



PIPE USERS GROUP Northern California

MINUTES

October 18, 2005

Attendees:

Cindy Preuss	Harris & Associates	cpreuss@harris-assoc.com
Jonathan Lee	WVSD	jonlee@westvalleysan.org
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Sasha Mestetsky	CCCSO	sasha@centralsandst.ca.org
Patrick Hassey	Brown & Caldwell	phassey@brwncald.com
Pete Bellows	Brown & Caldwell	pbellows@brwncald.com

Presentation: “**Sewer System Management Plans – New Development,**” by Patrick Hassey, Senior Consultant with Brown and Caldwell, and Pete Bellows, Vice President, also with Brown and Caldwell.

Patrick and Pete spoke about new developments in Sewer System Management Plans (SSMPs) including the recent action by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to require all municipal wastewater collection systems to develop SSMPs and the pending adoption by the State Water Resources Control Board of a state-wide SSMP program.

This presentation was very timely and provided valuable information pertaining to SSMP development. Handouts included:

- “Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) Development Guide,” State Water Resources Control Board, Bay Area Clean Water Agency
- Sanitary Sewer Overflows Program informational sheet, State Water Resources Control Board website – water quality section
- “Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sewage Collection System Agencies,” State Water Resources Control Board, Draft Order dated 8/1/05

In 1995 the SSO policy came about due to an increased trend in sewer system overflows and the resulting negative impact to receiving waters. The key aspect of this policy is CMOM. However, the CMOM Rule is still on hold at the federal level, no longer considered essential by regulators since essential components of the policy are enforceable as-is through the Clean Water Act without the Rule.

Minutes by: Cindy Preuss, Harris & Associates
Secretary, Nor Cal PUG

The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) SSMP program began California's trends to develop such Plans, prompted by beach contamination. The San Francisco Bay RWQCB adopted a resolution in 2003 on SSO reportings (effective ~December 2004). SSMPs are now required to those entities/agencies who received a letter in July 2005. Deadlines for plan components to go into effect range from August 31, 2006 to August 31, 2008. Private lateral I&I deadline is September 2005. Some components of the plan are waived for <10,000 service populations.

The following observations have been made on a state-wide basis:

- SSO's have occurred throughout the State
- There are many unregulated collection systems
- There is a variance in regions for reporting, thresholds, etc.
- SWRCB initiated SSO Guidance Committee that's developed an SSO Reduction Program for California. SWRCB to adopt this program in January 2006.

SWRCB's approach is to have consistency with reporting, etc. to establish trends, etc. with SSMP implementation based upon timeframe against populations served:

Population: Sewer System Size	SSMP completion date
>100,000 gallons	11/2008
10,000 – 100,000 gallons	11/2010
2500-10,000 gallons	11/2011
<2500 gallons	11/2012

SSMP development strategies:

- Know the GWDR and SSMP tasks
- Review available SSMP development guides
- Perform SSMP preparedness assessment
- Monitor SWRCB SSO program website
- Check with CWEA for BMPs
- Contact BACWA, CBCWA, SCAP, and Tri-Tac for additional information

Handouts will not be made available on the PUG website attached to these minutes, as they were not given in electronic form. Presentation slides, however, will be attached to these minutes for those members who could not attend and have an interest.

Executive:

Non-profit application status: The application will be submitted to the Secretary of State and IRS next month. Application processing may be held up by the special elections in early November.

Treasury status: Current treasury balance is \$33,200.45. There is an issue with initial balance showing on the treasurer's spreadsheet versus the initial balance when the funds were transferred from the previous treasurer to Harris & Associates. Allen will look into this to resolve the discrepancy.

New member applications: Membership applications will be sent out again with the seminar Call-for-Papers to ensure all member agencies are reached.

Task Group Reports:

Special Meeting – ½ Day Legal: Jonathan has sent out feelers to lawyers to give a presentation on contract codes and claims. Will keep us posted as he receives responses.

General Discussion:

Change in November PUG Meeting Date: November 22 will be the meeting date since it best accommodates the November presenter's schedule.

USA North/Potholing: Jonathan Lee attended the recent USA North General Board meeting to provide PUG representation on the issue of potholing. Only a few minutes were spent on this topic, as recommendations have already been provided to CAL/OSHA to streamline marking procedures and looking toward adding systems for design information. A hot issue not well received is certifying utility markers, as no one wants the associated liability.

Jonathan brought two handouts from this meeting:

- 1) September 26, 2005 letter to Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board Re: Subsurface Safety & Incident Prevention Committee – recommendations for safe excavations near underground facilities.
- 2) Standards Presentation to California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, "Proposed State Standard, Title 8, Chapter 4"

More information may be found on the California Regional Common Ground Alliance website, at cga.gov.

Western Chapter NASTT: The mini No-Dig conference to be held November 14 & 15 in Tempe, AZ is anticipated to be well attended. At least a handful of PUG members plan to attend to show our organization's support and to further our own professional growth in the industry.

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be held **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2005** at the offices of Brown and Caldwell. The topic will be on "**Potholing Standardization.**" Please call (925) 210-2307 or e-mail Jennifer Glynn (jglynn@brwncald.com) to RSVP.



Pipe Users Group
“Sewer System Management Plans-
New Developments”

BROWN AND CALDWELL

October 18, 2005

Patrick Hassey & Pete Bellows

Presentation Overview

- Background
- What's happened in California
- California's approach
- What happens next
- Strategies
- Questions

Background

- SSO Policy development by US EPA started in 1995
- Focus on eliminating SSOs because:
 - 40,000 SSOs per year
 - \$1.3 trillion of deferred sewer repairs
 - Contaminated receiving waters

Key Aspect of SSO Policy Is CMOM

- Proper management, operation, and maintenance
- Adequate sewer capacity
- Emergency response plan
- Notification of parties affected by SSOs
- Written work practices and procedures
- Periodic audits

Status of US EPA CMOM Rule

- On hold in Washington indefinitely
- No longer essential to regulators
- The Clean Water Act provides the necessary language for Federal and State regulators to enforce the intent of the draft US EPA SSO policy/ CMOM rule

What's Happened in California?

Santa Ana RWQCB SSMP Program:

- Issued first Waste Discharge Requirement September 30, 2002
- Affected OCSD and 24 satellite Collection System Agencies
- Final SSMP submittal September 30, 2005

SF Bay RWQCB Program

- Board resolution – Oct. 2003
- SSO reporting – Dec. 2004
- 13267 letters – July 2005
- Private laterals – Sept. 2005

SF Bay SSMP Components

1. Goals
2. Organization
3. Overflow Emergency Response Plan
4. FOG Control Plan
5. Legal Authority
6. Measures and Activities
7. Design and Construction Standards
8. Capacity Management
9. Monitoring, Measurement, and Modifications
10. SSMP Audits

Design and Construction Standards

- Design and construction standards and specs
- Inspection and testing requirements
- New construction
- Rehabilitation and repair

Capacity Management

- Current and future capacity requirements
- Design storm
- Capital improvement program

SSO Emergency Response Plan

I. Investigate &
Assess Problem

II. Traffic Control

III. Contain SSO

IV. Correct Cause

V. Final Volume

VI. Initiate Clean-up

VII. Receiving Water
Sampling

VIII. Reports

IX. Reports & Data
Capture

SF Bay SSO Reporting

- On-line reporting system
- Electronic database
- All SSOs must be reported

SF Bay SSMP Implementation

- Deadlines for components range from August 31, 2006 to August 31, 2008
- Some requirements waived for small communities
- BACWA Development Guide

What's happening state-wide in California?

- SSO have occurred in all regions of the state
- Too often these SSOs have impacted human health/environment
- Many collection systems have not been regulated
- Current regulatory efforts are inconsistent & reporting thresholds differ by region

What happens next?

- SWRCB's Office of Statewide Initiatives initiated a SSO Guidance Committee
- Committee developing a SSO Reduction Program for California
- SWRCB to adopt program in January 2006

SWRCB's Approach

- General Waste Discharge Requirements (GWDR)
- Consistent Statewide reporting of SSOs
- Develop SSMPs
- Implement SSMPs in a specific timeframe based on population served

SWRCB's SSMP Elements

1. Goals
2. Organization
3. Legal authority
4. Operation & maintenance program
5. Design & construction standards
6. Overflow emergency response plan
7. FOG control program
8. System evaluation & capacity assurance
9. Monitoring, measurements, & program modifications
10. SSMP audits
- 11. Communications program**

SWRCB SSMP Implementation

- SSMP development schedule based on population. Components to be completed by 2006 through August 31, 2008
- BACWA updating its SSMP Development Guide
- CVCWA adopting BACWA SSMP Development Guide for Central Valley Agencies

Strategies

- Know the GWDR and SSMP tasks (Handout)
- Review available SSMP development guides (Handout)
- Perform SSMP preparedness assessment
- Monitor SWRCB Sanitary Sewer Overflows Program web-site (Handout)
- Check with CWEA for Best Practices Manuals (e.g.; SSO Prevention and Response and Hydro-Flush Cleaning of Small Diameter Pipe)
- Contact BACWA, CVCWA, SCAP and Tri-Tac for additional information

How to Get Involved/Learn More

- Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP) www.scap1.org
- Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA) www.bacwa.org
- Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA) www.cvcwa.org
- California Association of Sanitation Agencies, California Water Environment Association and League of Cities (TriTac) www.TriTac.org www.triTac.org
- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) www.swrcb.ca.gov

Additional Information

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The background of the slide is an abstract, fluid pattern of colors. It features soft, wavy bands of teal, light green, and pale blue, creating a sense of movement and depth. The colors blend together, with some areas appearing more saturated than others, giving it a painterly or marbled appearance.

Questions?