

Drainfield to Surface Water Setback Distance Subcommittee
Teleconference Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 09/09/2010, 10:00 am

Teleconference
Date: 2010-09-09
Start: 10:00 am

Attendance: Boise: AJ Maupin, PE; Joe Canning, PE
Hayden: Dick Martindale
Idaho Falls: Nathan Taylor
Kimberley: Dr. Jim Ippolito, Ph.D. USDA
Missing: George Miles, PE; Allen Worst; Bill Holder, PE; John Corcoran (Realtor Association Representative); Brett Skidmore (Building Contractors Association Representative);
Meeting called to order at 10:10 am.

Past Meeting minutes:

Prior meeting minutes were not completed in time for subcommittee member review. Approval of prior meeting minutes postponed until next meeting.

White Paper

The focus groups gave an update on the status of their white paper sections. Nathan is working on the section for PPCP/EDC; Joe and Allen have already provided their summary on Pathogens; Bill is reviewing a draft that Dick put together on the Nitrogen; Jim has compiled the Phosphorus section.

A request had been voiced to have this white paper ready for the November TGC meeting. This request will not be able to be met due to current workloads. It was recommended that the TGC members present on this subcommittee give the full TGC an update on the subcommittee's progress, including the status of the white paper.

General Discussion

Due to poor participation due to scheduling conflicts, a general discussion occurred. A concern was voiced about a subcommittee member's efforts to alter Panhandle Health District's Rules that limit the area requirements for building a home directly over the Spokane River – Rathdrum Prairie Sensitive Resource Aquifer. Currently, this limitation requires a minimum of five (5) acres in order to obtain a subsurface sewage disposal permit. It was pointed out that increasing development density does not impact separation distance requirements to surface water within the current regulatory structure. It was pointed out that the vast majority of soils over this Sensitive Resource Aquifer are classified as unsuitable (Gravel and coarse sands). Concerns were voiced about how Washington State would perceive this activity considering the extensive effort they have embraced to remove septic systems for over the aquifer and place these wastewaters into new collection systems and wastewater treatment facilities specially design and constructed to remove phosphorus.

Next Meeting Schedule:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 14 October 2010, from 10:00 am MDT (9:00 am PDT) to 12:00 pm MDT (11:00 am PDT).

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Next Meeting Topic: