

Meeting	REMOTE Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
Date	Thursday, November 19, 2020 Quorum: 5:32 Adjourn: 6:35
Location	Remote
Chairperson	Mayor Gary Bassett, Village of Rhinebeck
Vice Chair	Supervisor Jay Baisley, Town of Poughkeepsie
Secretary	Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, Town of Hyde Park
In Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mayor Gary Bassett, VoR ● Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, ToHP ● Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia ToR ● Deputy Supervisor Russ Gilmore ToL ● Board member Bill Carlos, ToL ● Randy Alstadt, WWTP Operator, ToP ● Mark Nelson, CoP ● Paul Malmrose (Technical Advisor, Engineering) ● Emily Svenson (Technical Advisor, Land Use) ● Europa McGovern, Ulster County Representative ● Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative ● Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (coordinator) ● Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper (presenter)

Regular Business

1. Call To Order 5:32
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
 - a. Voting members: Gary Bassett (VoR), Neil Krupnick (ToHP), Russ Gilmore (ToL), Bill Carlos (ToP), Elizabeth Spinzia, ToR, Randy Alstadt, CoP. **Six voting members (quorum)**
3. Approval of 10/15/20 minutes
 - a. Motion to approve 10/15 minutes: **Bassett/Spinzia. Motion carried.**
4. Communications
 - a. OPINION: [Pull Plug on destructive Quebec hydropower proposal by Jared Margolis](#)
 - b. [Hudson River Watershed Alliance Report: Work on Watersheds](#)

- i. Features Hudson 7 (pg 23). Report provides overview of volunteer and intermunicipal efforts to protect watersheds
5. Public Comment
- a. Mary Wagner, Newburgh Clean Water Project (NCWP)
 - i. Submission of questions to the record:
 - 1. Have the communities in the Hudson 7 tested for PFAS in their water source and what are the findings?
 - 2. Are they having to implement filtration technology to meet the new PFAS/PFOA water quality health standards of 10ppt?
 - 3. What is most concerning for your communities regarding PFAS contamination coming into their watershed/water source?
 - 4. Are any community engagement campaigns being conducted among the 7 communities around this issue or the Hudson River as a drinking water source?
 - a. **GB** said it would be good to write a response. **RA**: Has not found PFAS in Hudson River drinking source water. PFAS contamination remains a concern, as the fire training facility in Hyde Park has shown PFOS entering the river, given the volume of the river and the volume of the water coming in from creeks, its unlikely PFAS will reach the intakes, but it is something to continue to monitor.
 - i. **ACTION: Randy to draft a response to Mary. Paul to review it.**

Reports and Actions on Old Business

- 1. Hudson River Source Water Protection initiatives
 - a. Update on NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program
 - i. Dutchess and Ulster County Updates
 - 1. Europea McGovern - Ulster County Update
 - a. 10/19/2020 Ulster County Water Quality Coordinating Committee meeting, at that meeting two NYSDOH representatives presented, and agreed to attend future meetings and provide

updates. They provided a program overview, including late 90s and early 2000s water quality assessments. They talked about the [Drinking Source Water Protection Program \(DWSP2\) Framework](#) - 5 pronged approach to assist communities. 1) Hire consultant; 2) Technical assistance from New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) staff; 3) New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA); 4) Regional Planning Boards; 5) Municipalities can develop their own independent plans. NEIWPCC component worth exploring

**i. ACTION: Reach out to invite Grant Jiang, NEIWPCC Environmental Analyst, Source Water Assessment & Protection, NYS Department of Health
50 North St, Suite 2 Monticello, NY 12701
P: 845-794-2045 F: 845-794-3165
Grant.Jiang@health.ny.gov
www.neiwpcc.org/ www.health.ny.gov to the next Hudson 7 meeting on January 21.**

2. Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative

1. **BB:** Presentation of Dutchess County Class Streams map. It shows protected and non-protected streams that mapped 992 miles of currently regulated streams currently in Dutchess, Stream Protection Bill would increase protected streams by another 695 miles. GB: Hudson 7 sent a letter on October 19 advocating for Governor Cuomo to sign the Class C stream bill within his 30-day decision window.

2. Central Hudson

a. **RA:** As of Monday, dredging began at 7:30am, a sheen emerged at 9:30am outside of the containment area and was handled. No impacts to the water plant. They are hitting bricks in the bottom of the river as they dredge, causing them to reset

and move slowly. Expecting to dredge 13 feet below the river bottom (12 feet of contaminated area). Uncontaminated area finished last week and got approval to start in the contaminated area being dredged this week. The PWTF will test the sheen in their lab. **RG:** Visited the area, and saw the vacuum doing it's part. Large crane putting materials into a dumpster. He also witnessed testing occurring in small boats in the area. **RA:** They are also testing at the lab using a 'frog' a couple of times throughout the operation. **RG:** What is the two story tent over the water? **RA:** When they do the dredging, they have to cover everything they do with six inches of dirt. Clamshell that picks up dirt to put in the River. There is an extensive treatment facility. **PM:** Likely the tent is protecting equipment to do the treatment.

3. Champlain Hudson Power Express

- a. **PM:** They say that CHPE would provide power that Indian Point now provides to NYC. Power would be brought from Canada to Queens, NY through water and on land Enters Hudson River at Green/Columbia county border. Route covers all Hudson 7 intakes. Goes back on the land for a small section in Rockland county. Will be installed with a trenching device that cuts into the soil with a jet that puts soil back into place. It would create tremendous turbidity. We have concerns about what's in Hudson River sediment. A similar project was conducted in Little Bay, NH. Eversource said there would be a lot of turbidity, but that it would settle down and likely not be seen within .5 miles. That would be an issue in the Hudson River due to proximity to the path's drinking water intakes. It may require the need to shut down drinking water intakes while trenching is taking place. It could also have serious impacts on fish breeding habitats. It is not clear why the cable needs to be in the river (costs?) when it could also be placed along railroad tracks, or along the highway right of way. We should write a letter to the state. **EMc:** Do we know where this is CHPE in the SEQR process. Who was the Lead Agency? **RA:** All permits have been granted, and need approval from the Public

Service Commission. Vessels striking the cable are a concern of the shipping industry. The path would cross 38 other utility lines, at each crossing needing to come to the bottom surface of the Hudson River. It is supposed to be encased in concrete. This pathway has been used as a transportation corridor for many years and may significantly impact oil delivery to Albany. **DS:** All permits have been granted including PSC. Riverkeeper is not best situated to help holistically, as 15 years ago we negotiated with the company and agreed not to oppose the federal permits. We are compromised as to how we can help. Currently, the permits that are secured include the Army Corp of Engineers, Department of the Environment permit, PSC and DEC permit (water quality certification). Each of those have conditions that are relevant for the Hudson 7 to be fully aware of and engaged in. There is room for concern, for instance PCBs in the Environmental Impact Statement, the company says that they expect PCB's to be stirred up and may exceed the drinking water standards limit but it will be "temporary". Health limits set for lifetime exposure, so not concerned about short-term exposures. There is limited consideration of impacts to drinking water intakes. CHPE still needs a contract with NYC in order for the project to be finalized. **PM:** In all the documents I've read on this, I have not seen them mention water intakes. **DS:** They did mention the intakes, at least four out of five (they missed the Town of Lloyd). **RA:** They have the GPS locations of the intakes. The Hudson River Safety committee has two groups. One group moves stuff up and down the river, they are concerned about damaging the line and the other is concerned about the environment. They are having a lot of problems in Canada getting this permitted. It would be good now to get a letter out and off. **ES:** There are provisions in the PSC documents for some consideration for the intakes. A lot of it is "we'll test it, and if there is exceedance..." it's after the fact. She can write a letter to outline the Hudson 7's concerns, especially given the recent dredging with the CH has shown to have an impact on the intakes. **GB:** Some of us only

have a two days supply of water. If there is pollution, how long will we need to shut down? **ES:** Maybe they need to do more modeling. The letter from TDI says ‘we’ll let you know before we do dredging’ meaning the operators are to just shut down for the day? **NK:** Timetable? **RA:** Not before next year, it’s being delayed by other difficulties. **DS:** What they don’t have is a contract with NYC for the power. Their US permits are pretty well granted. They have stated that they expect to have that contract by the end of the year. **ES:** What about the DOS on behalf of the towns with LWRPs?

i. **PROPOSED ACTION: Authorizing a letter from Hudson 7 to involved state agencies highlighting concerns and identifying need to coordinate. Paul, Randy, Emily and Bill will coordinate. Gary Bassett - Motion to draft letter to DEC, DOS, and DOH on CHPE. Carlos second. Motion passes.**

4. Update on Municipal code review
 - a. **ES:** The Village of Rhinebeck is complete and shows interesting provisions to reduce parking to reduce stormwater, more information coming soon.
5. Update on Dutchess County Fire Training Center (Hyde Park) – Site Added to State's Superfund Registry.
 - a. **BB:** County concern regarding records of 12 times PFAS chemicals used by state office firefighter training. The county is concerned about being on the hook for actions (testing/clean-up) taken by state firefighters. Testing is going forward at present. County has a concern about whether or not they are the responsible party.
6. Castle Point Drinking Water Intake
 - a. **DS:** Use of Hudson River as drinking water has not been resumed, working to confirm with incoming engineer
7. Water Operators
 - a. Draft shared service agreement - modeled after VoR, should be reviewed for legal contents

- i. **ACTION: Gary will take to VoR attorney for review**

New Business

1. Web Hosting Costs

- a. CoP is willing to pay for the web hosting for two years, \$129.75. ToP willing to split cost. VoR is also happy to contribute, as is ToR. Costs should be rotated every two years. Emily will connect with the CoP.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2021

Adjournment: 6:32pm

Carlos/Krupnick. Motion carried.