

MEETING MINUTES
WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE REVOLVING FUND ADVISORY BOARD
ADEQ, 1110 West Washington, Phoenix Arizona, Room 250
Friday, September 26, 2008

Board Members in attendance:

Rick Lavis	Richard Bark
Dave Christiana	Karen Gaylord
Karen O'Regan	Daniel Field
Amanda E. Stone	Nancy Petersen
Jim Vieregg	Steve Besich
Tamara Huddleston	Dr. Bridget Bero

Board Members Absent:

Nicholas Wallwork Alan Croft
Jennifer Botsford Kelly Barr
Lee Stein

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

- I. Welcome/Opening Comments/Administrative Issues –**
- a. **Meeting Schedule** – The next meeting will be on October 31, 2008. The remaining schedule will be discussed at that meeting.
 - b. **WQARF 2008 Annual Report** – The Board had no issues with the report.

- II. Approval of June 27, 2008 Minutes** – Postponed to the next meeting.

III. Departmental Reports

- A. ADEQ** – Ms. Samantha Roberts summarized the ADEQ report as submitted to Board members in their packets. Mr. Lavis inquired about Vulture Mill. Ms. Roberts stated the DUER was recorded for only a piece of the land, and the majority of the property is still under negotiation.

Ms. Joan Card, Director of the Water Quality Division for ADEQ, addressed the Board regarding Mr. Vieregg's question on using WQARF authority at two Phelps Dodge mining sites. Ms. Card talked about the non-hazardous substance mitigation orders in the state used at two mines with authority under A.R.S. §49-286. She also discussed the signed consent orders and has incorporated the authority into the APP permit for the mines.

Ms. Gaylord disclosed, for the record, that as a representative of a water provider she would normally not remain in the room for such discussion. Due to a lack of a chairman Ms. Gaylord remained present only to govern the questions. Mr. Bark also removed himself from any discussion on this issue.

Mr. Vieregg inquired about the WQARF authority since he helped draft the authority. Ms Card stated it enabled the regulation of a substance not normally regulated to help set a standard. Mr. Besich asked about the sulfate plume, and Ms. Card stated it most likely was from the tailings and ore.

- B. **ADWR** – Mr. Christiana summarized his report as submitted to Board members in their packets. The East Central Phoenix well inventory has begun.

IV. WQARF Site Updates – Ms. Julie Riemenschneider introduced Ms. Danita Hardy and Mr. André Chiaradia.

- A. **Payson** – Ms. Hardy presented the Board members with a historical background of events at the site. Ms. Hardy showed photos of the air stripper system that was used and described its effects. The system has removed 66 lbs of PCE from the soil at the site. Photos of the granulated activated carbon (GAC) filtration system were shown and the process explained to the Board members. The record of decision (ROD) was signed for this site in June 2007. Ms. Hardy reviewed the different cleanup methods considered for the site and explained why pump and treat was chosen. In December 1999, 760 parts per billion (ppb) of PCE were detected, and by March 2008, only 32 ppb were detected. The levels are still above the AQWS for PCE but show how much the remediation has helped.

Ms. Nancy Petersen asked about the relationship ADEQ has with the water provider. Ms. Hardy stated the water provider runs the treatment plant as part of an Intergovernmental Agreement. Mr. Bark questioned the amount spent to run the plant. Ms. Roberts estimated the costs to be approximately \$300,000.

- B. **Tonto and Cherry** – Ms. Hardy presented Board members with a map of the plume boundaries and reviewed the background of the site. The PRAP was available for public comment in June 2008. Currently, the record of decision is in progress. Ms. Hardy explained the three remedies considered and the preferred choice, which is monitored natural attenuation. So far, this choice has decreased PCE levels from 47 bbp in April 1999 to below 5.0 ppb as of March 2008. Ms. Hardy reported that there has been no cost recovery from the responsible party.

- C. **Western Avenue** – Mr. André Chiaradia presented a historical timeline of the site and a map to Board members. In 2007 there was an increase in PCE, which caused further investigation for the site. In general, however, there has been a decrease. The map showed possible source locations and the complex groundwater contours for the site.

Mr. Chiaradia described the new well installation planned for the site and hopes to issue the Remedial Objective (RO) Report for the site this coming year. Mr. Chiaradia discussed the site boundary in regards to the effect of the

cleanup related to the NPL PGA-South Site. Ms. Gaylord asked if the local water providers were informed as part of the land and water use study. Ms. Roberts confirmed they were. Mr. Chiaradia commented that the RO Notice will be available around the time of the next CAG meeting on November 6. All requirements will be met for notification for comments on the ROs.

D. Los Reales Landfill – Mr. Bill Ellett introduced the project manager, Gretchen Wagenseller. This site falls under old WQARF rules and is run by the City of Tucson. Ms. Wagenseller stated that ADEQ provides oversight, and she introduced Ms. Molly Collins, project manager for the City of Tucson.

The active landfill has been in operation since 1967, and in 1988 PCE was discovered. Ms. Collins described the aquifer characteristics and discussed the pump and treat treatment system upgrade conducted in 2007. The system upgrade helped to keep the northern spread of contamination contained. Ms. Collins reported that 170 million gallons have been treated since 1999, and the landfill reused the water to cut down on potable water uses. The southwest portion of the landfill had a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system installed and removed 435 lbs of contaminants during the two years it was in operation. Ms. Collins also pointed out that gas energy produced from the landfill is sold back to TEP for electricity. This may also help with source control.

Mr. Vieregk asked about the two different remedies used at the site. Ms. Collins stated that doing SVE in the middle of a landfill will be very difficult, therefore pump and treat is the better option for the main plume, which has gone off-site. Ms. Gaylord asked about time projections for the site. Ms. Collins stated that according to groundwater models the shallow aquifer will be dry in about 10 years. The pump and treat system will be in place for a long time.

Mr. Lavis asked for consistency on referencing the budgets for this site and also the Silverbell landfill. Ms. Gaylord offered thanks to a working party (City of Tucson) for their work which helps to ease the burden on the WQARF budget.

E. Silverbell Landfill – Ms. Collins stated the landfill is not active and discussed the location and the history of the site. SVE was selected in 1999 and ran until 2003. The system removed 2,000 lbs of contaminants. Bioremediation was then selected until 2007. Ms. Collins discussed the geology and flow gradient. Pictures were presented of the plume in the two aquifers located under the landfill. An additional well will be installed, and pump and treat is a possible next step in the process. Ms. Collins further explained the bioremediation process used at the site to the Board members.

Ms. Gaylord opened the floor for questions. Mr. Jerry Worsham questioned the authority to perform the injection into the groundwater. Ms. Collins stated since it was a pilot program, WQARF authority was used to perform the cleanup.

Ten minute break

Ms. Stone discussed with the Board a Preliminary Investigation (PI) List as requested. She also announced that Ms. Roberts is leaving the agency in October. Ms. Stone commented on the great amount of work Ms. Roberts has put towards the program. Ms. Stone also stated a request was made to fill the position. Ms. Gaylord asked if assistance is warranted from the Board to add support for filling the position. Ms. Stone stated she will contact the Board if intervention is needed. Ms. Vieregge also commented on the outstanding job Ms. Roberts has done as the department representative on the board.

- V. **E & E Model Discussion** – The Board discussed the concerns over the model that was proposed. Mr. Vieregge went over his comments, which were previously accepted by the Board. Mr. Smit gave an overview of the model proposed. Mr. Smit handed out an excerpt from the 1996 Groundwater Cleanup Task Force and the cover sheet to the model and discussed them both. Mr. Vieregge stated he will send his comments directly to Mr. Smit. Ms. Gaylord also commented on some contents of the model. Ms. Gaylord asked which Board members were interested in attending a working session on the model. All Board members indicated they wanted to attend the session. Ms. Gaylord will communicate via e-mail on date and time of the session before the next board meeting.

VI. **WQARF Advisory Board Subcommittees**

A. **Budget Subcommittee –**

1. **Board Approval of WQARF 2009 budget –**

Ms. Roberts reviewed the final report for the end of the year. The department spent its entire budget for the last year. Mr. Bark asked for further explanation of the PRP costs which went over budget. Ms. Roberts responded saying it was mostly from one site. Further discussion was held on the budget report. Ms. Stone was requested to give a follow-up report for the next meeting. Mr. Lavis inquired why non-WQARF sites are included on the budget. It was suggested to have those split in regard to expenditures to reflect WQARF sites, non-WQARF sites and PI sites. Ms. Roberts stated she was already working on changing the format. The Board reviewed the spending plan submittal. Mr. Lavis moved to accept the adoption of the FY09 spending plan. Mr. Vieregge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

2. **Board Approval of October 2, 2008 WQARF Progress Chart –**

Ms. Roberts discussed the chart and changes to the progress chart. Mr. Bark noticed a heading correction. Mr. Lavis requested to add

FY 2006 and forward information to the chart to show the sites entering the different WQARF phases and to show progress. Ms. Gaylord asked to have the chart submitted as is and have the department prepare an additional aspect of the chart (adding FY 2006) to be used in subsequent discussion. Mr. Lavis moved to approve the progress chart submittal in a letter to Senator Burns and Senator Pierce. It was seconded by Mr. Vieregg and approved.

- B. Legislative Subcommittee** – Mr. Bark stated next year will be very tough and there may be a special session. ADEQ’s sunset is up next year so the committee process will start soon with a tentative date of October 29. Mr. Bark moved to have the Board continue to promote the agency and the WQARF program to the legislature by testimony or written communication. It was amended by Mr. Lavis to add extension of the department for 10 years. Mr. Vieregg seconded the amendment motion. It was passed by the Board.
- C. Five Year WQARF Advisory Board Evaluation Report Subcommittee** – Postponed to next meeting

VII. Public Comment - None

VII. Adjournment – The motion to adjourn was moved by Mr. Lavis and seconded by Mr. Vieregg.