

ENVIRONMENTAL



710.1 - LOCAL WATER QUALITY ACTIVITIES

GOAL

To undertake water quality planning activities in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, as appropriate and as resources permit.

METHODOLOGIES

- 1) Continue to support watershed activities in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and Dearborn County as requested and as resources permit. These activities may include participating in technical advisory groups; facilitating meetings; arranging for presentations, tours, and canoe outings; participating in public involvement efforts; and identifying technical and fiscal resources to implement various improvement projects.
- 2) Continue to provide support for the OKI Groundwater Committee, a forum that helps local governments meet state and federal mandates and promotes coordinated management of a sole source aquifer system that provides more than two-thirds of a million people with drinking water and water for commercial, industrial, agricultural and recreational purposes.
- 3) Continue to provide support for the OKI Regional Conservation Council, including representatives of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the region.
- 4) Continue to refine the base information and recommendations in the OKI Regional Water Quality Management Plan for the Kentucky and Indiana portions of the region as resources permit.

PRODUCTS

- 1) Collateral materials for southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and Dearborn County watershed management activities, which may include education and outreach materials, fact sheets, directories, and articles in stakeholder newsletters. (as appropriate)
- 2) Meeting notices, agendas, summaries, and related correspondence. (as appropriate)
- 3) Meeting notices, agendas, summaries, and related correspondence for the OKI RCC Annual meeting occurring in the spring and support, as needed, for the annual tour occurring in the fall.
- 4) Updated base information and recommendations for the OKI Regional Water Quality Management Plan. (within resource constraints)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The UPWP budget includes funding for one staff member to attend the annual Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) Conference (11/17); for one staff member to participate in one WMAO technical workshop during the year; and for one staff member to attend the annual Ohio Stormwater Conference. Staff registration at the OKI Regional Conservation Council annual meeting and other local soil and water conservation district and conservation group events are also budgeted throughout the year.

710.6 - WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

GOAL

To assess, manage, and protect surface water and groundwater resources in view of regional growth and development and the resultant increased demand.

PREVIOUS WORK

OKI adopted a major Water Quality Management Plan Update for Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties in Ohio in 2011 in accordance with federal and state requirements. The 2011 plan was the first comprehensive update to the Ohio portion of the Regional Water Quality Management Plan published by OKI in 1977. Since 2011 OKI has continued to update the Ohio portion of the Plan on an incremental basis, to provide local governments and their consultants with data including population and land use information, to review wastewater facility projects for consistency with the plan (which is a state and federal requirement), to inform the public of water quality issues and to assist local implementation of plan recommendations.

METHODOLOGIES

- 1) Monitor the Water Quality Management Plan to identify needs for amendments and/or updating.
- 2) Respond to requests for wastewater permit consistency reviews from Ohio EPA, local jurisdictions and other local constituents, and pursue associated needs for amendments to the Regional Water Quality Management Plan.
- 3) Produce a targeted water quality improvement project and supplemental WQM Plan activity as detailed in OKI's contract with Ohio EPA.

PRODUCTS

- 1) Water Quality Management Plan amendments. (as appropriate)
- 2) Permit consistency reviews, associated plan amendments when needed and public information products as detailed in OKI's contract with Ohio EPA. (as appropriate)
- 3) Data and analysis, summary information, maps and descriptive text generated for the targeted water quality improvement project as detailed in OKI's contract with Ohio EPA. (6/18)

GOAL

To assess, manage, and protect surface water and groundwater resources in view of regional growth and development and the resultant increased demand.

PREVIOUS WORK

OKI adopted a major Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Update for Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties in Ohio in 2011 in accordance with federal and state requirements. The 2011 plan was the first comprehensive update to the Ohio portion of the Regional Water Quality Management Plan published by OKI in 1977. Since 2011 OKI has continued to update the Ohio portion of the Plan on an incremental basis, to provide local governments and their consultants with data including population and land use information, to review wastewater facility projects for consistency with the plan (which is a state and federal requirement), to inform the public of water quality issues and to assist local implementation of plan recommendations. OKI has also conducted studies and analyses and has used stream and watershed evaluations with direction from Ohio EPA to support water quality management at the local, regional and state levels.

METHODOLOGIES

- 1) Consult with Ohio EPA on priorities for updating portions of the Regional Water Quality Management Plan.
- 2) Consult with watershed organizations to identify local priorities among water quality issues and planning needs.
- 3) Consult with wastewater management agencies to clarify planning needs and get consensus on plan amendments that could affect them.
- 4) Prepare and present proposed WQMP plan updates and amendments for public input.

PRODUCTS

- 1) Summary of consultations with Ohio EPA on WQMP priorities.
- 2) Summary of consultations with watershed organizations about water quality issues and planning needs. (as necessary)
- 3) Summary of consultations with wastewater management agencies about planning needs and plan amendments.
- 4) Updated Water Quality Management Plan and associated plan amendments. (as necessary)

GOAL

To ensure that OKI’s Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) contribute to the region’s attainment and maintenance of national ambient air quality (AQ) standards.

PREVIOUS WORK

In May 2016, the U.S. EPA made a determination of attainment for the Cincinnati area 2008 8-hour ozone area. Approval of the submitted maintenance plans are required before a redesignation to a maintenance area. The Cincinnati ozone area includes Lawrenceburg Township in Dearborn County Indiana, portions of the Kentucky counties of Boone, Campbell and Kenton, and the Ohio counties of Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Warren. Clinton County is outside of the OKI region, but is part of the maintenance area. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is the lead planning agency for Clinton County.

In October 2016, U.S. EPA revoked the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} standards for fine particulates. With the revocation of that standard, areas that have already been redesignated to attainment for the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} standards, transportation conformity no longer applies. The Ohio and Indiana portion of the Cincinnati area is still designated nonattainment for PM_{2.5} and will continue to demonstrate PM_{2.5} conformity.

OKI has coordinated the process of developing local emission reduction strategies in support of the air quality State Implementation Plans. OKI has provided the state agencies with mobile source emissions data. OKI has performed transportation air quality conformity analysis for the region’s MTP and TIP, most recently for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan in 2016. OKI has developed procedures to integrate updates to the EPA Motor Vehicle Emissions model (MOVES) into the travel modeling process. OKI has analyzed the air quality and energy benefits of all candidate transportation projects subject to OKI’s project prioritization process, as well as the Ohio statewide urban CMAQ process.

METHODOLOGIES

- 1) OKI will continue to coordinate with federal, state and local air quality and transportation agencies on SIP revisions and air quality issues including but not limited to conformity determinations. OKI will remain knowledgeable about current state and federal legislation and regulations and will provide technical information and current data as requested. OKI will perform and document conformity analyses as required under the Clean Air Act Amendments and based upon criteria outlined in the USEPA Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93). OKI’s model will utilize the latest EPA software and latest planning assumptions.
- 2) Staff will evaluate the expected air quality and energy benefits of potential CMAQ, SNK, STP and TA funded projects utilizing the OKI travel model, MOVES, and accepted off-model methodologies.

PRODUCTS

- 1) Ongoing coordination and consultation with OKI committees, federal, state and local agencies regarding air quality issues. Preparation of appropriate documentation of Metropolitan Transportation Plan and TIP conformity. Provision of travel and mobile source emission data to support SIP revisions prompted by changes in local emission control programs and federal standards for ozone and particulate matter.
- 2) Quantification of the expected air quality and energy benefits of candidate projects for CMAQ, SNK, STP, SNK or TA funding as required.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 1) One staff member to attend in-state training opportunities.