



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Water Supply-Water Conservation
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
August 17, 2011**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Water Supply-Water Conservation Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) met on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in the Allen S. Hardin Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Nick Ammons, Fulton County
Chris Boyd, City of Roswell
John Butler, Gwinnett County
Todd Cleaver, Gwinnett County
Charles Corbin, Keck & Wood, Inc.
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County
Earnest Earn, Cobb County Water System
Kris Garcia, City of Atlanta
Horace Gee, City of Gainesville
Terrell Gibbs, Rockdale County Water Resources
Tonja Halton-Mincey, Henry County Water and Sewerage Authority
Keith Higgs, Douglasville-Douglas County WSA
Chris Hindman, City of Fayetteville
Russell Kelly, Paulding County Water System
Sam Krishnan, City of Atlanta
Jennifer Carlile, City of Atlanta
Jennifer McLaurin, Fulton County

Becky Mixon, Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority
Heather Moody, Gwinnett County
Terry Moy, Clayton County Water Authority
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water System
Glenn Page, Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority
Tony Parrott, Fayette County Water System
Erika Pigott, City of Atlanta
Timothy Pugh, Paulding County Water System
Kelly Randall, City of Gainesville
Richard Randolph, City of East Point
Jim Scarbrough, Gwinnet County Water
Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock
Keith Watkins, Clayton County Water Authority
James Webb, Fulton County
Emily Wingo, Georgia Environmental Protection Division

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

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

GEFA Water System Interconnection, Redundancy and Reliability Act Study

Kevin Kelly, Water Resources Director with GEFA, and project manager for GEFA's Water System Interconnection, Redundancy and Reliability Act study presented a brief overview of the study and announced to the group that they are on track to meet the final report deadline of September 15th. He explained that the proposed project list will not be released until the final report is released. It will include recommendations to use existing emergency interconnections and propose projects to address the calculated deficits. Mr. Kelly introduced Steve Lavinder, Regional Vice President of CH2M Hill.

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Mr. Lavinder presented an update of the project's status to the group. He reviewed the primary components of the project and explained the short- and long-term scenarios that were modeled. He also reviewed the deficit calculations and explained that critical scenario deficits were determined to be the largest calculated deficit for each qualified water system. A total of 23 systems had critical scenario deficits and most can address the deficits using existing emergency interconnections. Mr. Lavinder explained that other systems will need capital improvements. Mr. Lavinder explained that they utilized demand forecasts in the Metro Water District's Management Plans. Another group member asked whether the final report will take into account the recent decrease in water demand since the 2009 Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan was published and whether the 2035 projections and assumptions will still be applied. Mr. Lavinder explained that legislation requires this report to be updated as the Management Plants are updated. They are required to use 2035 demand projections but will include a disclaimer in the report explaining the need to extend the timeline for proposed projects. Another group member asked if emergency power feeds were included in the evaluation. Mr. Lavinder explained that based on conversations with some utilities, some treatment plants have still lost power with two power feeds so full credit was not given unless a system had an emergency generator.

Results of Research on High-Efficiency Clothes Washer and Dishwasher Standards

Marissa Duff presented the results of research done on high-efficiency clothes washer and dishwasher standards. The National Energy Policy and Conservation Act sets federal energy and water efficiency standards for appliances and authorizes the Department of Energy to regulate these standards. In July 2010 a group of national stakeholders drafted a petition to the Department of Energy encouraging them to adopt stricter federal standards for clothes washers and dishwashers. In May 2011, Senate Bill 398 was introduced to Congress proposing an amendment to the National Energy Policy and Conservation Act to include the same increased appliance standards. The Department of Energy is required to review standards for clothes washers in December 2011 and for dishwashers in 2015. Ms. Duff explained that based on the pending legislation in Congress and the Department of Energy's authority to regulate federal requirements, it does not appear that additional requirements need to be considered by the Metro Water District at this time. The group agreed that the progress made on a federal level is adequate to address the need for high-efficiency clothes washers and dishwashers. One group member suggested we educate the necessary sectors when the federal regulations are passed.

Report from Basin Advisory Council Joint Meeting: Water-Energy Connection

Ms. Duff summarized the Water-Energy Connection group discussion that took place during the Basin Advisory Council Joint Meeting in July. The discussion focused on the need for increased collaboration between the water and energy sectors. The group was asked to comment on the topic and provide input on what next steps should be investigated. Another group member expressed the need for increased coordination between energy conservation outreach and water utilities. It was proposed that energy conservation and water conservation staff be included in the next WSWC TCC meeting.

Water Meter Technology Presentations

Mitch Elliot with Neptune Technology Group, Inc. presented information about the technology available from Neptune meters for point of use leak detection.

Greg Gapinski with IBM presented information to the group about IBM's Smarter Planet approach and Smart Water Management. Mr. Gapinski explained that IBM works to provide solutions to smarter water metering.

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Other

Ms. Duff announced to the group that the District has submitted comments on the Regional Water Council draft plans and encouraged the group to read over the comments. These draft regional water plans affect the Metro Water District so it is important to be aware of the proposed actions outlined in each plan.

The 2011 Implementation Surveys are due to Sarah Simmons by August 24th. Each jurisdiction has been asked to review last year's 2010 Implementation Survey Responses and either provide updates or report no change.

The Metro Water District is partnering with Building Operators and Managers of Atlanta (BOMA) to offer a Cooling Tower 101 Workshop on September 13, 2011 for building engineers, facility managers, and water utility staff. The group was asked to pass this information on to customers with cooling towers or other interested parties. For more information, contact Marissa Duff at 404-463-3278.

Ms. Duff announced to the group that the District has updated its low-flow pre-rinse spray valve brochure. There is an updated list of approved pre-rinse spray valves, updated water/energy/cost savings and additional resources. Local water providers are required in the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan to offer a pre-rinse spray valve retrofit education program. Ms. Duff explained to the group that due to high turnover in restaurant management, it is still important to distribute information on low-flow pre-rinse spray valves. Brochures can be ordered from Charlene Njoroge by calling 404-463-3259.

The Metro Water District, in partnership with Georgia Power, is offering the GreenPlumbers Training and Accreditation Program through a series of four workshops starting September 16th and ending December 9th. The group was asked to pass this information on to plumbers in their jurisdictions. For more information, contact Lora Nance at 404-463-3267.

With no other announcements, the meeting was adjourned.