

WELL DRILLERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LIAISON REPORT – GEORGE W. MANN

MEETING DATE – JANUARY 11, 2017

Overview of Upcoming January 2017 DEP/WMD/DOH/FGWA Workgroup Meeting, WMIS Modifications, and Compliance

Mr. David Arnold, P.G., provided a summary of the upcoming January 2017 DEP/WMD/DOH/FGWA workgroup meeting. Besides working to update the water well contractor licensing examination, the workgroup will discuss the recently enacted Statutory requirement of 120.695(b), Florida Statutes with regard to well construction regulation.

Overview of GIS Map Viewers used in Well Construction Permitting

Mr. Axel Griner provided live demonstrations of two existing District GIS map viewers and one District GIS map viewer under construction that are of interest to the well construction industry. WDAC board and audience feedback was collected and is anticipated to be incorporated into viewer that is under construction prior to releasing to the public.

Aquifer Recharge at the Flatford Swamp for SWUCA Recovery and Natural System Improvement

Mr. Don Ellison, P.G., provided a presentation of a feasibility study at the Flatford Swamp to evaluate an aquifer recharge project using up to 2 mgd of excess surface water draining into the Flatford Swamp. If feasible, this project may help recover groundwater levels by recharging up to 10 mgd in the Most Impacted Area of the SWUCA, reducing the rate of saltwater intrusion. Another benefit of removing excess water from the swamp is that it will help restore the swamp's natural hydrologic period and vegetation patterns. Based on data presented, the WDAC provided approval of the feasibility study noting that, if successful, this project could be of significant benefit to the groundwater resource for that area.

Clearwater Groundwater Replenishment Project Update

Mr. Robert Peterson, P.G., provided a presentation on the Clearwater Groundwater Replenishment Project. This has been a cooperatively funded project between the District and the City of Clearwater from desktop feasibility to pilot testing, and currently through design, permitting and construction of the full scale project. The city's Groundwater Replenishment Project is a two-step program that includes purifying reclaimed water to better-than-drinking-water standards and recharging the aquifer using the purified water. An Advanced Water Purification Plant (AWPP) will be constructed at the city's existing Northeast Water Reclamation Facility (NEWRF). The plant will have the capacity to produce up to 3 million gallons of purified water every day. The project currently is at 60% design review. Additional updates will be provided periodically to present the final design, permitting outcome, and construction progress.

Dover/Plant City Water Use Caution Area

Mr. Darrin Herbst, P.G., provided a presentation showing updates to District rules, policies, and procedures for Water Use and Well Construction Permits that occurred after the unprecedented 2010 freeze event in the Plant City/Dover area. Mr Herbst's presentation included a discussion of additional areas of required casing depths for new potable wells, incorporation of the Dover Water Use Caution Area, partnering with the University of Florida and others to add and maintain a weather station in the Dover/Plant City area as part of the the Florida Automated Weather Network, revising the allocation process to provide more equitable assignment of well complaints to WUP holders, and a check-and-balance approach to verify whether modifications are needed to District Water Use and Well Construction rules, policies, and procedures for that area.

Water – It's What We Make It

Mr. Ted Dyer of DYCO Water Systems provided a demonstration of how dishonest water treatment companies can make perfectly good quality water look bad to scare the public into purchasing unnecessary water treatment equipment. Mr. Dyer's intent was to educate members of the audience of a couple scare tactics commonly used in the event that water withdrawn from a water well they constructed is called into question by a dishonest water treatment company.