

CARD/ EGLE Quarterly Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2022 10:00 AM

Via Zoom

[20221206 CARD-EGLE Quarterly Meeting via Zoom](#)

The meeting was called to order by Roger Rayle, CARD chair, at 10:05 AM.

The November Minutes were approved by the Board.

Jack Eaton brought up the immediate and pressing issue of 1,4 dioxane contaminated homeowner wells in Ann Arbor Township. After Scio Township's recent findings of dioxane in homeowner wells, A2 Twp did their own testing. Mike Moran told us about the testing around Blueberry and Newport Rd. There were 11 wells tested (in a very large area). The one property that was positive on Blueberry Lane was 9.1 ppb (110 feet deep well). The house a few doors away was non detect, so they retested this home with the County and State. This test from EGLE's was non- detect. The Township results (method 522) were 1.9 ppb. Today there will be a split sample taken with EGLE and the Township's 522 method. This is at least 1 ¼ mile outside the existing boundary of the plume and much closer to the Huron River's Barton Pond, so it is disturbing. There were no VOC's so it is from Gelman, or there would be other solvents. There is thought that this is similar to the Scio Twp positives, which could be finger-like projections of the plume migrating outward. Beth mentioned that EPA is our only hope for help, because nothing happens when we have these drinking water wells turn up positive. Rita Loch-Caruso discussed the need for Gelman to do something immediately because it is outside the PZ? And what about the remediation level in the CJ3 being the old criteria. Dan Bicknell clarified the different State regulations and the CJ regulation requirements. But this should fall under the State drinking water program. Hannah Northey, with EE News, asked about the State test being different than the other lab (A2 Twp) got results and why these private testings are needed? Jack explained that the state is not testing enough, or defining the perimeter of the plume, so local governments have had to test on their own. Mike Moran sent all the test results to the EPA. Glenn Hendrix mentioned that these are homeowner wells and not the best way to define the plume, which should be defined by many many more monitoring wells placed in these directions. Everyone agrees that this is a very bad sign. Kathy Griswold asked about the random testing at the depth of this one residential well and why we are not testing at better strategic locations to know what is happening. Mike Moran said that this is why the Township asked for EPA back in 2016, since the State is not handling this. Dan Bicknell stated that since the court rejected the 2021 Court Order, the EGLE should be asking for a Dispute Resolution clause to get more MW's and the drinking water criteria changed also. Kathy would like EGLE to develop a plan that they are asking for Gelman to change things in this Dispute Resolution. Maybe the County Commissioners could pass a Resolution to define what the LUG would like to see in the Dispute Resolution to Gelman from EGLE.

Old Business/ Action Items:

Dan Hamel said there is no release of data. They are still bound by the confidentiality agreement and will not be released to the public.

MS4/ GSI have been separate for the Allen Creek drain dioxane. Dan Hamel shared an EGLE response to Gelman with what information is insufficient. EGLE has not heard a response. WCWRC is working with EGLE to see what the polluter has to do to meet the MS4 requirements.

Patti McCall said the Sentinel wells are installed and drilled to bedrock in Garden Homes Park (NE of Maple/ Miller) with vertical sampling. It went to the two aquifers and two wells are there (142 feet and 214 for the second screen). When she has the bore logs, she will share and there were no detections. The city of A2 and Tetra Tech use Method 522 and these were paid for by the taxpayers of Ann Arbor, not the polluter.

Joel and Debbie Dingell's team continue to meet with the Reg 5 EPA director and continue to discuss this topic of EPA and that they are always available to chat with Congresswoman Dingell. Dan Bicknell said EPA has finished collecting data and the next step will be to update their hazardous ranking score and if this score meets the criteria, it will be listed as a NPL Superfund Site. He thinks this could be completed by the end of the year. Last time this was ranked, it scored a 50, and this is the highest ranking for USEPA.

There was no intervenor update.

No Scio Twp update on well testing.

No KOC update.

We discussed moving our meetings to in-person meetings/ hybrid. The Scio township hall is available in April, May, and June. The consensus was to continue our Zoom meetings.

Rita Loch- Caruso and Bob Bailey shared their scientific publications to the CARD meeting in a powerpoint presentation. She shared the links for the 2 articles. Dr Vasilou had joined the meeting and told us about the Yale Superfund Center that he chairs. He wants to work with all of CARD on any town hall meetings and community engagement. He has worked with other communities with 1,4 dioxane. He will take correspondence from anyone interested in contacting him.

EGLE Updates:

Dan Hamels shared documents from meeting: [20221206](#)

Included is [EGLE's rejection](#) of Gelman's [Work Plan for GSI Investigation of the Allen Drain Pathway](#)

Dan shared what Gelman has been doing. During vertical on some MW's profiling there were 1-2 ppb dioxane in some, he shared the data with us. Dan has heard that they are still going to complete two more MW's and they are backing off other (downgradient) MW's from the 2021 Order. They are still planning on doing the Rose Extraction well, but have backed off the Parklake Extraction well and they are not planning on doing this well. There will be sampling in the marshy area done during the winter when it's easier to access. They have submitted a western area work plan. EGLE will continue to engage with Gelman to get the current drinking water and GSI criteria updated. Josh Moser wanted us to see the newest MW's near A2 Sentinel wells, the furthest to the north. On site, Gelman has done TW-24 and TW-25 and are pumping very high concentrations (2500 ppb). A third extraction well will not be placed. They did the one phytoremediation, where some of the trees have died, but will not be doing the

second phyto site in the marshy area. In the former burn pit they will not be doing the soil vapor system and are reevaluating to see if this was the best remediation. Mike asked if there was anything that could get the Dispute Resolution to ask for more monitoring, due to the recent positive drinking water wells. Josh Moser answered that they/ EGLE with the 2021 consent order being revoked, it's a hard place to be in. The expansion of the plume causes Gelman to meet remediation, but even with A2 Twp ppb, he says they are working on getting a new CJ and is a Dispute Resolution the best route. They do not have anything figured out yet and right now, the 85 ppb dictates "action" from Gelman. It's a huge set-back. Vince mentioned the GSI criteria from the 3rd CJ is a huge set back with Third Sister lake being 90- 150 ppb with homes basements near and possible V.I. Roger reminded everyone that there was secret sampling done around 2016-17 that we still do not have access to see. Meanwhile, the dioxane movement does not care and this is horrible that our laws are this weak on environmental contaminations. In the early days, the DNR made Gelman release all data and they held monthly meetings to share this data with the public. Look at us now. There is not the due diligence that matches the scale of the problem. Jack asked if AG Negele would say anything on this. He stated "no", but they are trying to reach a new judgment between the state and polluter to update the criteria, and Jack reminded him that we stated some of the problems today and hope he will hear the CARD groups' concerns.

Dan showed us the homeowner sampling program map that is done with EGLE/ Washtenaw County and the wells that are sampled and what will be sampled in 2023. There are 244 locations to test in 2023. In 2022, 190 were tested. They will be doing more with the A2 Twp area and see how this split sampling today goes on Blueberry Lane.

There is no update on the NPDES for the Honey Creek renewal.

Surface Water sampling map was shared and discussed. Roger showed us the spreadsheets with trending numbers. AND the 280 vs 2800 ppb on the 3rd CJ, it is way outdated and non protective and EGLE will continue to advocate. Vince mentioned again about the 150 ppb in Third Sister Lake and homes basements adjacent is concerning.

Chair Updates

Roger's notes [12/06/2022 CARD Meeting-Chair notes](#)

Roger showed us the hit on and trend of MW-148, confirming the northward movement. These pathways and the geology is complex. He showed us a new aquitard/aquifer found. Some new wells were not sampling while vertical profiling on MW-130i, so they missed the opportunity to sample in this aquifer. Maybe even a different pathway northward. He showed us what EGLE and Rockworks does know about the DuPont area aquifer being found than what we had thought. He showed us the area on the map PZ that was left off the map (3400 Dexter/ A2 Rd), and when its well was capped, it wasn't sampled.

Because of the hits in Scio, is the homeowner sampling program of EGLE/ Wash Co, going to sample all the homes within 1000 feet of recent hits. This was the old protocol (arbitrary basis per Dan) that they committed to, but now this is a much larger area and they may not. If the EPA's 0.35 ppb criteria were in effect, which Scio properties would get city water or bottled water? He showed us that about 2/3 of the recent hits from last year would have.

Roger is concerned about the State sampling that goes down to 0.5 ppb, that many of these recent hits would not have been found. Yes, it is way below Michigan's current drinking

water criteria, but the homeowners should know if they have “any” dioxane and are mixing it for baby formula, etc.

The Polluter Pay Resolution passed. [CARD Resolution in Support of State Polluter Pay Legislation](#) We need to get someone at CARD to send to all of our elected officials/ Dir of EGLE, others.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Minutes compiled by Beth Collins, CARD secretary