

Toxics Steering Group (TSG) Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present

Department of Community Health (DCH)

- Christina Bush
- Linda Dykema
- Jennifer Gray
- Kory Groetsch
- Lisa Quiggle

- Christine Flaga
- Kay Fritz, 2012 Chairperson
- Doreen Lehner
- Deb MacKenzie-Taylor
- Divinia Ries
- Robert Sills

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

- Dennis Bush
- Mike Depa

- Catherine Simon
- Eric Wildfang

Others Present

- Joy Taylor Morgan, DEQ
- Emily Weingartz, DEQ

- Vidhya Ramalingam, DEQ Student Intern

Jim Sygo is attending the Governor's Special Message to the Legislature on Energy and the Environment this morning.

Children's Environmental Health Subcommittee (CEHS) – Deb. The CEHS is continuing its participation with the CSI by providing support for using the child receptor for residential cleanup criteria. The child receptor discussion will continue with a group that includes the DEQ, the current participating stakeholders (regulated community representatives), plus some new stakeholders that do not represent the regulated community and are advocates for children's health.

Remediation Division Collaborative Stakeholder Initiative (CSI) – Chris F. Many of the expected outcomes of this effort are "on hold" until several Part 201 cleanup criteria issues are resolved either by committee consensus or policy decisions made by management. These issues include: 1) use of the child receptor for the residential criteria, 2) choice of the attenuation

coefficient for the vapor intrusion criteria, and; 3) combination of exposure pathways for the soil criteria. A fourth issue, combination of exposure pathways for the tapwater criteria, may be resolved since the algorithm includes a Relative Source Contribution factor.

Perfluorinated Compounds Subcommittee (PFCS) – Joy. Ongoing PFCW work includes tracking the following:

- 1) The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant awarded to MDCH to sample water and fish for PFCs (PFOS, PFOA, and other PFCs) at Wurtsmith Air Force Base (WAFB) and other areas around the state. The MDCH laboratory is now able to analyze for fish PFC data.
- 2) Additional monitoring at three ponds in Clark’s Marsh, Van Etten Lake, and Tuttle Marsh (which would be the background site), which will be done using state funds.
- 3) Specific analytical findings from WAFB groundwater wells, surface water, soil, and sediment samples. Fish samples will be kept on ice for future analysis.
- 4) A possible human health exposure assessment at the WARB funded by ATSDR and conducted by MDCH.
- 5) Efforts by the Alliance For Risk Assessment (ARA) to develop interim numbers for PFOS and PFOA (not for mixtures).
- 6) Development of drinking water RfDs for PFOS and PFOA by the EPA Office of Water, which may be available in 2013.
- 7) Use of PFCs in commerce including items manufactured in China and subsequently imported to the U.S.

Wurtsmith/DOD/Alliance for Risk Assessment – Chris B. The MDCH-issued “do not eat” fish consumption advisory continues for Clark’s Marsh and the lower Au Sable River due to PFOS levels in fish from Clark’s Marsh. The DOD is currently conducting investigations for PFCs at the WAFB in additional areas, i.e. areas outside of the fire-training area.

The ARA effort to determine an interim risk value for PFOS/PFOA is ongoing and includes people from TERA, industry, and government. Participation is strictly defined and makes a distinction between “Participants” and “Observers.” A “Participant” participates by contributing money or “sweat equity.” An “Observer” participates by being included in conference calls and having permission to ask questions. EPA is not participating as either a Participant or Observer.

Laboratory data indicate that PFOS comprises about 90% of the PFCs detected at WAFB, therefore development of safe levels for PFOS in the environment is considered to be a higher priority than levels for other PFCs.

Earth Day (April 18, 2013) - Eric. Eric is now a member of the DEQ Departmental Earth Day Committee so he will be unable to coordinate the TSG Earth Day effort in 2013. TSG members are urged to consider volunteering for this job and doing so at the first TSG meeting in 2013.

2012 TSG Report – Kay. Kay will update the 2011 TSG Report in track changes and send it as a DRAFT 2012 TSG Report to all TSG members. TSG members are asked to send back their review comments in track changes as soon as possible so that this report may be finalized in January 2013.

2013 TSG Chair – Kay. The 2013 TSG Chairperson has been selected in accordance with the August 20, 2012 TSG Policy and Procedure document and is Mike Depa.

Other TSG business – All. Linda reported that the GLRI is funding an exposure investigation by granting money to ATSDR who is in turn funding work by New York, Minnesota, and Michigan (MDCH). This investigation will include analysis of blood and urine samples for lead, mercury, manganese, arsenic, PCBs, dioxins, DDT, and blood lipids. A new method of human subject identification, recruitment and participation will be used and it is called “Venue-Based Sampling.” OMB approval has been granted for this work.