



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Water Supply-Water Conservation
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
August 18, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Wastewater and Water Supply-Water Conservation Technical Coordinating Committees met on Wednesday, August 18, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Jeff Bledsoe, City of Stockbridge
Chris Browning, Fulton County
Charles Corbin, Keck & Wood, Inc.
Ernest Earn, Cobb County Water System
Wanda Floyd, City of Canton
Catherine Fox, FOX Environmental, LLC
Mary Gazaway, Georgia EPD
Horace Gee, City of Gainesville
Terrell Gibbs, Rockdale County
Steve Green, Douglasville-Douglas County
Water and Sewerage Authority
Tonja Halton-Mincey, Henry County Water
and Sewerage Authority
Thomas Heard, Cherokee County Water and
Sewerage Authority
Chris Hindman, City of Fayetteville
Donna Joe, Gwinnett County
Nolton Johnson, City of Atlanta
James Keen, City of East Point
Russell Kelly, Paulding County Water System
Sam Krishnan, City of Atlanta
Melinda Langston, City of Atlanta Department
of Watershed Management
Linda Liu, Coweta County

Don McKenzie, City of Locust Grove
Becky Mixon, Cobb County-Marietta Water
Authority
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water System
Jodi O'Brien, Gwinnett County
Glenn Page, Cobb County-Marietta Water
Authority
Steve Payne, Town of Braselton
Guy Pihera, Clayton County Water Authority
Timothy Pugh, Paulding County Water
System
Russell Ray, Fayette County Water System
Ken Rearden, Hall County
Monica Robinson, Fulton County Department
of Health and Wellness
Jerri Russell, City of Atlanta
Jim Scarbrough, Gwinnett County
Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock
Margaret Tanner, MACTEC Engineering &
Consulting, Inc.
Tracy Thigpen, Coweta County
Keith Watkins, Clayton County Water
Authority

Pat Stevens of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

Public Comment Period

Laura Hartt with the Upper Chattahoochee River Keeper expressed her support of the additional water conservation measures that the TCC would be evaluating during the meeting. She also recommended that the TCC consider being more aggressive with reducing unaccounted for water loss and re-evaluate current conservation pricing structures to further increase water savings.

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Update on the Draft District Water Audit Software Guidance Document

Abby Owens of the Metro Water District staff informed the group that no additional comments were received on the draft Metro Water District Water Audit Software Guidance. She informed the group that the document was sent to the AWWA Water Loss Committee for their review and feedback and only typographical changes were suggested. Mrs. Owens asked the group if there were any further comments. There were no additional comments and Mrs. Owens informed the group that the document will be reviewed and finalized by the small discussion group.

Draft Model Car Wash Ordinance: Comments Received and Recommendation

Mrs. Owens informed the group that the draft Model Car Wash Ordinance did receive additional comments during the public comment period and those comments are included in the meeting packet. Based on the comments received, three changes were made to the ordinance. First, in-bay car washes are exempt from this ordinance because they are typically attached to convenience stores/gas stations; wash significantly fewer cars than stand alone car washes; are typically not attended; and these facilities generally do not recycle water. A number of comments received suggested that a requirement be placed on the amount of recycled water; therefore, the language "A minimum of 50% of water utilized will be recycled" was added to Section 3.1. Finally, "regardless of the water source" was removed from Section 2.1.3 and added to the end of Section 1.1.1 for clarification purposes. Mrs. Owens asked the group if there were any further comments. There were no additional comments and Mrs. Owens informed the group that the ordinance as is will be taken to the Board for their adoption.

Draft Model Water Waste Ordinance

Mrs. Owens presented the draft Model Water Waste Ordinance to the group and explained that the new ordinance is a simplified version of the ordinance that was brought to the TCC late last fall. The main portion of the ordinance is based on Fulton County's Waste of Water Policy and the box of optional sections that can be used to further define the policy is based on the feedback that staff received at the TCC meeting last fall. Mrs. Owens asked the group if there were any further comments. There were no additional comments and she informed the group that this version of the ordinance will be taken to the Board for their adoption.

US EPA Water Sense for New Homes

Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water System, presented the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense for New Homes program to the group. She explained that WaterSense welcomes local governments to provide more specific guidance and resources for builders in their areas. Mrs. Nguyen explained to the group that she and Tim Perkins, Forsyth County Water System, are leading a small group of local landscape and building professionals to begin the discussion and development of these guidance documents. The question was asked about what the timeline for developing and implementing this program would be. Mrs. Nguyen stated that the group hopes to have a draft of the guidance documents ready early next year for review and Ms. Stevens stated that the recommendations from the Chattahoochee/Lanier group state that the District will prepare guidance and implement the mandatory WaterSense for New Homes program by the end of 2012. One group member asked how certification of WaterSense will be verified and Mrs. Nguyen explained that Southface has already begun working with WaterSense to become a certified inspector for the program. She also stated that local governments can choose to adopt the specifications of WaterSense for New Homes into their local building codes and have their building inspectors trained as WaterSense inspectors to certify new homes as WaterSense. Another question was asked regarding section 3.2 in the WaterSense certification stating that the public water supplier will provide

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“documentation that the service pressure is unlikely to regularly exceed 60 psi at the home on a daily or seasonal basis” and could Mrs. Nguyen explain this requirement. Mrs. Nguyen said that she would ask EPA WaterSense staff for more clarification.

Recommendation from the Chattahoochee/Lanier Subgroup

Pat Stevens reminded the group that the utilities directly affected by Judge Magnusson’s ruling that limits the operation of Lake Lanier for water supply have been meeting regularly since the fall of 2009 to consider additional conservation measures. The work group reviewed over 70 water conservation measures and evaluated the most implementable of these measures. The two memos included in the meeting packet provide the analysis of the implementable measures and the list of measures that the group recommends for consideration as amendments to the 2009 Water Supply and Water Conservation Plan. The group recommendation includes six new measures for implementation by the water systems dependent on water supply from Lake Lanier and the Chattahoochee River and two measures for implementation District-wide. Ms. Stevens asked the group for comments regarding these measures. One member commented that the memo for public comment should highlight the idea that saving water also leads to energy savings because of the energy not used to transport and treat the water before and after use. No other comments were received and Ms. Stevens informed the group that these measures would be taken to the Board for approval to send them out for public comment.

Other

Pat Stevens reminded the group that the Metro Water District’s Water System Audit Workshop is September 23. The workshop will review the Free AWWA Water Audit Software and presenters from local governments will provide additional guidance based on their experience with the software.

The meeting was adjourned.