DRAFT Meeting Notes for the State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup
April 13, 2021; 1:30 – 3:00PM

Zoom Meeting

**Members**: Virginia de Lima (Co-Chair), David Radka (Co-Chair), Dan Aubin (DPH alternate), Corinne Fitting (DEEP), Mike Dietz (UConn), Bruce Wittchen (OPM), Ally Ayotte (PURA), Denise Savageau (SWCD), Tom Tyler (MDC), Steve Rupar (WSP), Lou Rosado Burch (CCE)

**Note Taker(s):** Ali Hibbard (DEEP)

**Public:** Iris Herz Kaminski (New Haven), Mary Ann Dickinson (AWE)

**Meeting Starts 1:30 p.m.**

**Topics of Discussion**

**Changes to Agenda**

* Moved Drought sub-workgroup up in the agenda to accommodate schedule conflicts.

**Approval/Modification of Notes from previous meeting**

* Notes approved; Tom Tyler abstained

**Domestic Wells WQ sub-workgroup (Mike Dietz)**

* Last meeting was attended by Virginia and Dave, and the group worked on the justification for proposed regulation changes to test for arsenic, uranium, and possibly radon in drinking water wells for all real estate transactions.
* Staff at DPH radon section recommended not to include radon because:
	+ Radon is not required to be tested for in community water supply systems
	+ EPA does not have an enforceable drinking water standard for radon
	+ Collecting a radon sample is not straightforward and would likely be difficult for homeowners
	+ Identifying the radon partition volatilized from water that contributes to a dwelling’s overall air radon level would likely be complex and make mitigation difficult at the residential level
	+ Currently relying on home inspections/mortgage company requirements to rest for radon in air
	+ USGS has mapped areas where radon potential may be high, but it may still be a good idea to test no matter what. Could be complicated to tell people to look at the map.
* Virginia and Dave reported that at the April 6 WPC meeting Lori Mathieu felt strongly that radon should be included because it is a health hazard. She felt that DPH should develop a standard if EPA has not. There was concern that including radon could jeopardize any proposed changes to legislation or regulation
* Virginia suggested that the topical sub-workgroup discuss making two recommendations; one, that legislation be drawn up to include uranium and arsenic as required analytes. and two, that DPH develop a standard and that the required analytes be amended to include radon if and when such a standard is adopted. The topical sub-workgroup will continue to discuss.

**Drought Plan topical sub-workgroup (Steve Rupar)**

* Met on 3/19 and 4/9 to continue to focus on generating a report. Target date for a complete report to IWG is May 7th
* Interagency Drought Workgroup has started an investigation of how the 2020 drought was handled. Several sub-workgroup members are also on the Interagency Drought Workgroup, so there is communication between the groups.

**Alliance for Water Efficiency – Rates Workshop (Mary Ann Dickinson)**

* Workshop went well and was well-attended with 85 people. In addition, 55 people have also viewed the recordings.
* No inquiries from utilities yet. AWE is available to help if questions arise.

**Water Fixture Efficiency Flyer Revisions**

* Flyer produced by AWE was well received by Water Planning Council (WPC)
* WPC will continue discussions with the Department of Consumer Protection and Department of Administrative Services and could begin push for next legislative session during the summer. IWG will follow up with WPC to ensure this happens.
* WPC asked where neighboring states are with this - AWE has put together resources on this and will resend
* WPC also asked about existing stock of non-WaterSense fixtures – this could be handled by setting the effective date in the future to prevent pushback from suppliers
* Mary Ann confirmed that $50k grant from Connecticut Water has been exhausted

**FOIA Requirements**

* OPM feels strongly that all sub-workgroups must follow FOIA guidelines
* All sub-workgroups are taking some type of notes or meeting minutes.
* Could have a generic agenda, but strive to have detailed agendas for members of the public to know if a particular group or meeting would be of interest
* Minutes should include decisions made. Can include discussion points.
* FOIA requirement – agenda posted at least 24 hours before meeting, and minutes posted within a week for regular meetings. Posting of agenda serves as notice for meeting.

**Outreach & Education topical sub-workgroup (Denise Savageau & Lou Burch)**

* Met week of April 5 and discussed next steps in outreach
* May need direction from WPC on how to move forward with scheduling and preparing future presentations.
* Policy-related questions at presentations should be brought back to the WPC

**Implementation Tracking Workgroup**

* Follow up needed within DPH on what in-house skills are available
* Once DPH discussions take place, will discuss Chair and membership

**General Workgroups Discussion**

* To increase efficiency of workgroups, IWG to consider narrowing down charges to reduce the time that workgroups are running. May need to push back when some tasks are not feasible in a timely manner.
* Concerns expressed about workgroup delays due to the Legislative session this year; may need to shift workgroup schedules around this

**WPCAG**

* Source water protection committee outline is being drafted before going to the WPC

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:02 p.m.

**Next Meeting: May 11, 2021 at 1:30 pm**