

Reclaimed Water Rule Advisory Committee

February 14, 2007, 9:30 – 2:30

The Priory Conference Center

Lacey, Washington

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Attendees: See attached list

Action Items:

- Ecology will follow-up on additional information requests received during the Permit Process Puzzle Pieces discussion.
- DOH and Ecology will report work through the application/permit process discussed under PP#4 and report back to the committee.

Agreements:

- Add the Farm Bureau to the Committee
- Kathy will email any relevant legislation to committee members.

Opening:

Following introductions and an overview of the agenda, Lori Isenberg introduced the 3-step process developed by Ecology to work through the various topics within the puzzle pieces. The steps are:

- Step I: Introduction of the topic / Group discussion / Identify areas that need more discussion.
- Step II: Continued discussion as needed to come to agreement on concepts. Identify areas that still need more discussion.
- Step III: Ecology to prepare draft language

Building the Picture using Examples - Katharine Cupps

Purpose: This agenda item will provide examples and explanations of the reclaimed water permit process.

Katharine answered questions as she went through the PowerPoint presentation.

Outcome: The group expressed appreciation for the examples and explanation. They asked Kathy to post the presentation on the website and encouraged her to continue to use examples and hyper-links to other WACs.

The Permitting Process This agenda item is Step 2 for Puzzle Pieces 1-9 of the Permitting Process puzzle piece.

Purpose: This agenda item provides the opportunity for conversation regarding these puzzle pieces with a focus on building agreement on the concepts.

Kathy used the green-yellow-red card process to solicit feedback from the group as she presented the concepts. (Green card means agree/support the discussion; yellow indicates need for more discussion or neutral support; red indicates significant questions exist or disagreement).

Outcomes:

Puzzle Piece #1: Reclaimed Water Use Permit Required.

Concepts received unanimous green card support.

Puzzle Piece #2: Reclaimed Water Use Permit Not Required.

Concepts received preliminary support following much discussion and agreement that more information is needed on some items as noted below:

- More information needed (action item) on how to address new technologies, small systems, what's covered within this rule, different end uses, cross-jurisdictional issues, etc.
- A list of definitions would be helpful for things such as significant risk and beneficial use/beneficial purpose.
- More information needed on how to address/define significant risk of public contact.
- List of things not covered in the WAC.
- Follow-up on discussion related to the intent and water quality concerns.

Puzzle Piece #3: Permittee

Concepts received preliminary support following much discussion and agreement that more information is needed on some items as noted below:

- Committee members expressed concern with—and want more information related to—apparent inconsistencies with other statutes and WACs.
- More information needed related to one versus multiple permittees. The group took an informal vote on a preference for one or multiple permittees. The group was split between one permittee and needing more information.
- Clarification of terminology and responsibility of permittee/owner/operator.
- How will new technologies be handled?

Puzzle Piece #4: Issuing Agency and Relationship to Other Permits

Concepts received preliminary support following much discussion and agreement that more information is needed on some items as noted below:

- Ecology and DOH need to work through the application and permit process and report back to the committee.
- Several questions on fees were raised. Should there be a reclaimed water use fee? Is no fee an option to encourage reclaimed water use? More discussion is needed on fee issues.

Puzzle Piece #5: Applying for a Reclaimed Water Permit

There was much discussion related to the need for certainty and predictability when applying for a permit. Things such as escalating costs and credibility with the public were mentioned. Agency turn-around time to review and issue or deny a permit was discussed.

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Questions about Permitting by Rule options were also raised. More discussion is needed in these areas before agreement on the concepts can be reached.

Comments from the audience

Ed Thorpe - The number of reclaimed water use permits requested will fluctuate enough from year to year that we probably want to look at specific fees for reclaimed water use.

Wrap-up

- Lori reviewed the action items.
- Wrap-up comments from the audience indicated overall agreement that the meeting process was good with suggestions to move faster through some items. A few people mentioned they are still not comfortable with the order in which the topics are being addressed, but they are willing to go along with the process as outlined by Ecology.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2:35.

Attendees

Department of Ecology

Melissa McEachron, Rule Coordinator

Katharine Cupps, Agency Lead

Lori Isenberg, Facilitator

Department of Health

Maryanne Guichard, Director, Office of Shellfish and Water Protection

Dave Lenning, Environmental Health and Safety

In attendance

Members

Department of Ecology (WRP)

Department of Ecology (WQP)

Department of Health

City of Olympia

King County

Spokane County

Kitsap County

LOTT Alliance

Sno-King Water Alliance

Evergreen Valley Utilities

Washington Water & Sewer Assoc.

WA PUDs Assoc.

Pacific Northwest Clean Water Assoc.

Cascade Water Alliance

Puget Sound Action Team

Department of Corrections

Lakehaven Utility District

People for Puget Sound

Center for Justice

Lynn Coleman

Nancy Winters

Craig Riley

Tikva Breuer

Peggy Leonard

Dave Moss

Keith Folkerts

Karla Fowler

Skip Schott

Clint Perry

Walt Canter

John Kounts

James Hagstrom

Judy Nelson

Scott Redman

Garin Schriever

Don Perry

Heather Trim

Bonne Beavers

Alternates

City of Lacey

WWSA

PNCWA

Cascade Water Alliance

Tim Wilson

Hal Schlomann

Paul Schuler

Dennis Holden