

**Minnesota 3M PFC Settlement
Drinking Water Supply Technical Subgroup 1 Meeting
December 19, 2018 Meeting Notes**

Members in attendance:

Brian Bachmeier	Ray Kaiser	Richard Thron
Lisa Barajas	Jim Kotsmith	Jared Trost
Mark Brigham	Gary Krueger	Jamie Wallerstedt
Chris Bryan	Kan Lais	Jim Westerman
Ryan Burfeind	Steve Love	
Stephen Ebner	Jon Herdegen (alt)	
Kurt Haakinson	Sam Paske	
Todd Hubmer	Stephanie Souter	
Greg Johnson	Jim Stanton	

Presenters:

- Connie Travers, Dave Mills, and Terill Hollweg, Abt Associates (Abt)

Welcome and Introductions

Barb Naramore welcomed Subgroup 1 and invited the subgroup members to introduce themselves.

Overview of Project Planning Process

Barb provided an overview of the 2018 settlement agreement and project planning process. The goal of the 3M Grant is to ensure safe drinking water in sufficient supply to residents and businesses in the East Metropolitan area to meet their current and future needs. To meet this goal, a collaborative approach is needed to thoroughly identify, evaluate, and select long-term solutions. In particular, it was noted that there is a need to consider regional approaches to providing sustainable sources of drinking water in the area covered by the settlement. While this planning process is going on, funding is available for short-term fixes to ensure residents have safe drinking water in the interim.

This subgroup will be supporting the development of the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan, with additional support and involvement from the two work groups, Subgroup 2, MPCA, DNR, and state contractors (Abt and Wood).

Overview of Organizational Structure, Progress to Date, and Charter

Terill Hollweg provided an overview of the organization structure and progress to date of the Minnesota 3M PFC (PFAS) Settlement. The 2018 Agreement and Order established the 3M Grant for Water Quality and Sustainability Fund that will be used to fund projects that are reasonable and necessary to achieve the purposes of the Agreement, based on three priorities. As outlined in the Agreement, the MPCA and DNR have the ultimate responsibility to determine the projects to be implemented under this Agreement. However, the MPCA and DNR recognize the importance of involving the communities and technical experts in the project planning process, so they have established two work groups and one subgroup (and will establish two more subgroups) to help identify and recommend projects for funding under the Grant.

The two work groups were established in July and have been meeting monthly. To date, the MPCA and DNR with support from the work groups have developed group charters, program goals, project screening and evaluation criteria, and an initial charge for Subgroup 1. The MPCA and DNR with support from the work groups have also initiated activities to support the development of the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan, including developing an outline, task assignments, timeline, and compilation of relevant documents. As start-up activities are wrapping up, the State is shifting to planning activities, including the initiation of Subgroup 2.

Terill also presented the draft Subgroup 1 charter. The charter is a guiding document for the group's operations, helping ensure everyone has a common understanding of the group's goals and objectives, and roles and responsibilities. The primary role of Subgroup 1 is to analyze options and deliver assessments and advice to the work groups on long-term drinking water supply options. As part of this, they will be supporting the development of the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan by the end of 2019. The charter also provides information on group membership, decision-making authority, reporting, and meeting frequency.

Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan

Connie Travers presented an overview of the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan. This presentation included an overview of the proposed content, the general process for developing the preferred alternative, and the schedule for completing the plan by December 2019. In addition, she walked through the Subgroup 1 responsibilities to support the development of the plan. As proposed, Subgroup 1 is tasked with reviewing the initial sets of documents that have been compiled and identifying/sharing additional information as needed; reviewing the initial list of technical approaches proposed and identifying additional technical approaches as needed; summarizing and evaluating feasibility requirements for technical approaches; reviewing and identifying additional concept-level projects as needed; providing technical input on the application of project criteria to concept-level projects; and helping evaluate alternative project bundles and recommending a preferred alternative. The co-Trustees with support from the state contractors will be responsible for writing the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan, with review and input from Subgroup 1 and the work groups.

Document Compilation and Additional Information Needs

Connie Travers presented an overview of the documents and additional information that have been compiled to support the development of the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan. This includes a bibliography of relevant documents and a spreadsheet with community profile information. This presentation noted that both of these items are "living documents" that will continue to evolve as the subgroup continues its work. A SharePoint site has been set up to store this information and collaborate on document review. Before the next meeting, the subgroup members were asked to review the files and provide additional information as needed. There was a discussion on the types of data and information to include, and how to reconcile differences across different sources.

Connie Travers also provided an overview of the Washington County Municipal Water Coalition Water Supply Feasibility Assessment. She discussed the objectives of the feasibility assessment, the approaches that were evaluated, and the types of information that were provided. The discussion emphasized how the assessment addressed a number of topics of interest to the subgroup and was the source for some of the information presented for the community profiles while also recognizing the assessment did not address all the needs of the subgroup. A subgroup member noted that the purpose of the report was to look at the sustainability of water resources, and not to manage PFAS contamination.

Initial List of Technical Approaches

Dave Mills presented on the initial set of technical approaches that are proposed to be considered in the Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan. This includes the four alternatives evaluated in the Washington County Municipal Water Coalition Water Supply Feasibility Assessment, as well as four additional alternatives.

Next Steps

Dave discussed the homework assignment requests for Subgroup 1, including reviewing the community profiles and bibliography, and providing additional information where needed. MPCA and DNR will provide additional guidance in a follow-up email.

The subgroup also discussed ways to coordinate and communicate between meetings. The subgroup members also recommended setting up additional meetings to supplement the monthly meetings.

The next meeting will be on January 16, 2019.

Public Comments and Questions

Members of the public were given the opportunity to ask questions. A question was asked about the decision-making process.