

**TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
RECORD OF MEETING**

Fourth Quarterly Meeting, Fiscal Year 2009

Meeting Date: July 15, 2009  
Meeting No.: 82

Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg F  
Room: 2210

TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>MEETING ATTENDANCE .....</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| <b>MEETING HANDOUTS.....</b>   | <b>3</b> |
| <b>MEETING RECORD OF JULY 15, 2009.....</b>  | <b>4</b> |
| 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS .....   | 4        |
| 2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS.....   | 4        |
| Agricultural Chemicals .....   | 4        |
| Data Management .....  | 5        |
| Public Outreach and Education.....   | 5        |
| Groundwater Research.....  | 7        |
| 3. PRESENTATION.....   | 7        |
| Agency Legislative Roundtable Discussion – Committee Members Will Discuss<br>Groundwater Legislation Passed by the 81st Legislature and Its Effect on Their<br>Respective Agencies ..... | 7        |
| 4. BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION.....  | 9        |
| Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy – Continue Discussion of the Update .....  | 9        |
| Set Future Meeting Date .....  | 9        |
| 5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR GROUNDWATER-RELATED<br>ACTIVITIES – STATUS UPDATE .....  | 10       |
| Groundwater Contamination Notice Coordination (HB 3030, 78th Legislature). ..  | 10       |
| Groundwater Management Areas .....   | 10       |
| Regional Water Planning .....  | 10       |
| Groundwater Availability Modeling.....   | 10       |
| Nonpoint Source Pollution.....   | 11       |
| National Groundwater Initiatives.....  | 11       |
| Drought Status .....   | 11       |
| 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS.....  | 12       |
| Rules Update .....   | 12       |
| New Publications .....   | 12       |
| Upcoming Conferences.....  | 13       |
| 7. PUBLIC COMMENT .....  | 14       |
| 8. ADJOURN .....   | 14       |

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

### Committee Members

Cary Betz

Janie Hopkins

Richard Eyster

Donna Long

David Van Dresar

Kevin Wagner

Bruce Cutright

David Gunn

### Affiliation

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
(TCEQ)

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board  
(TSSWCB)

Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)

Texas AgriLife Research (TAR)

University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology  
(UTBEG)

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation  
(TDLR)

### Agency Staff

Sean Ables

Abiy Berehe

Lauren Bilbe

Alan Cherepon

Peggy Hunka

Kathy McCormack

Joe Peters

David Villarreal

### Affiliation

TCEQ

TCEQ

TCEQ

TCEQ

TCEQ

TCEQ

TCEQ

TDA

### Program

Water Supply Division

Water Supply Division

Water Quality Planning Division

Water Supply Division

Water Supply Division

Water Supply Division

Water Supply Division

### Interested Parties

Donovan Burton

Ann Ardis

Mary Musick

Steve Musick

Yvonne De La Cruz

Al Rocha

### Affiliation

San Antonio Water System (SAWS)

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Musick Groundwater Consulting

Musick Groundwater Consulting

Bexar Metropolitan Water District (BMWD)

BMWD

## MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Agenda for Texas Groundwater Protection Committee meeting on July 15, 2009
2. Record for Texas Groundwater Protection Committee meeting on April 15, 2009
3. Summary of Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting June 11, 2009
4. Texas AgriLife Extension Service (TAES) publication L-5502, *Drinking Water Problems: MTBE*,  
[http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications\\_details.cfm?whichpublication=2570](http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=2570)
5. TAES publication L-5513, *Drinking Water Problems: Benzene*,  
[http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications\\_details.cfm?whichpublication=2587](http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=2587)
6. TCEQ publication SFR-066, *2008 Annual Report: Managing Nonpoint Source Pollution in Texas*,  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm\\_exec/pubs/sfr/066\\_08.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/sfr/066_08.pdf)
7. U.S. Drought Monitor, Texas as of July 7, 2009; Drought 2009 – Public Water Supply Systems Affected as of July 1, 2009; U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook July 2009 – September 2009
8. Recent Updates to TCEQ Rules
9. TCEQ publication GI-395, *Protect Your Source of Water*,  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-395.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-395.html)
10. 2009 – 2010 Water-related Conferences in Texas

## MEETING RECORD OF JULY 15, 2009

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Cary Betz (TCEQ), Designated Chair of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC), called the meeting to order at approximately 1:09 PM CDT and then TGPC members introduced themselves. Representatives from the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) and the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) were not present at the meeting, and a representative from the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

### 2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Agricultural Chemicals

Joe Peters (TCEQ) reported that the Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee met for their Fiscal Year 2009 Fourth Quarter meeting that morning.

For the Site Selection Task Force, Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that TWDB had a two-week travel hiatus due to the recent H1N1 flu scare, but it has since collected 377 groundwater samples, mostly from the Gulf Coast Aquifer. TCEQ continues to perform immunoassay (IA) analyses on the samples provided by TWDB.

For the Educational Task Force, Bruce Lesikar (Texas AgriLife Extension Service, TAES) reported that most of its activity has been through the TGPC Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee. The POE Subcommittee has recently finalized a number of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) which are now available on the TGPC website. Bruce Lesikar also reported that TAES is now starting its planning process for Fall 2009.

Alan Cherepon (TCEQ) gave an interim summary report on the 2009 Groundwater Pesticide Monitoring. TCEQ monitoring in the Panhandle continued this past spring for the targeted wells – 129 IA analyses were performed with only a few, very low detections, and 19 samples were subsequently sent for laboratory testing. Urban monitoring of 43 wells and 20 springs in the Austin area resulted in 71 samples analyzed by IA (five very low detections of atrazine and one very low detection of diazinon) with 12 samples subsequently sent for laboratory analysis. The Cooperative Monitoring Program produced 113 well samples – IA analysis had one atrazine detection at 0.2 ppb, one acetochlor detection at 0.1 ppb, and four 2,4-D detections with a high value of 0.88 ppb.

During the Information Exchange portion of the meeting:

- Alan Cherepon (TCEQ) gave an update on the recent ruling on pesticide application permits by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals which may require the permitting of pesticide use near water bodies;

- David Villarreal (TDA) gave a report on issues that pertained to groundwater and pesticides from the April 2009 State Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Issues Research Evaluation Group (SFIREG) meeting, including the problem of groundwater advisory statements on labels, the lack of aquatic benchmarks or even human benchmarks for many pesticides, and a new low cost, low maintenance, passive sampling system that may be able to infer the presence of some chemicals; and,
- There was a discussion of a University of Texas “Hot Science-Cool Talks” presentation by Tyrone Hays (University of California at Berkeley) on January 30, 2009 regarding the effects of atrazine on humans and amphibians.

### Data Management

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the Data Management Subcommittee had not met since the last TGPC meeting, but plans to meet in late August 2009 to discuss the state’s groundwater monitoring strategy.

### Public Outreach and Education

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reported that the Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee last met on June 11, 2009 and six agencies and organizations were represented.

The status report on recent and upcoming outreach events was reviewed:

- Texas AgriLife Extension Service (TAES) Water Well Screening Events
  - Five since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (468 samples)
  - Two planned through August 2009
- TAES Abandoned Water Well Closures
  - One since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (13 attendees)
  - None planned at this time
- TGPC Booth
  - Two since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (1,824 estimated attendees)
  - One planned through August 2009

Photos of the TAES abandoned water well closure demonstration in Belton on June 4, 2009 and the TGPC booth at the TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair in Austin on May 12 – 14, 2009 were passed around for TGPC members to view.

The features of Hamline University’s Center for Global Environmental Education “Water Down the Drain” website (<http://cgee.hamline.edu/WDD/>) were also explored at the TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting. Some of these segments are also available on the “TWDB Kids” webpage (<http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/kids/index.htm>).

Two TGPC-sponsored TAES *Drinking Water Problems* Fact Sheets have been published in the past year:

- *MTBE* (L-5502, [http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications\\_details.cfm?whichpublication=2570](http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=2570), August 2008)
- *Benzene* (L-5513, [http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications\\_details.cfm?whichpublication=2587](http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=2587), April 2009)

Reprinting of the TAES *Questions about Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* publication (B-6120, [http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications\\_details.cfm?whichpublication=1588](http://agrillifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=1588)) was approved within the funding limits of the TCEQ/TAES Public Outreach and Education contract.

Three Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) were approved and subsequently posted on the TGPC website (<http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/FAQs.htm>):

- *What is the Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report ?*
- *In Situ Uranium Mining and Groundwater Quality:*
  - *Where Can Uranium Be Found ?*
  - *How Were the Uranium Deposits in South Texas Created ?*

Publications and FAQs on the following topics are in various stages of revision:

- *Oil and Gas Waste Disposal Wells and Water Quality:*
  - *How are Oil and Gas Waste Disposal Wells Regulated ?*
  - *What are the Construction Standards for an Oil and Gas Waste Disposal Well ?*
  - *What is the Permitting Process for an Oil and Gas Waste Disposal Well ?*
- *Plugging Abandoned Water Wells* (TAES L-5413)
- *Landowner's Guide to Plugging Abandoned Water Wells* (TCEQ RG-347)
- *In Situ Uranium Mining and Groundwater Quality:*
  - *How Is Uranium Mined in Texas ?*
  - *What Is the Quality of Groundwater Within the Uranium-Mineralized Zone ?*
  - *Once In Situ Uranium Mining Is Complete at a Site, Is the Mine Operator Required to Clean Up the Affected Groundwater ?*
  - *How Much Groundwater Is Required for an In Situ Mining Operation ?*
  - *Is the Uranium Recovered from Mining Ready to Be Used ?*
- *Have Radionuclides Been Detected in Texas Groundwater ?*

The next POE Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2009.

David Van Dresar (TAGD) arrived at approximately 1:16 PM CDT and was present for the remainder of the meeting.

## Groundwater Research

Joe Peters (TCEQ) reported that both Co-Chairs of the Groundwater Research Subcommittee were absent and initially there was very sparse attendance at the meeting that morning, so it was decided that the meeting would continue as an informational exchange. Topics included:

- The discussion that groundwater receives approximately 10 % of the available Nonpoint Source (NPS) funding available in TCEQ's Edwards Aquifer Protection Program;
- The need for research in the area of pharmaceuticals and endocrine disruptors; and,
- The upcoming availability of the new NPS Annual Report (TCEQ publication SFR-066, *2008 Annual Report: Managing Nonpoint Source Pollution in Texas*, [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm\\_exec/pubs/sfr/066\\_08.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/sfr/066_08.pdf)).

Cary Betz (TCEQ) added that he introduced information about the efforts of Robert Finkelman (University of Texas at Dallas) who is doing research on the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer and some carcinogenic constituents associated with Balkan endemic nephropathy (a variety of kidney diseases which are associated with the presence of lignite deposits in strata overlying groundwater). The TGPC is committed to assisting Robert Finkelman with some of this research.

### 3. PRESENTATION

Agency Legislative Roundtable Discussion – Committee Members Will Discuss Groundwater Legislation Passed by the 81st Legislature and Its Effect on Their Respective Agencies

In lieu of a presentation, TGPC members discussed legislation passed by the 81st Legislature related to groundwater and its effect on their respective agencies. Cary Betz (TCEQ) was particularly interested in any TGPC recommendations to the Legislature that were acted upon.

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that they had received funding for:

- Brackish groundwater research – related to TGPC recommendation # 8 (Ensure the Brackish/Saline Aquifers Having Potential for Use as Drinking Water are Protected from Contamination) and # 14 (Acquire and Analyze Brackish Groundwater Data);
- Groundwater Availability Modeling; and,
- Groundwater technical assistance.

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) indicated that funding was not provided for TGPC recommendation # 9 (Expand Statewide Real-Time Groundwater-Level Monitoring System) or # 10 (Enhance and Continue to Support Data and Resources in Support of “Desired Future Conditions”).

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) also announced that a new TWDB online interactive mapping application for real-time daily water well levels was now available (<http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/gwrd/waterlevels/waterlevels.html>).

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that two TGPC recommendations initially proposed by UTBEG, # 11 (Evaluate Impact of Dryland Agriculture on Groundwater Resources in the Texas High Plains Aquifer) and # 12 (Study the Impact of Irrigation on Groundwater Resources in the High Plains Aquifer), were not funded. It was not known whether TGPC recommendation # 6 (Continue to Support the Texas High Plains Evapotranspiration Network) or TGPC recommendation # 13 (Evaluate Characteristics of Concentrate and Residuals and Support Streamlined Permitting) had been funded.

David Van Dresar (TAGD) reported on the passage of sovereign immunity legislation which allows Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) to enforce their rules on cities. Cary Betz (TCEQ) added that there were five GCD creations, one GCD dissolution (Tablerock GCD in Coryell County), one bill which added territory to Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA), one GCD that changed its name (McLennan County GCD to Southern Trinity GCD), and 13 bills which amended existing GCD authorities.

Donna Long (TSSWCB) reported that they had received funding for:

- One Full Time Employee (FTE) for flood control and dam structures; and,
- One FTE for GIS database.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) added that TGPC recommendation # 1 (Fund Brush-Control Projects to Increase Groundwater Yield) and TGPC recommendation # 2 (Encourage On-Farm Agricultural Best Management Practice Incentives through Continued Support of a Water Conservation Plan Program) were funded.

Kevin Wagner (TAR) indicated that while no groundwater legislation directly affected them, the formation of a Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee (which could indirectly affect groundwater resources) was approved. This Committee is administered by TSSWCB and TAR has a seat on the Committee. Kevin Wagner confirmed that TGPC recommendation # 3 (Protect Groundwater Quality through Education Programs) and TGPC recommendation # 4 (Develop Education and Training Programs for Groundwater District Management) were not funded.

David Gunn (TDLR) reported that TGPC recommendation # 5 (Establish an Abandoned Water Well-Plugging and Education Fund) was not funded; however, funding was provided for one FTE to enter water well reports online. The Texas Board of Professional Tax Examiners and the Texas Polygraph Examiners were abolished and added to the TDLR.

Richard Eyster (TDA) reported that no legislation related to groundwater or pesticides affected their agency.



Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that RRC was named the lead agency regarding carbon dioxide sequestration in any area previously supporting oil and gas production. RRC and TCEQ will be preparing rules which may support TGPC recommendation # 7 (Protect Groundwater Resources When Permitting the Injection of Carbon Dioxide for the Purposes of Geologic Sequestration).

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that most of the bills affecting their agency were Municipal Utility District (MUD) and GCD creations. Topics of bills that were also passed included:

- Additional fees related to water and wastewater;
- Geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide;
- Annual soil testing (in regards to water quality) for Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in the Bosque River watershed; and,
- Sediment pond controls to satisfy environmental and safety regulations for surface mining operations.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) noted that, although legislation related to the requirement to perform a study of management practices in the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer did not pass, TCEQ was granted \$500,000 in the general appropriations bills to study the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer with UTBEG.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) also reported that the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program was authorized up to \$1.7M through TWDB's water improvement fund for work with endangered species and springs. In addition, the Edwards Aquifer Research and Development Center at Texas State University received \$216,000 to continue some of their operations.

#### 4. BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

##### Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy – Continue Discussion of the Update

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that work on the *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy* had been put on hold until the end of the Legislative session, but a draft update of the document is almost complete and it should be sent out to the TGPC in August 2009. A TGPC Work Session may be called in order to finalize the document. The Data Management Subcommittee will be meeting in August 2009 in order to discuss the groundwater monitoring strategy which will be included in the updated *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy*.

##### Set Future Meeting Date

The next TGPC quarterly meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2009 at 1:00 PM CDT. This date is the 20th anniversary of the TGPC's first meeting. Cary Betz (TCEQ) agreed to send a short article on the TGPC to Janie Hopkins (TWDB) for inclusion in one of their future newsletters.

## 5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR GROUNDWATER-RELATED ACTIVITIES – STATUS UPDATE

### Groundwater Contamination Notice Coordination (HB 3030, 78th Legislature)

Peggy Hunka (TCEQ) reported that 19 cases were reviewed by the Impact Evaluation Team (IET) during the past quarter – 17 cases were determined to require notification of contamination letters, and 225 letters were mailed to water well owners and users. Cary Betz (TCEQ) added that three groundwater contamination cases related to fracing in the Barnett Shale area are being tracked separately by TCEQ, and another TCEQ group coordinated the issue of hexavalent chromium contamination in groundwater in the Midland area.

### Groundwater Management Areas

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that:

- Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 1 has submitted Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for two of their aquifers (the Ogallala and the Rita Blanca), but they are waiting on completion of the Dockum Aquifer Groundwater Availability Model (GAM);
- GAMs for the Lower Trinity (GMA 9), Central Gulf Coast (GMAs 15 and 16), Edwards BFZ (GMA 10), and Edwards-Trinity Plateau (GMA 7) aquifers are in progress; and,
- TWDB is working on GAMs for the Hickory, Ellenberger – San Saba, and Marble Falls (GAMs 7 and 8) aquifers.

David Van Dresar (TAGD) added that TWDB is investigating a new program in the GAMs which would increase the speed of the modeling process.

### Regional Water Planning

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that region-specific studies were submitted between December 2008 and May 2009. All of these studies have been reviewed, comment letters have been sent back to the regions, and TWDB has approved all but two of the region's studies. The 2011 water plans are being prepared – initial water plans are due to TWDB by March 1, 2010, and final plans are due by January 2011. The State Water Plan is due to the Texas Legislature by January 2012.

### Groundwater Availability Modeling

This topic was not discussed at the meeting.

## Nonpoint Source Pollution

Donna Long (TSSWCB) referenced the *2008 Annual Report: Managing Nonpoint Source Pollution in Texas* ([http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm\\_exec/pubs/sfr/066\\_08.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/sfr/066_08.pdf)) that was in everyone's packets, and announced that success stories for the *2009 Annual Report* are still being accepted. Donna Long also reported that a rough draft of the *Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program* is underway with a final submission deadline of December 2010.

Lauren Bilbe (TCEQ) also noted that the NPS partnership grant of \$950,000 funds the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program through TCEQ's Austin and San Antonio regional offices.

## National Groundwater Initiatives

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the U.S. Department of the Interior's Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI, <http://acwi.gov/>) Groundwater Subcommittee (<http://acwi.gov/sogw/index.html>), which is developing a *National Groundwater Monitoring Program – Draft Framework Document*, last met on July 6, 2009 and Oversight Workgroups and Selection Workgroups for the pilot projects were discussed.

Mary Musick (Musick Groundwater Consulting) added that:

- A final framework document has been approved and will be announced;
- One month later they will do solicitations;
- There is no funding for the pilot projects now; and,
- There will be a webinar on completing project proposal applications in about two months.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) also announced the Water/Energy Sustainability Symposium at the 2009 Ground Water Protection Council's (GWPC's) Annual Forum on September 13 – 16, 2009 in Salt Lake City, UT (<http://www.gwpc.org/meetings/forum/forum.htm>).

## Drought Status

Cary Betz (TCEQ) referred the TGPC to the most recent TCEQ drought-affected Public Water Supply Systems and U.S. Drought Monitor maps – both the number of affected systems and the exceptional drought affected area in the state increased again since the last TGPC meeting. A map of the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook July 2009 – September 2009 was also provided which indicated that the drought was forecast to persist or intensify over the next three months in south-central Texas.

David Van Dresar (TAGD) sits on the governor's Drought Preparedness Council and noted that:

- There may actually be more public water systems affected than what are indicated on the TCEQ map;

- Five or six GCDs are now implementing their own drought contingency plans (three in a severe stage);
- The Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is trying to develop an additional, more critical stage in their drought contingency plan so that water reductions can be increased further; and,
- GCDs are reporting limited to significant groundwater level reductions.

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that they are providing the Edwards Aquifer Authority with funding for collecting groundwater samples in order to determine if the Edwards Aquifer's "bad water" line is moving.

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Rules Update

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported on current TCEQ rulemaking that was of interest to the TGPC:

- 2009-044-331-PR – SB 1387: Injection and Storage of Anthropogenic Carbon Dioxide;
- 2009-034-311-PR – Water Quality Management within the Barton Creek and Onion Creek Watersheds;
- 2009-020-290-PR – Federal Lead Copper Revisions and Federal Corrections for Surface Water, Disinfection, and Groundwater;
- 2009-011-321-PR – Revisions to certain Subchapters of 30 TAC Chapter 321 related to revised EPA CAFO rules;
- 2009-005-309-PR – Bacteria Effluent Limitations and Monitoring in Domestic Water Quality Permits;
- 2008-024-335-PR – RCRA Authorization for parts of Federal Rule Clusters XV – XVII;
- 2008-022-213-CE – Edwards Aquifer;
- 2007-049-298-PR – HB 3 / SB 3: Environmental Flow Standards; and,
- 2007-002-307-EN – Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.

Additional information on a specific rule can be found at [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/rules/propose\\_adapt.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/rules/propose_adapt.html).

David Gunn (TDLR) reported that their agency intends to clarify some of their rules related to water well drillers, abandoned wells, and pump installers.

### New Publications

Cary Betz (TCEQ) announced several recent TCEQ publications:

- *2008 Annual Report: Managing Nonpoint Source Pollution in Texas*, SFR-066;
- *Protect Your Source of Water*, GI-395; and,
- *A Guide to Freshwater Ecology*, GI-034.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) also noted the publication of USGS SIR 2008-5240, *Factors Affecting Water Quality in Selected Carbonate Aquifers in the United States, 1993 – 2005* (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2008/5240/>).

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reminded the TGPC that the state well numbering system is being modified in order to accommodate additional GCD wells for which data is being collected and shared. Well information (e.g., location, depth, casing) should be submitted when the state well number is obtained.

#### Upcoming Conferences

Cary Betz (TCEQ) announced:

- Karst Horizons 2009 – 15th International Congress of Speleology on July 19 – 26, 2009 in Kerrville;
- National Environmental Monitoring Conference (NEMC) on August 10 – 14, 2009 in San Antonio;
- TCEQ's 2009 Public Drinking Water Conference on August 11 – 12, 2009 in Austin;
- GWPC's Water/Energy Sustainability Symposium and Annual Forum on September 13 – 16, 2009 in Salt Lake City, UT;
- TWDB's Aquifers of the Upper Coastal Plains of Texas and Groundwater 101 Workshop on October 13, 2009 in College Station;
- Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA) Fall Meeting on October 21 – 23, 2009 in San Antonio;
- River Systems Institute – Land, Water, People 2009 on November 16 – 18, 2009 in San Marcos;
- National Water Resources Association (NWRA) Annual Conference on November 18 – 20, 2009 in San Antonio; and,
- GWPC's 2009 Annual Underground Injection Control (UIC) Conference on January 25 – 26, 2010 in Austin.

Details regarding these conferences were listed in the “2009 Water-related Conferences in Texas” handout – the current version of this handout is always available on the TGPC's POE Subcommittee webpage at <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees/POE/POE.htm>.

Donna Long (TSSWCB) announced the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 19th Annual Quality Assurance Conference on October 19 – 23, 2009 in Dallas (<http://www.epa.gov/region6/6pd/qa/index09.htm>).

Bruce Cutright (UTBEG) announced the UTBEG Centennial Symposium on August 7, 2009 in Austin (<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Invitation.aspx?e=88ac8d22-3db5-4eec-9ce4-0cbd5a8a2c50>).

Kevin Wagner (TAR) announced the 2009 Rio Grande Basin Initiative (RGBI) Conference on August 10 – 13, 2009 in McAllen (<http://riogrande-conference.tamu.edu/wrapup/2009/>).

Lauren Bilbe (TCEQ) announced the Texas Stream Team 2009 Meeting of the Monitors on July 17 – 19, 2009 in New Braunfels (<http://txstreamteam.rivers.txstate.edu/Projects/Events/MOM.html>).

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Musick (Musick Groundwater Consulting) asked if there was any discussion during the Legislative session regarding the acceleration of the sunset review process for some of the state agencies. Cary Betz (TCEQ) replied that several state agencies, including TCEQ, would be affected.

Lauren Bilbe (TCEQ) announced that the TCEQ and TSSWCB NPS program's Request for Grant Applications period would begin in October 2009.

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) announced that they have a new Groundwater Resources Division director, Bill Hutchinson.

## 8. ADJOURN

Cary Betz (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:27 PM CDT.