

Toxics Steering Group (TSG) Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present

Department of Community Health (DCH)

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

- Mike Depa
- Christine Flaga
- Kay Fritz, 2012 Chairperson
- Doreen Lehner
- Deb MacKenzie-Taylor
- Divinia Ries

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

- Dennis Bush

- Catherine Simon
- Eric Wildfang

Others Present

- Jim Sygo, DEQ
- Joy Taylor Morgan, DEQ

Children's Environmental Health Subcommittee (CEHS) – Deb. The CEHS provided the Remediation Division's Collaborative Stakeholder Initiative Cleanup Criteria Workgroup with its recommendation for chronic exposure assessment for the child receptor. Deb will send the final version of the document to Kay for distribution to the TSG. This was completed August 16, 2012.

Perfluorinated Compounds Workgroup (PFCW) – Joy. The PFCW has been reviewing recently published journal articles and has not identified any substantial new information to add to their 2011 PFC DRAFT white paper.

DOD is looking at intercepting groundwater going into Clark's Marsh. We are not sure at this time if there are other sources of PFOS/PFOA besides the fire training area or if other AFB's in the state have sources of PFOS/PFOA contamination.

The Air Force is funding an eco-risk assessment to examine PFC exposure from fish consumption.

Wurtsmith/DOD/Alliance for Risk Assessment – Chris B. PFOS is a contaminant of concern in fish. In May 2012, MDCH issued a “do not eat” fish consumption advisory for Clark’s Marsh and the lower Au Sable River near the former Wurthsmith Air Force Base. The fish advisory is due to PFOS levels in fish from Clark’s Marsh. There are no data yet for fish from the lower Au Sable River.

The preliminary fish consumption screening value is derived from the EPA subchronic RfD and Minnesota’s chronic RfD values for PFOS, which are both based on the same research study (Seacat study). The Seacat study showed effects on thyroid and cholesterol levels. Thyroid effects may place these chemicals in the endocrine-disruptor group. RD has developed an RfD for PFOS but has not published it. RD-Superfund Section has a contract with Richard DeGrandchamp, a toxicologist at the University of Colorado, to research and write papers regarding PFOS/PFOA. The “C8” study is primarily about PFOA (drinking water contamination, human study). NHANES data show that people already have an existing body burden of PFOS/PFOA, so that background exposure is an issue (similar to dioxin).

DOD is looking at intercepting groundwater going into Clark’s Marsh. Questions remaining are: 1) Are there other sources of PFOS/PFOA besides the fire training area? 2) Do other AFB’s have sources of PFOS/PFOA contamination?

The Air Force Center for Engineering and Environment (AFCEE) has submitted a proposal to the Alliance for Risk Assessment (ARA) to collaborate with them regarding PFC issues. It appears that the ARA steering committee is in favor of the proposal. The collaboration may proceed with or without DCH and/or DEQ. It is a good idea for both DCH and DEQ to participate in the collaboration.

DEQ wants to be part of the process.

Remediation Division Collaborative Stakeholder Initiative (CSI) – Chris F. All of the DEQ cleanup criteria proposals have been presented to the Cleanup Criteria Stakeholder Group with the exception of the attenuation coefficient for the vapor intrusion criteria and screening levels. A meeting of the criteria stakeholder group has been scheduled for this topic. If there are no substantive counter-proposals this Group may be able to wind down. If consensus is not reached, the pros and cons will be documented and elevated to RD and department management for use in decision-making.

TSG Policy and Procedures Document (P&P) – Kay. The July 9, 2012 draft P&P has been circulated among DEQ senior management and revised to incorporate their comments. Each suggested revision was presented to the TSG and a consensus agreement was reached on all changes with some minor editorial corrections. Kay will send this most recent TSG approved P&P version back to DEQ management. This was completed August 9, 2012.