



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group

March 27, 2007 10:00 a.m.

Cook County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

### **Present:**

Robert Abboud-President, The Village of Barrington Hills, William Borgo-Mayor of Manhattan, Conor Brown-Government Affairs Director, Illinois Assoc. of Realtors, Joe Deal-City of Chicago, Jerry Dudgeon-Director, PB&Z Kendall County, Jeffrey Edstrom-Project Planner, GeoSyntec Consultants, Martin Jaffe-Director and Associate Professor, University of Illinois Chicago, Alan Jirik-Director of Corporate Regulatory Affairs, Corn Products International, Inc., Ken Koehler-County Board Chairman, Karl Kruse- County Board Chairman, Robert Martin-General Manager, DuPage Water Commission, Joyce O'Keefe-Deputy Director, Openlands Project, William Olthoff, Farmer, S. Louis Rathje-Chairman, DuPage Water Commission, Lynn Rotunno- Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter McHenry County Defenders, Jeffrey Schuh-Senior VP, Patrick Engineering, Inc., Jack Sheaffer-Principal, Sheaffer International, L.L.C., Bonnie Thomson Carter-County Board member, Ruth Anne Tobias-County Board Chairman, Catherine Ward, County Board Chairman, Peter Wallers-President, Engineering Enterprises, Inc.

### **Others Present:**

Benedykt Dziegielewski, Jesse Elam, Tim Loftus, Debbie Stone, Kermit Wies

### **I. Welcome and Overview of Agenda:**

Chairman McConnaughay called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Cook County Conference Room at the office of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois. CMAP Project Manager Tim Loftus announced that a meeting to review a related CMAP project, a web-based water supply planning tool (the L-THIA water supply module), would be taking place in the afternoon. Dr. Loftus invited those present to attend the meeting and introduced CMAP Associate Planner Jesse Elam as leading the meeting.

### **II. Objective #1: Water Demand Scenarios to 2050:**

Dr. Loftus introduced Benedykt Dziegielewski, a professor and researcher in the Department of Geography and Environmental Resources at Southern Illinois University

Carbondale. Dr. Dziegielewski has been contracted by CMAP to prepare water demand scenarios for the regional water supply planning process. He has about twenty-five years of experience in demand forecasting and listed a variety of places where he has worked, saying he "went to where the problems were," such as Florida, Texas, and California. A paper copy of his PowerPoint presentation was included in the meeting packet. Dr. Dziegielewski emphasized the importance of a technically defensible forecast and noted that the forecasting process has become more and more controversial, especially where permitting decisions are concerned, which leads to intensified scrutiny of the forecast methods. Dr. Dziegielewski's methodology will involve the use of official demographic forecasts by CMAP and others as determinants of growth. He will seek to use water prices, temperature, income, housing density, and a variety of other factors as explanatory variables. The forecast would produce three scenarios: (1) current trends; (2) higher resource use; (3) and lower resource use (conservation).

A member asked whether the forecasts would take the construction of ethanol plants into account. Dr. Dziegielewski answered that they would if plants were proposed for the study area, saying they could demand as much water as small cities. Ethanol plants will probably be built into the current trend part of the forecast. Dr. Loftus asked the county representatives to report on the status of ethanol plant proposals in their counties. McHenry County has had two proposed, one near Richmond and another toward the west. Kankakee has two being seriously considered, and one has received the necessary permits, although it is difficult to put together financing for the plants. DeKalb, Kendall, and Lake have not had any proposed, although Lake has turned down three power plant proposals based on expected water use.

A member asked about whether the forecasts would include climate change effects. Dr. Dziegielewski felt that it was not yet possible to develop good regional projections of climate change, but it could be accounted for as a scenario. A question was asked about forecasting growth and land prices. Dr. Loftus asked Kermit Wies, CMAP Deputy Director of Research and Analysis, to discuss how to address those issues. Dr. Wies said that he hoped to get population and employment forecasts "off the table" for the RWSPG and that the forecasts CMAP is developing will be "what-if" scenarios as opposed to a single consensus picture.

A member suggested that there were a variety of innovative means of reducing the impact of thermoelectric and industrial plants, such as using effluent from wastewater treatment plants for cooling water or employing alternative generation technologies such as wind and solar. It was commented that the impacts of power plant siting are locality-specific. Dr. Dziegielewski noted that 16 gigawatts (GW) of new generation capacity are expected to be added in the Midwest by 2025 and that much of it would probably be located in the Chicago area. A member with experience in energy demand forecasting suggested that there would be a large scale difference between the 16 GW expected and the ability of wind and solar to provide it. He felt coal and nuclear would be the chief technologies in the future.

A member commented that there might be pressure for the water demand forecasts to be slanted in a conservative direction, and that “the consequences of being on the wrong side of the error band” were high. Dr. Dziegielewski said an analyst had to stand behind his numbers and that he had served as an expert witness before, but he knew he had sometimes had his “forecast numbers turned into policy numbers.”

A member asked whether the state would revise the forecasts for a future planning cycle. Debbie Stone of Illinois DNR responded that the agency would be working on setting such guidelines over the next two years. One member felt that conservation is widely seen as important and that the RWSPG should begin addressing it immediately, and also as part of the forecasts. It was proposed that a fourth scenario be developed, one that included increased growth but more conservation. Dr. Dziegielewski responded that this was possible, but that the growth scenario drivers should be prepared by planners rather than by the forecaster. It was asked how the additional five counties outside CMAP’s main planning area would be dealt with in the forecasts. Dr. Wies said that most of the counties have their own regional planning commissions with adopted forecasts and that they would only need to be reconciled with CMAP’s forecasts.

A member suggested that the forecasts should be simpler — that they “shouldn’t get hung up on variations in demand” — and just focus on the worst case scenario. Another recommended that if the thermoelectric sector was such a large user, then the group should focus on it. There was some discussion of the fact that the thermoelectric sector is not so large from a consumptive use standpoint although its withdrawals are high. Furthermore, withdrawal rather than consumptive use is the basis of the forecasts. It was noted that both high consumptive use and withdrawal have impacts, although they are different. Thermoelectric water use is the most flexible, Dr. Dziegielewski said, as technological substitution is possible. Municipal water is the highest value, both political and, because it is highly treated, monetary.

Finally, it was suggested that the various viewpoints could be reconciled by looking at current trends and then water availability to define the gaps or needs. A recommendation was to use a desirability-likelihood matrix as a tool in the scenario planning.

### **III. Objective #2: RWSPG Operational Guidelines:**

As Patrick Smith, Drafting Committee Chairman, was not present, Joyce O’Keefe described the committee’s progress. She indicated that the committee approved of the major components of the corrected draft guidelines prepared by CMAP, in particular the use of modified consensus. The committee decided against proxy voting and also altered the “basic knowledge” requirements for RWSPG members. Ms. O’Keefe reported that the committee was taken aback by the fact that CMAP had included its comments on the committee’s draft in the RWSPG meeting packet without sending them to the committee first. In particular, the committee felt the supermajority requirements should be 3/4 rather than the 2/3 proposed in CMAP’s comments. Dr. Loftus agreed to send the guidelines back to the committee.

Another member suggested allowing proxy voting, but only if the proxy was another sitting member. In this way, unavoidable absences could be accommodated. It was also suggested that the CMAP comments should not prescribe a simple majority to call the question, as this is far from consensus and anyway not consistent with Robert's Rules of Order. Dr. Loftus said he felt the guidelines were coming close to completion. Chairman McConnaughay agreed that the next draft of the guidelines would be made available to the RWSPG a week in advance of the April meeting.

**IV. Objective #3: RWSPG Strategies, Objectives, and Tactics**

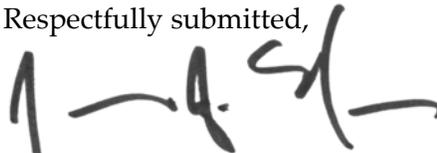
Robert Abboud, Goals Committee Chairman, reported that he expected to have a draft of the RWSPG goals and objectives to CMAP staff within the next seven days and that the draft would then be sent to the rest of the group.

**V. Other Business, Closing Comments, Adjournment:**

Ken Koehler will be hosting the April meeting in Woodstock. Mr. Koehler said he would arrange pick up and drop off for those traveling by train. Dr. Loftus announced that the May meeting would be hosted by Lake County and take place in the new Ryerson Woods Welcome Center.

At 11:50 am, the meeting of the Regional Water Supply Planning Group adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Elam', written over the typed name.

Jesse Elam, AICP  
CMAP Staff Liaison

04-02-07