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Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Guyer Conference Room, MDA Laboratory, East Lansing
January 18, 2008

Abby Schwartz, Russ Ives, Gary King, William Weil, Brian Rowe, Mike Schiffer, Bruce Walker, Roger Wabeke, Carolyn Randall, Jim Johnson

PAC chair, Jim Johnson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Jim asked the committee members to complete the document he was distributed in order to construct a current electronic mailing list. Jim asked the committee to review the minutes from the October 2006 meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

Pesticide Surveillance Update – Abby Schwartz reviewed the Michigan Pesticide Illness and Injury Surveillance Project Quarterly Report with the PAC. Abby also distributed copies of the 2006 Annual Report. Brian Rowe asked if Abby would forward information on case #M100971 so he could forward the information to EPA. Abby indicated she forwards information to Gary King (Enforcement Manager) when she believes the information should be investigated by MDA or forwarded to EPA. Labeling was discussed concerning signal words. Brian Rowe stated that EPA is reconvening the “bad label” work group.

MSUE Pesticide Education Update – Carolyn Randall distributed the first quarter report from the MSU Pesticide Education office. Highlights of the report are:

- Work continues on the new Core Certification Manual and Supplement. This will go to the printers in the near future.
- MSUE received a grant from MDA for \$31,000 to support Carolyn Randall’s position for this fiscal year.
- Michigan Aviators Conference was held at MSU – great conference.
- Offered 10 comprehensive Core Training Courses in November and December 2007.
- Carolyn working with Larry Swain on the IPM Academy. February 20 is the first training for people who apply pesticides in daycare centers and health facilities.

Enforcement Report/Notices of Violation – Gary King distributed and discussed the first quarter FY2008 Pesticide Use Investigations report. Gary discussed the case where there was alleged dumping of chemicals into a public drain. This may become a criminal case. MDA has forwarded the case file to DEQ. Gary indicated that when Abby refers information to MDA, he forwards the compliant/issue to the region. Some requests may not have been forwarded to the regions when the Enforcement Manager position was vacant. MDA continues to work on the referral process.

Gary distributed two documents that may be used during the Notice of Violation process. Gary discussed when, where, and how these documents/letters would be utilized.

Pesticide Section Update – Brian Rowe stated Regulation 637 is in the final legislative step. He anticipates this regulation will be completely through the process and enacted by February 27.

Brian discussed Senate Bill 682 – Agricultural Pesticide sales/licensing. This bill will create a licensing law for pesticides sold in Michigan not by a RUP dealer; i.e., Internet sales. Receivership is the point of sale.

EPA has granted more funds for monitoring Internet sales of pesticides. This year, he will assign a certain type product to a region, such as bed bug products or garden products.

Brian indicated that the EPA grant included discretionary funds for travel for laboratory staff to training meetings, minority farmers, clean sweep, and aircraft calibration program.

The Pesticide Applicator Business Licensing manager is working on the process whereby firms that have not renewed their license by February 1 may receive a Notice of Intent. A report listing firms not licensed will be sent to the regions for investigation. If the firm is found to be advertising, operating, or soliciting work – a Notice of Intent will be issued.

Interviews have been held for the pesticide registration manager position. The position has not been filled as of this date. Section 18 requests are coming into the division and there is not one to handle them.

The 2007 Accomplishments Report will be discussed at the next meeting.

PPPM Update – Ken discussed the following:

- Pesticide Registration Manager position
- Budget crunch – proposed fee increases, proposed cuts
- PPPM business plan review of division activities – is there a better way to do business?

Roger Wabeke asked if an industrial hygienist could be trained to be a field person – it would be another set of eyes and ones that would see from a different perspective. Ken said this is a possibility and might be considered during the business plan review process. Partnerships with health departments may be another alternative. Roger will talk to the small business association at their annual meeting. Roger will contact Ken after the meeting this spring.

Additional Agenda Items & Previous Item Follow-Up

- Quaternary ammonium chloride based disinfectant products
 - This continues to be an issue in MDCH report. A question was asked if MDA can request supplemental labeling. Answer: EPA requests investigation and justification for supplemental labeling.
- Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Week Proclamation

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- Brian Rowe has talked to Pat Lockwood (MDA Executive office) concerning this matter as to where the proclamation may have originated. The search continues.
 - Lindane – Dr. Weis indicated his name has been dropped from the Lindane lawsuit. The company has been sold to a firm in India.

Future dates for PAC meetings scheduled for the MDA Lab to convene at 9:30 a.m.:

April 18, 2008

July 18, 2008

October 17, 2008

January 16, 2009

Meeting adjourned.