

**A CIWEM Conference**



# **Groundwater Protection Policy and Practice**

**October 17th 2006  
SOAS London**

The objectives of this conference are to:

- Explain and publicise the State of Groundwater and Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice documents
- Highlight the EA Groundwater consultation to help shape EA policy and promote *multi-agency* action programmes;
- Engage a wide range of stakeholders including planners, water supply professionals, government officers, waste engineers, water engineers, hydro-geologists, consultants, environmental NGOs and developers whose involvement is critical in the effective implementation of policy and action plans

## **Sponsors**

**Environment Agency**

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If you would like to sponsor this conference please contact

**Justin Taberham at CIWEM**

**0207 831 3110 or**

**E mail [Justin@ciwem.org](mailto:Justin@ciwem.org)**

**A CIWEM Conference**  
**Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice**  
**October 17<sup>th</sup> 2006, SOAS, London**

## **Introduction**

Groundwater is an important and vulnerable resource and we see its importance in our reliance on it for water supply. Groundwater provides on average 35% of mains water rising to 70% in the south east and its support of rivers, lakes, bogs and wetlands. It is, however, vulnerable as shown by the recent drought, high profile pollution incidents, and diffuse pollution problems. The Environment Agency will launch in the late summer two publications to highlight these issues and explain their approach to managing and protecting groundwater; they are:

- ***The State of the Environment Report – Groundwater***
- ***Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3)*** – a totally new 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the ‘Policy and Practice for the Protection of Groundwater’

These publications are particularly timely with: the implementation of the Water Framework Directive; gearing up for periodic review of water company assets for 2009 (PR09); new Waste Management Licensing Regulations; finalisation of the Groundwater Daughter Directive and the move to Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) legislation for permitting of waste sites and improved groundwater monitoring. These documents will highlight the significance of groundwater, the threats and challenges of maintaining and improving it, and also a series of policy actions.

The Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3) represents a significant change from the previous groundwater policy document. GP3 is a framework that enables users to access information, tools and policies on groundwater.

A public consultation on the first three parts is taking place over the summer. These are:

Part 1. Core Policy

Part 2. Technical Framework

Part 3. Tools (includes source protection zones and groundwater vulnerability)

Part 4 will be finalised across the autumn in consultation with stakeholders. It will explore policy action themes covering point and diffuse pollution sources, waste disposal and water quantity issues.

There have been many changes to the management of groundwater over the last few years. Significant legislative changes mean that many activities that threaten groundwater are now covered by regulatory controls. The GP3 reflects this by providing a framework that sets out where controls exist: in those cases separate EA policies are not needed. However, there remain significant areas where regulatory controls are insufficient or are ineffective on their own to protect groundwater. Diffuse pollution is one prominent area but others such as land development and remediation are areas where the Environment Agency seeks to influence via its policies in order to protect groundwater.

These documents are particularly important for Local Authority planners because of their key role in deciding the location of and controls on development. These controls can have a significant impact on the potential for groundwater pollution and resource management.

Many other groups will be influenced by these documents. If you are involved in: water supply and disposal; development planning; mining or quarrying; agriculture; waste disposal; or water or environmental policy this is an important meeting for you.

**The aims** of this meeting are to publicise key issues with regard to the state of groundwater and developing policies. Then to engage key stakeholders in a consultation on the future direction of Environment Agency groundwater policy. **The objectives** of this conference are to:

- Explain and publicise the State of Groundwater and Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice documents;
- Comment upon the consultation and the EA’s proposals in order to help shape EA policy and promote *multi-agency* action programmes;
- Engage a wide range of stakeholders including planners, water supply professionals, government officers, waste engineers, water engineers, hydro-geologists, consultants, environmental NGOs and developers whose involvement is critical in the effective implementation of policy and action plans
- Capture the range of stakeholder comments.

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**Programme**

09.00 Registration and refreshments

**Session 1 Chairman Hilary Aldridge, Head of Environmental Quality, Environment Agency**

09.45 **Chairman's introduction and welcome to the Conference on behalf of CIWEM**

09.50 **Background to SoE Report and GP3**                      **Tony Marsland** Environment Agency

10:00 **The State of Environment Report: Groundwater**                      **Rob Ward** Environment Agency

10:15 **Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3) Parts 1-3**    **Mark Morton**  
Environment Agency

10:30 Q & A

10:55 **Consultation on Groundwater Protection Policies**    **Tony Marsland** Environment Agency

The rest of the conference is devoted to the EA's consultation on GP3 that looks at issues with regard to policy and action programmes. Sessions containing short presentations covering key issues in the consultation followed by facilitated discussion and Q&A. Delegates will be asked to respond to KEY questions from the consultation in relation to each session.

11:00 **Drinking water protection**                      **Tony Marsland** Environment Agency

Drinking water protection                      **Water UK** speaker tba

11:15 Drinking water protection Q&A

11.30 Buffet and refreshments

**Session 2 Chairman Bob Harris** Environment Agency

12.15 **Solid Waste disposal & Mining**                      **Hugh Potter** Environment Agency  
**Waste industry view**                      **Leslie Heasman** Environmental Services Association  
**Mining Industry view**                      **Keith Parker** The Coal Authority

12.40 Waste and Mining Questions and Answers

13.00 **Liquid Effluent disposal & land contamination**    **Tony Peacock** Environment Agency  
**Liquid effluent disposal**    **Thames Water** speaker tba  
**Land contamination**                      **SAGTA** speaker tba

13.25 Q & A

13.45 Sweets and refreshments

**Session 3 Chairman Helen Wakeham** Environment Agency

14.30 **Diffuse pollution**                      **Dave Griffiths** Environment Agency                      **Anna Hall** NFU

14.45 Q&A

15.00 **Groundwater flooding**                      **Nelleke Venema** Environment Agency  
**Ground source heat pumps**                      Ground Source Heat Pump Association (contacted)

15.15 Q&A

15.30 **General discussion**

15.50 **Chairman's Concluding points**

16.00 Conference ends - Refreshments

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**The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)** is the leading professional and qualifying body for those who are responsible for the stewardship of environmental assets. The Institution provides independent comment, within a multidisciplinary framework, on the wide range of issues related to water and environmental management and sustainable development.

**The Venue:** The venue is the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), Russell Square, London. This is a new, air conditioned lecture theatre, with all the modern AV aids and professional projectionists; there will be ample space to accommodate the anticipated delegate numbers.

**Accommodation:** A wide range of accommodation is available; delegates will receive a hotel list on booking.

**The Organisers** are Bob Earl of Coastal Management for Sustainability (CMS), on behalf of CIWEM.

**Conference fee:**

Delegate fee	Fee £ 155	VAT £27.12	£182.12
Volunteer orgs., Academic rate	Fee £ 95	VAT £16.62	£111.62
Post Graduate full time student rate / Retired CIWEM members	Fee £ 40	VAT £ 7.00	£ 47.00
Groups (a group is 3 or more, booking and paying together )	Fee £135/person	VAT £23.62	£158.62

- The fee includes food and refreshments and the conference papers
- Delegates with special needs should make this clear on booking

**Conditions:**

- Payment may be by cheque, BACS or credit card.
- Cheques( made payable to 'CMS') should be sent to: **CMS, Candle Cottage, Kempley, Glos GL18 2BU.**
- **Please indicate method of payment on the booking form**
- Invoices will be issued as the standard response.
- Confirmation of registration will be acknowledged on receipt of booking form.
- Receipts will be issued on payment.
- Payment should be completed **BEFORE** the event; otherwise entry may be refused.
- Refunds (less £20 administration charge) will only be issued for cancellation more than ten working days before the meeting; substitutes are permitted.

Delegates to this conference will, on request\*, receive the Environmental Partner grade of CIWEM Membership for a year. After this free year (either through this conference or another CIWEM event) there will be a fee to continue in this grade. You will receive free copies of our magazine and have the opportunity to be involved in local CIWEM events and activities. CIWEM Charity No 1043409 [www.ciwem.org](http://www.ciwem.org)

Further details from Bob Earl: Phone / Fax 01531 890415 Joining details – maps, directions and hotels – programme are on the CMS website: [www.coastms.co.uk](http://www.coastms.co.uk) or Email: bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

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**Groundwater Protection Policy & Practice 17<sup>th</sup> October 2006 Booking Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a CIWEM member y/n\*

**It is essential for both pre and post conference communication that we have your email address:**

I am happy for my Email address to be included on the CMS Emailing System **Y / N**

I am happy to receive CIWEM email updates **Y / N** I would like free Environmental Partner Grade\* **Y / N**

Please register \_\_\_\_\_ place / s Total amount \_\_\_\_\_ Your ref. / order number \_\_\_\_\_

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Expiry date					We will need to phone you to complete your payment processing
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