

Statutory Language Relating to the Groundwater Coordinating Council

Chapter 15, Wis. Stats., "Structure of the Executive Branch"

15.347 (13) Groundwater Coordinating Council.

- (a) *Creation.* There is created a groundwater coordinating council, attached to the department of natural resources under s. 15.03. The council shall perform the functions specified under s. 160.50.
- (b) *Members.* The groundwater coordinating council shall consist of the following members:
 - 1. The secretary of natural resources.
 - 2. The secretary of commerce.
 - 3. The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.
 - 4. The secretary of health and family services.
 - 5. The secretary of transportation.
 - 6. The president of the University of Wisconsin System.
 - 7. The state geologist.
 - 8. One person to represent the governor.
- (c) *Designees.* Under par. (b), agency heads may appoint designees to serve on the council, if the designee is an employe or appointive officer of the agency who has sufficient authority to deploy agency resources and directly influence agency decision making.
- (d) *Terms.* Members appointed under par. (b) 8 shall be appointed to 4-year terms.
- (e) *Staff.* The state agencies with membership on the council and its subcommittees shall provide adequate staff to conduct the functions of the council.
- (f) *Meetings.* The council shall meet at least twice each year and may meet at other times on the call of 3 of its members. Section 15.09 (3) does not apply to meetings of the council.
- (g) *Annual report.* In August of each year, the council shall submit to the head of each agency with membership on the council, the governor and the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the appropriate standing committees under s. 13.172 (3), a report which summarizes the operations and activities of the council during the fiscal year concluded on the preceding June 30, describes the state of the groundwater resource and its management and sets forth the recommendations of the council. The annual report shall include a description of the current groundwater quality in the state, an assessment of groundwater management programs, information on the implementation of ch. 160 and a list and description of current and anticipated groundwater problems. In each annual report, the council shall include the dissents of any council member to the activities and recommendations of the council.

Chapter 160, Wis. Stats., "Groundwater Protection Standards"

160.27 Substances in groundwater; monitoring.

(1) The department [of natural resources], with the advice and cooperation of other agencies *and the groundwater coordinating council*, shall develop and operate a system for monitoring and sampling groundwater to determine whether substances identified under s. 160.05 (1) are in the groundwater or whether preventive action limits or enforcement standards are attained or exceeded at points of standards application.

160.50 Groundwater coordinating council.

(1) GENERAL FUNCTIONS. The groundwater coordinating council shall serve as a means of increasing the efficiency and facilitating the effective functioning of state agencies in activities related to groundwater management. The groundwater coordinating council shall advise and assist state agencies in the coordination of nonregulatory programs and the exchange of information related to groundwater, including, but not limited to, agency budgets for groundwater programs, groundwater monitoring, data management, public information and education, laboratory analysis and facilities, research activities and the appropriation and allocation of state funds for research.

(1m) FUNDING FOR GROUNDWATER RESEARCH. The groundwater coordinating council shall advise the secretary of administration on the allocation of funds appropriated to the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a) for groundwater research.

(2) SUBCOMMITTEES. The groundwater coordinating council may create subcommittees to assist in its work. The subcommittee members may include members of the council, employees of the agencies with members on the council, employees of other state agencies, representatives of counties and municipalities and public members. The council shall consider the need for subcommittees on the subjects within the scope of its general duties under sub. (1) and other subjects deemed appropriate by the council.

(3) REPORT. The groundwater coordinating council shall review the provisions of 1983 Wisconsin Act 410 and report to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), concerning the implementation of the act by January 1, 1989.

Chapter 281.34, Wis. Stats., "Groundwater Withdrawals"

(10) Research and monitoring. To aid in the administration of this section the department [of natural resources] shall, *with the advice of the groundwater coordinating council*, conduct monitoring and research related to all of the following:

(a) Interaction of groundwater and surface water.

(b) Characterization of groundwater resources.

(c) Strategies for managing water.