

*Wednesday February 17, 2015*

*Hosted by the DEC*

*1st floor conference room 555 Cordova St. Anchorage with teleconference*

Attendees in Anchorage: Charley Palmer (DEC), Chris Miller (DEC), Rebecca Baril (DEC), Bill Kranich (WWC), David Schade (DNR) Jim Munter (Hydrogeologist/Consultant), Jeff Warner (DEC), Wayne Westberg (WWC), Roy Robertson (DEC)

Attendees via teleconference line: Pamela Goode (Private Citizen), James Squyres (Private Citizen), John Craven (Public Water System Officer/Operator), Lee Ice (WWC), Chuck Ice (WWC), Jacob Dilley (DEC), Dan Brotherton (WWC), Jeff Ellison (WWC), Craig Seime (WWC)

### Meeting Minutes

Facilitator: Jeff Warner

#### **Introduction**

- Roll Call
- Review of minutes
- Action Items:
  - Decommissioning BMPs
    - Charley received feedback from DEC's Contaminated Sites and Solid Waste Programs. Both expressed concern that the BMPs do not clearly state that they are not designed for monitoring wells. Contaminated Sites has a monitoring well guidance document that Solid Waste also references.
      - Jim added that he would like to compare the workgroup's BMP document with the monitoring well guidance to ensure there are no holes.
      - David expressed the concern that we do not state that the BMPs are strictly for drinking water wells (suggested), as he would like to see the BMPs keep a wide scope of well coverage.
      - The group agreed to compare the BMPs to the monitoring wells document in between meetings to determine if there is anything that needs to be addressed or covered.
    - Charley: Potable Water definition, there is an issue with knowing what "suitable" means. Proposed definition from DEC's Food Safety Program regulations.
      - Agreed. Apply to both BMP documents.
    - Charley: Drinking water wells definition, comment provided suggested including "for human consumption" after "water extraction".
      - At this point it was suggested that the issues in the Decommissioning BMPs be summarized to be brought up at a later meeting in order to get through the Construction BMPs at this meeting.

#### **Issues and Concerns**

- Construction BMPs

- Definitions
  - John Proposed that in the disclaimer, “others” needs to be removed.
    - Agreed upon by the group.
  - Drivepoint added (in definitions)
    - Jim proposed removing “hardened” from “hardened steel point”
    - Wayne proposed removing “soft or loose” before “unconsolidated ground” and simply replacing with “the”.
  - Driveshoe, formation packer, and well packer were added.
    - Charley suggested changing “formation/stratum” to “surrounding subsurface material” in the definition of formation packer, in order to avoid having to define “formation/stratum”.
  - The group decided to remove the word “means” from all definitions except for acronyms, like NSF, based on a suggestion from Pam.
  - Pam suggested the removal of “within boundaries of state” from the groundwater definition.
  - Hydrogeologist definition
    - Charley edited the definition based on input from Jim. Added certified and licensed pursuant to AS08.02.11.
    - Jim agreed to distribute the Alaska Statutes concerning “Professional Geologist”
  - Well Screen definition
    - Charley proposed removing “produced” and substitute “prevent” with “limit”.
  - Charley mentioned that John had emailed some proposed edits to the format of the BMPs. John agreed that the document could be forwarded for comment and discussion.
  - Well Packer
    - Jim proposed adding “drop pipe” after liner in definition.
- 5.0 Well Site Selection
  - Charley asked whether we needed to specify the recommendation to not build a well in a house or crawlspace.
    - Jim proposed adding “equipment needed for pump service or eventual well repair or decommissioning” in part D.
  - Charley: Changes were made in the separation distance table. Asterisks were added to distances covered in the DEC installers manual.
    - Jim added that we should be aware that these distances aren’t just for the construction of the well, but for when things are starting to pop up around the well.
- 6.0 General Practices
  - Charley recommended that “drilling” be replaced with “construction”.
  - Wayne: recommended “commercial” in part A be removed so that it allows for someone to drill their own well.
    - Bill added that we do recommend earlier in the document (by using “should”) that they use a knowledgeable contractor.
  - Part A(5)
    - Discussion on the depth for a drivepoint was postponed onto a future meeting.

- Charley noted that specs for HDPE casing was added to the table in Part B
- Wayne noted that in Part B, the word “steel”, in “all steel casings” should be removed. He also noted that (B)(2) should be removed.
  - Bill noted that “steel” also needs to be removed in (B)(3).
- Charley asked Wayne to produce a definition for “tremie” to be added to the document.
- Charley asked the group if they agreed with the well casing stick up in (B)(7). Currently, it is more than what is required for public water system wells.
  - Lee commented that too much stick-up is an issue further north, where greater stick-up creates a greater chance for freezing the pitless adapters. Suggested the minimum be 1 foot.
  - Jim added that there are some locations that need more stick-up due to flooding, sometimes up to 5 feet. He proposed adding a statement that allows for local experiences to adjust that.
    - Proposed: “...unless local conditions suggest different height at least 1 foot to protect from freezing.”
- Bill proposed that “in low production” be removed in (C)(1).
- Charley proposed adding “well” to the “appropriate packer” phrase in (C)(1).
- Other comments
  - James proposed that 9.0 (A) be removed, as it is already stated in the disclaimer.

### Wrap-up and next Meeting

- The next meeting was agreed to be held **Tuesday March 24, 2015 6-8pm.**

### Action Items:

- Well Construction
  - Edits discussed in meeting to be made (Charley)
  - Wayne propose tremie definition
  - Workgroup to review Monitoring Well document from Contaminated Sites
  - Workgroup review comments from John on format of BMPs
  
- **Next Meeting is Tuesday March 24, 2015 6:00-8:00pm**