

**MINUTES**  
**CARD/DEQ Quarterly Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Washtenaw County Western Service Center, Room 2010

Present: Mitch Adelman, Bob Bailey, Vince Caruso, Priscilla Cheever, Elizabeth Collins, Jennifer Conn, Jim Crowfoot, Marcia Haddox, Dan Hamel, Jeff Hayner, Laura Hindle, Bryce Kelley, Kathy Knol, Todd Lands, Sue Leeming, Kevin Lund, Kathleen McDonald, Shana Milkie, Michael Moran, Matt Naud, David Neal, Sara Nedrich, Brian Negele, Max Pettibone, Cynthia Price, Roger Rayle, Kristen Schweighoefer, Jim Schulz

Meeting called to order by Jennifer Conn at 10:01 a.m.

1. We did introductions.

2. Minutes from the 10/02/18 meeting were approved.

3. 10/29/18 EPA/Stakeholder Meeting:

a. Roger Rayle summarized the meeting for the group, stating that it was well-attended. He made a video of the meeting and added notes to it. He urges other attendees to add their comments as well.

b. Vince Caruso stated that he was disappointed that the DEQ did not disclose at the meeting that a finding of 19 ppb of dioxane had been found in West Park. If homeowners are pumping out water from their basements at 280 ppb of dioxane or more, they would be in violation of the groundwater/surface water interface criterion. He noted that the DEQ had no plans to do near surface water testing until CARD requested it; it is to DEQ's credit that it has done some testing and has plan to do more. Also, the pipe at West Park picks up groundwater that is close to the surface; it is intended to reduce erosion near basements and on the hillsides. Vince added that he was glad the meeting included critical stakeholders. In addition, he noted that he was surprised to learn from Michael Berkoff that the EPA probably would have approved the Superfund designation for the Gelman site if Governor Snyder hadn't opposed it.

c. Roger Rayle brought up that in Maryland, dioxane is spreading under a river where local officials thought the geology would prevent it from doing that. This means that another drinking water source is now contaminated.

d. Mitch Adelman reminded the group that in 2004, DEQ went to court and successfully received the decision to restore the aquifer to unrestricted use. However, Gelman challenged the decision and the locally-elected judge (Donald Shelton) agreed that Gelman only needed to ensure that people were not exposed to the contamination. He also noted that the state did initiate a shallow surface water investigation based on the proposed rules in April of 2016. Gelman implemented the workplan, which focused on the upper 20 feet and looked at about 30 locations. In response to Vince's Superfund comment, Mitch replied that the site is not eligible based on the facts that people are not at imminent risk and there is an existing consent judgment. He added that Michigan has been active in Superfund since it began in 1980.

e. Vince stated that Part 201 needs to be more protective of people and the environment. Sue Leeming responded that she has heard from other communities who are also frustrated. She

recommends working with other groups to pressure legislators across the state. Kathy Knol noted that Scio Township has actively petitioned for EPA involvement in the Gelman site. Review for placement on the National Priorities List (NPL) could take one to two years, so the EPA route won't be a quick fix.

#### 4. DEQ updates with Dan Hamel and other DEQ personnel:

a. Dan conducted surface water sampling on 9/18/18 and 9/19/18. This time of year was chosen to sample during a dry period. The data is posted at the DEQ website. A 19 ppb reading was detected at West Park; last year it was at 4 ppb. Washtenaw County reached out to the DEQ to discuss the Allen Creek results. In November, Dan met with Evan Pratt, Jennifer Conn, and a representative from the City of Ann Arbor. The group agreed to do additional sampling in the future.

b. Dan plans to split sampling on the monitoring wells before the end of the year. He is waiting for Larry Lemke to get approval from Gelman to also conduct split sampling so they can do it together. If Larry is not able to get approval by the end of the year, Dan will do the sampling anyway.

c. There is a lot of activity happening on the Porter St. pump house. Gelman has received permits to do the upgrades. Pits were dug to determine the location of underground pipes and were left open while Gelman was getting the permits. A foundation will be poured for a new building, which will enclose the old building. Gelman will do a temporary shutdown of the pump house to switch over the systems. Gelman is hoping to have construction done by the end of the year. The new pump house will be raised so that water will not collect in the new building the way it did in the old, which was dangerous for workers. The quarterly reports from Gelman contain notices of shutdowns.

d. Dan has a draft ready of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly report. It will be out by the end of the November. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly report, which will contain an evaluation of trends, will be posted in early 2019.

#### 5. Updates from CARD chair Roger Rayle:

a. Observations on the plume – it is still the largest plume of its type. Dioxane is still moving offsite 34 years after its discovery in 1984. Sometime the plume moves in narrow channels. Roger shared Larry Lemke's "playdough" model which visualizes these channels. Gelman found some of these channels in its Wagner Rd. cross-sections. PLS-05-04 had a 4300 ppb reading yet it still hasn't been sampled. GSI-98-02 showed 7500-8600 ppb, which is the highest concentration east of Wagner Rd., yet there is no ongoing monitoring.

b. Dan Hamel received information from Gelman about GSI-98-02. Gelman did the boring to evaluate the geological condition prior to installing the horizontal well. The installed well was pumped from 2000 to 2005. Roger noted that GSI-98-01, -02, and -03 were all installed prior to the installation of the horizontal well, and GSI-98-03 also showed dioxane concentrations. GSI-98-01 has no sampling results. Dan Hamel will ask Gelman about the -01 boring. Roger expressed concern that the DEQ is not receiving all data from Gelman.

c. Roger suggested that monitoring wells MW-5d and MW-1(replacement) need to be looked at.

d. Gelman briefly owned 410 Jackson Plaza. It did some monitoring there but there was no dioxane sampling. We don't know whether people were/are exposed to dioxane at this site.

e. Monitoring well MW82-s showed about 400 ppb dioxane. The contaminated aquifers may be exposed where the surface falls away.

f. Roger noted that it is beneficial that the DEQ is doing periodic monitoring around the periphery of the plume.

g. Priscilla Cheever asked why the missing data in the database can't be added. Roger added that he also would like to see the missing data included as an archive. For example, Gelman used to include data from the Michigan Dept. of Public Health in the database. It is concerning that prior data (e.g. the 1995 database) was not included in the 1998 database. For example, MW30d had a 9 ppb reading in 1993, but the current database does not show anything for 1993.

#### 6. Lockwood development:

a. The proposed development property is currently zoned as single family housing. The single farmhouse that used to exist on the site was demolished 10 years ago. The well at 3365 Jackson Rd. is proposed to be plugged as part of the development. b. Roger presented data implying that narrow channels of dioxane could flow through locations on the site. The group noted that the developer could be required to drill a new well to replace the capped residential well. Roger suggested that it would be beneficial to install a range of monitoring wells in the area.

c. Kevin Lund of the DEQ and Evan Pratt of Washtenaw County Water Resources are part of a committee to evaluate dioxane implications and other water management issues on the site. The team is implementing new best practices to manage stormwater on the site. At Evan's request, Kevin will present his analysis at the December 4 Planning Commission meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

#### Next regular CARD meetings:

- Tuesday, December 4, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 8, 2019, 5:30 p.m.

#### Next Quarterly CARD/DEQ Meeting:

- Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by CARD secretary Shana Milkie, with input from CARD officers and executive director.