

Western Capacity Use Area Groundwater Management Plan Stakeholder Workgroup Process, Development, & Review

Timeline Summary:



Workgroup Values:

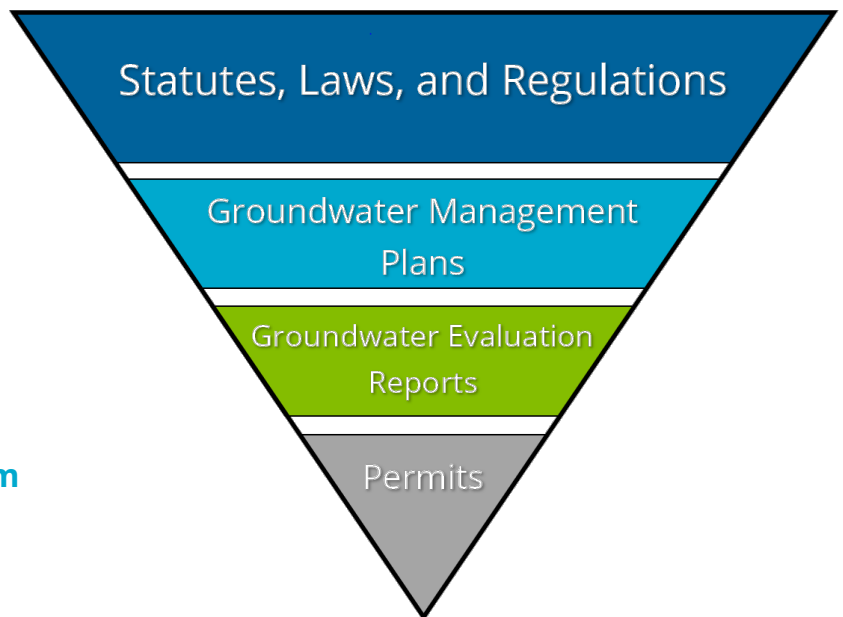
- Commitment**
- Transparency**
- Mutual Respect**
- Active Participation**
- Dialogue and Listening**
- Solution-Focused**
- Strive for Consensus**
- Focus on the Seven County Region**

Workgroup Commitments:

- Attend All Meetings**
- Contribute to Group Discussions**
- Share Process Information**
- Promote Public Comment**
- Communicate Draft Plans to and Encourage Input from other Stakeholders**

Quick Facts:

- 7 Meetings in 7 Months (External)**
 - 5 Workgroup Meetings
 - 1 Public Meeting
 - 1 Open House
- 20 Person Stakeholder Workgroup**
 - 80-100% Attendance Rate
 - 7 County Representation
 - 6 Water User Types
 - 5 Meetings
 - 4 Statewide Partners
- 9 Member DHEC Coordination Team**



WCUA: PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK FORM (25% Response Rate)

1. The Stakeholder Workgroup and draft planning process was essential to developing a more effective WCUA Groundwater Management Plan.

● Strongly Disagree	0
● Somewhat Disagree	0
● Neutral	0
● Somewhat Agree	0
● Strongly Agree	5



2. Feedback from the Stakeholder Workgroup was adequately considered and incorporated into the WCUA Groundwater Management Plan

● Strongly Disagree	0
● Somewhat Disagree	0
● Neutral	0
● Somewhat Agree	0
● Strongly Agree	5



3. Meetings between the Stakeholder Workgroup and DHEC were productive, timely, and relevant to the WCUA Groundwater Management Plan process.

● Strongly Disagree	0
● Somewhat Disagree	0
● Neutral	0
● Somewhat Agree	0
● Strongly Agree	5



4. The geographic and groundwater user type representation was diverse and necessary to the WCUA Groundwater Management Plan process.

● Strongly Disagree	0
● Somewhat Disagree	0
● Neutral	0
● Somewhat Agree	2
● Strongly Agree	3



WCUA: PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK FORM (Continued)

5. What was positive about the Stakeholder Workgroup process and how could it have been improved?

"I felt that the meetings were very well organized and the information given was relevant to the topics discussed. I thought that all of the concerns of the stakeholders were addressed as well. I feel that we did not come up with a plan for the strategy of how to educate other stakeholders, and that could possibly be discussed more." – Anonymous

"The most positive thing to me was that all interests came together and developed a plan that is most beneficial to all citizens and their interests. I do not have any comments for improvements" – Anonymous

"It was conducted in a non-confrontational manner and gave equal validity to each of the different user types. I don't see much need to improve the methods used to formulate the plan. Seemed to work well!" – Anonymous

"Everyone worked together very well and feedback was always openly accepted by DHEC staff and incorporated into plan, or at least discussed in length, by group." – Anonymous

ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

"Been pleased with the group and how we've worked together. There are a lot of different opinions and agendas, and we have gotten along well. It has been a good group, and I have enjoyed it. The problems are more state-wide than just in this area. We (the agriculture community) have a problem with the 5 year permit, but not for this group. I see problems with too many hands in the pot and too many agencies involved; I would like it streamlined. Thank you all for cooperating." – Lawrence L. "Landy" Weathers, Circle W Farms & Weathers Farms

"I am generally happy with everything and appreciate the ability to give input. An issue I have: the issue of applying for a permit to construct and then a permit to withdraw. It can be \$25,000 to drill the well and then get a permit to withdraw. Can someone appeal either permit? What happens if my withdrawal permit is appealed after I have received my permit to construct without an appeal, and I already spent my money to construct the well?" – Dean Hutto, Hutto Brothers Partnership

"We have made great strides on how we holistically look at everything." – Laura Bagwell, Aiken County Aiken County Soil & Water Conservation District

"Where we are is a good starting point, and it's an iterative process. I'd also like to say that I agree with how well this body worked together. It was a thrill to see something happen in the context of watching the state water plan process – it was almost breathtaking." – Hugo Krispyn, Friends of the Edisto/Edisto Riverkeeper

"I appreciate the opportunity to be involved as more of a 3rd party – this has been constructive. I know that from our highest up at Clemson, water is to be taken seriously so we appreciate what's been done here." – Calvin Sawyer, Clemson University

"Thanks for all the hard work Lance and everyone else at DHEC has done to make this collaboration possible. I know all of us really appreciate the time and effort it takes." – Rebecca "Becky" Ashley, Dominion Energy

"I feel like we have done a good job at incorporating into this document the aspects of the WCUA that are different from the Lowcountry and Trident which was a concern all along. We might still need to scrutinize the text and make sure we're happy with it. As Cal said, we can't be too prescriptive too soon. I am happy about the way in which the plan identifies a range of actions or thresholds without triggers, which has been the hardest thing for me. Always thought there should be more discussion in how the Capacity Use Areas interact, and even how other areas interact with this one. We are talking about this one area and each area is unique. [The state] should go through all of the coastal plain and integrate ground and surface water. I appreciate the ability to give input." – Peter Delorme, Citizen

STAKEHOLDER WORKGROUP

Name	Organization	County
Rebecca Ashley	Dominion Energy	Orangeburg
Laura Bagwell	Aiken Co. Water & Sewer District	Aiken
Peter Delorme	Citizen/Homeowner	Aiken
Mark Forrester	Gilbert Summit Rural Water District	Lexington
Dean Hutto	Hutto Brother's Farm Partnership	Orangeburg
Hugo Krispyn	Friends of the Edisto	Bamberg
Jeff Lowe	Breezy Hill Water & Sewer District	Aiken
Jill Miller	SC Rural Water Association	Statewide
Ted Millings	Savannah River Site	Barnwell/Aiken/Allendale
Jacob Oswald	AIS, LLC/JCO Farms	Allendale
Nick Rubin	SC Rural Water Association	Statewide
Calvin Sawyer	Clemson University	Statewide
Mike Swearingen	Groundwater Association	Statewide
Alex Tolbert	Carolina Golf Course Superintendents Association/Orangeburg Country Club	Orangeburg
Richard Tyner	Archroma	Allendale
Andy Wachob	SC Department of Natural Resources	Statewide
Jeremy Walther	Walther Farms	Aiken/Barnwell
Landy Weathers	Circle W Farms/Weathers Farms	Calhoun
Will Martin	Bamberg Board of Public Works	Bamberg
Hogan Kaney	Supersod Farms	Orangeburg