Workshop on Unsaturated Zone Processes

On 8 May 2006, 10am – 4pm, Priory Rooms, central Birmingham

Aims

Following on from successful workshops on recharge and model uncertainty (see website at http://www.groundwateruk.org/html/modelling/home.htm), the Groundwater Modellers' Forum Committee is planning to hold a third workshop on the subject of Unsaturated Zone Processes. The objectives of these workshops are to:

- Exchange experience and knowledge on practical and scientific issues;

- Explore new and existing methods and agree best practice, particular from 'cross-over' learning between regional resource models and site contaminant transport models;

- Forge links with academia;

- Make recommendations on best practice and future R&D work.

In common with the successful practice in previous workshops, preparatory questions will be circulated prior to the workshop, to encourage informed debate and interactions.

Programme

am: Introduction to workshop and presentations by keynote speakers:

Geoff Parkin (Newcastle University): Introduction, and outline of unsaturated zone modelling issues

Adrian Butler (Imperial College): Fundamental processes in the unsaturated zone of the Chalk as illustrated by the results of ongoing investigations under the LOCAR programme

Rae Mackay (Birmingham University): Unsaturated processes in the Permo-Triassic Sandstone with a particular focus on issues of upscaling

Hugh Potter (Environment Agency): A discussion of the importance of unsaturated zone processes to the assessment of risk from point sources of pollution

Eunice Lord (ADAS): Diffuse source contaminant transport modelling

The presentations will be followed by an opportunity for other attendees to raise points for discussion in the break-out sessions

pm: Break-out sessions, each including experts and senior groundwater modelling practitioners. Structured questioning and discussions, aimed primarily at identifying proposals for action from the meeting.

Final plenary session for feedback of findings from the break-out sessions, and for further discussion (and agreement) on the proposals for action.

Participants & Booking

The workshop is open to all who are actively involved in groundwater modelling. We anticipate that staff from BGS, CEH, water companies, consultancies, universities and the Environment Agency would be amongst those taking part.

Places are limited: 60 participants in total, 3 people per organisation and 1 person per Agency Region. Places will be allocated on a first come-first served basis.

Unfortunately there will be no 'entry on the day' and only pre-booked attendance can be accepted.

Cost £70/per head incl. buffet lunch. To book a place, send a cheque and the attached booking form to Jeanne Thompson **before 27 Feb 2005**. Entry will be by advance payment only.

If there are insufficient numbers booked by **27 Feb** 2005, the workshop will be cancelled and cheques returned. If you book and your organisation has already made three bookings, your name will be put on a reserve list and you will be offered a place if available in the two weeks preceding the event.

BOOKING FORM

Unsaturated Zone Processes

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Contact: Jeanne Thompson Environment Agency Science Group, Olton Court, 10 Warwick Road, Olton, Solihull B92 7HX; Tel: 0121 708 4714; Fax: 0121 708 4637. jeanne.thompson@environment-agency.gov.uk

Name	Organisation	email address
Please book us places on the workshop		
Cheque for £70 x number of participants enclosed (up to 3 per organisation)		