendy Flood, Community Involvement Coordinator

Facilitator:

Marty Rozelle

EPA Staff in Attendance:

Cathrine Brown
Glen Bruck
Alejandro Diaz

Others in Attendance:

Ailiang Gu, ITSI Gilbane; Nancy Nesky, ITSI Gilbane; Nimisha Patel, AMEC; Tom Suriano, Clear Creek Associates; Harry Brenton, Matrix New World Engineering; Stephanie Lyn Koehne, AMEC Geomatrix Inc; Jeff Sussman, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company; Amy Wilson, TRC; Jim Creedon, Crane Company; Randy McElroy and Nadine Johnson, ECO, Mark Holmes, City of Goodyear; Ron Clark, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company; Kathy Hunter, Hargis+Associates, Inc.; Michael R. Long, Hargis+Associates, Inc.; Chris Legg; Brown & Caldwell; Phil Schneider, Cardno ATC; Michele Rogers, Matrix New World Engineering; Jody Mack, Matrix New World Engineering; Zoe McCraw, Matrix New World Engineering; Nancy McFillin, Roger Matlin

Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chair called meeting to order. Introductions were made by CAG Members and audience.

Western Avenue (WA) WQARF site: Delfina Olivarez, ADEQ Project Manager

Ms. Delfina Olivarez, ADEQ Project Manager for Western Avenue gave a quarterly update on groundwater monitoring, Feasibility Study Work Plan update, and a work plan to investigate City of Goodyear (COG) well #1.

See slide presentation below

A CAG Member asked how plume location and size could be determined if the source was not pinpointed. The CAG member cited a report from Dr. Gu that indicates COG Well No. 3 PCE source was a direct result of the WQARF site. The CAG member felt that continued investigation is necessary to determine what is happening in the area between Well No. 1 and No.3. He also wondered if there was a second potential source at Western Avenue or is there another source in between the two wells that hasn't been identified. The CAG member asked if ADEQ was satisfied with the results of their findings. ADEQ responded that they have not been able to connect PCE in Subunit A to any one source. There isn't enough evidence to pinpoint a definite source at Western Avenue and ADEQ has and will continue to investigate how the PCE is getting into the well and study the movement of PCE and monitor progress of the site.

Another CAG member asked if there was any conjecture about what might be found or what the cause might be of the contamination of COG-01 or is the agency strictly collecting more data. ADEQ responded it is continuing to study the well and that there could be 1 of 3 ways that the PCE is being introduced.

1. Cross contamination by the well going unused and the PCE moves from Subunit A. ADEQ believe this to be a good possibility as concentrations are usually higher in COG-01 groundwater samples after a period of two or more month's inactivity.
2. PCE in Subunit A groundwater migrates to Subunit C as leakage through Subunit B; or
3. That low concentrations of PCE exists in Subunit C groundwater.

The proposed time series testing is designed to provide data that can be analyzed to infer which mechanism is responsible for the varying low concentrations in groundwater pumped by COG-1.

A third CAG member asked if the records of all the data collected and test being done are of public record and available to the City of Goodyear. ADEQ responded that yes, and they are working closely with the City on all facets of testing, results, review and opinions.

A fourth CAG member asked if there were any scenarios which would include additional monitor wells between COG-1 and COG-3 due to the higher PCE levels or to further refine the source between those two wells. ADEQ consultant, Mr. Michael Long indicated that the current conditions are consistent with the suspected historical sources along Western Avenue. A review of historical records was conducted a few years ago that included soil gas investigation looking for definitive proof of a source and none was found. The investigation of potential sources did not identify a potential source of PCE between COG-1 and MW-1. In addition, groundwater sampling throughout the Western Avenue area indicates that the only well in the area that produces groundwater samples with PCE concentrations above the drinking water standard is MW-1.

He continued stating that ADEQ continues to monitor the PCE plume concentrations in all wells and concentrations continue to decrease. The decrease in concentrations is due to the fact that groundwater has migrated to the west into the PGA south, was treated by the PGAS Subunit A remedial system and due to natural attenuation as it moves through the aquifer system. There is a good understanding of the plume in Subunit A, yet there is still the mystery of why PCE concentrations vary in COG-1. Since concentrations are higher when the well is inactive, that suggests that perhaps the well is a conduit well and leaking when it's not pumping. When the well is operated for a period of time, the concentrations decrease and that indicates that there is a lot of water from Subunit C that is not contaminated and that the little plume made in Subunit C, due to the leakage from Subunit A, is removed.

Mr. Long continued that ADEQ's goal is to determine how PCE is being introduced and if it is from leakage through Subunit B, the well casing or a hole in the well. Normal verification procedure would be to put a camera down the well but due to well construction and cost that isn't a viable option. The option chosen is time series testing, which is being conducted. The data from this test will help determine what introduces the PCE and to help determine what mitigation process would be best.

PGA-North Activities –Harry Brenton, Project Hydrogeologist, Matrix New World, Inc.

PGA North consultants provided a quarterly update on groundwater monitoring, current and future activities, and 5-year plan for the site.

See slide presentation below

A CAG member asked if more test wells around 51-A will be installed to ensure that injection will be done at clean locations. Matrix stated that there are some additional monitor wells included in the work plan for that purpose.

A CAG member wanted to confirm that water for the northwest injection wells was coming from EA-08 and that it won't be dumping into the RID canal. Matrix responded that was correct.

A third CAG member asked for clarification on the mounding map. Why the mounding was steeper in the northeast than the northwest. Matrix stated that it was due to the aquifer properties and is determined by a parameter called hydraulic conductivity which he then explained

The same CAG member asked if the steeper mounding protected or gave a better barrier. Matrix responded that isn't necessarily so but it can and they look at flow and TCE concentrations that allows them to determine the effectiveness of the hydraulic barrier. The TCE levels being seen in the key monitor wells suggests that it is an effective barrier.

A fourth CAG member wondered if the plume was contained in the northeast, would there be a reduction in concentrations each month and enough data to make projections on further plume reduction timing. Matrix responded that they do see decreasing trends with their monthly sampling and that there is still more work to be completed before they can determine how soon they will be able to shrink the plume.

PGA-South - Jeff Sussman, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Jeff Sussman gave a quarterly update on groundwater monitoring and current and future activities at PGA South.

See slide presentation below

PGA-North by EPA - Glen Bruck, Environmental Protection Agency

Glen Bruck gave a presentation on the basic capture zones, methods of analyzing capture zones, EPA's review of and recommendations for the PGAN Subunit A Extraction Well Systems.

See slide presentation below

Community Involvement Plan (CIP) – EPA's Project Manager introduced the new EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC), Mr. Alejandro Diaz. The new CIC gave a brief presentation on the revised EPA CIP and made a request that once the plan is submitted to the CAG, agencies and interested parties that review and/or comments be sent to him for incorporation into the CIP.

See slide presentation below

Acceptance of the August 2 and November 8, 2012 Minutes – Wendy Flood, ADEQ CIC.

The ADEQ CIC notified the CAG that meeting recordings could not be provided as a link on the ADEQ website but CD's could be mailed to those who wanted them after each meeting. Meeting minute format and content were accepted with the addition of Earl Jones as an attendee to the November minutes and the addition of the alternate board members handout to the August minutes. The CIC also reminded attendees to always sign-in on the provided sheets so that a complete record can be made of the meeting and that sign in sheets would be available for those who had not signed in even after adjournment of the meeting.

The Open Meeting Law, Charter and Facilitator – The status of the revised draft CAG Charter was discussed. ADEQ CIC requested that the CAG review the revised draft, forward any comments or acceptances to her for consolidation and distribution to subcommittee so that the revised charter could be voted on at the next CAG meeting. Items specifically needing review were relationship of the CAG; clarification of members within the CAG and clarification of CAG operating procedures with regard to election of alternates. The ADEQ CIC will research the open meeting law with regard to sub-committee organization and gatherings due to a public comment on the subject.

Call to the Public

An audience member had several questions with regard to the PGA North and Western Avenue sites and it was suggested that he make contact with the EPA and ADEQ to get some history on the sites and get his specific questions answered.

An audience member asked if there is a plan or focus in place to address the vertical, horizontal and lateral movement of the PCE since historically the water levels are dropping in the area and the PCE is in the deeper portion of Subunit A and Subunit C at the Western Avenue site. The audience member also asked if the feasibility study would address mitigation measures. The response was that the feasibility study and work plan will address these issues.

Future Meeting Agenda Discussion

The next two CAG meeting dates are scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd and Thursday, August 1st, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The location for the May meeting will be the Goodyear Justice Center.

Action items included:

1. Crane/ Matrix New World will update the 3-D graphic from last page of Matrix New World's presentation and prepare a copy in Poster format to be given to ECO for public engagement / educational uses.
2. Matrix New World will produce an updated Well Placement Grid on current well locations and future proposed well locations for at least a year. This document will be forwarded via email to CAG board members.
3. Revised Draft Charter – CAG members will review the revised document and forward an email format to the ADEQ CIC that indicates the CAG member has reviewed the document and provide any comments. If there are substantial comments, the CIC will forward back to the committee. The Revised Charter will be included in the next CAG Agenda for a vote along with a vote to make the current alternate a member of the CAG.
4. The next CAG meeting agenda will also include Election of Co-Chairs per current charter schedule and guidelines.
5. Review of Open Meeting Law to determine if forming sub-committees meets the intent of the Open Meeting Law or not and to clarify the intent of the law with respect to meetings where a quorum is not present (reference OML handbook 7.3.6).
6. Community Involvement Plan PowerPoint – The EPA requested that the CAG review the plan and forward any comments or information to Alejandro Diaz for use in finalizing the document. Review of final draft of CIP will be included as an agenda topic for the next CAG meeting.

Adjournment