

## Toxics Steering Group Meeting Summary August 25, 2009

### Attendees

Shannon Briggs, WB, DEQ	Kory Groetsch, DCH
Christina Rose Bush, DCH	Mary Lee Hultin, AQD, DEQ
Dennis Bush, WB, DEQ	Amy Perbeck, WB, DEQ
Gary Butterfield, AQD, DEQ	Lisa Quiggle, DCH
Mike Depa, AQD, DEQ	Divinia Ries, RRD, DEQ
Linda Dykema, DCH	Robert Sills, Chair, AQD, DEQ
Christine Flaga, RRD, DEQ	Jim Sygo, Deputy Director, DEQ
Kay Fritz, WHMD, DEQ	Emily Weingartz, Librarian, WB, DEQ
Jennifer Gray, DCH	Eric Wildfang, RRD, DEQ

1. Introductions: Bonnie Taffe, MDCH laboratory manager, was introduced as a guest attendee.
2. News from the Executive Office: Jim Sygo, Deputy Director, provided an update on the status of various DEQ budget and organization issues, and the FY2010 DEQ Strategic Plan. Relocation of the toxics library appears to be in the works as a cost-saving measure; it will likely be relocated to 2-south in the near future, but plans have not been finalized. Environmental data for 1,2,3-trichloropropane is requested by a reporter from Illinois; the substance was listed as an emerging contaminant of concern in the 2008 State of Michigan's Environment Triennial Report. DEQ and DCH may see additional program funding via the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the near future.
3. Overview of Significant Activities and Issues, by Division/Agency: MDCH and MDEQ provided brief updates, as follows.
  - 3a. AQD: Robert Sills summarized recent activities related to permit support work, pollution prevention and reduction of PBT air emissions, and grant-related work. Due to the open-ended definition of air toxics, there is a continuing need for risk assessment of substances that do not have established screening levels but which occur in proposed air emissions. Multipathway risk assessments and cumulative risk assessments have been and are being conducted for complex or controversial permit applications. Staff are also participating in the DEQ development of a state Environmental Justice Plan to promote environmental justice in Michigan, as required by a November 2007 Governor's Executive Directive. We are primarily participating in the Disparate Impacts Subgroup of that Working Group. Joy Taylor Morgan is the lead for many activities related to PBT air emission reduction. Some of these include the development of a statewide ban on open burning of trash, the development of a DEQ mercury strategy, mercury TMDL development with WB, and rule development to limit mercury emissions from electric generating units. Grant-related work is a primary responsibility of Mary Lee Hultin, with significant involvement by Joy, Mike and Doreen. These include the Detroit Asthma Morbidity and Traffic grant, the Children's Environmental Health Initiative, and the Community Data Analysis Grant.
  - 3b. RRD: Chris Flaga discussed the ongoing efforts to redesign the Part 201 program. Using the results of the 2007 Recommendations from the Part 201 Discussion Group (stakeholder workgroup), a redesign framework has been proposed. Although the

program is proposed to continue to rely upon a risk-based cleanup process, several significant program modifications are under discussion. Some of the key proposals are: a proposal for a defined process of updating the chemical-specific data and subsequently, the cleanup criteria – would require removal of the criteria from the rules but retaining the methodology and equations in the rules or statute; elimination of the groundwater contact criteria; combining the ambient air and soil direct contact pathways into an updated soil pathway/criteria; developing acute (short-term) screening levels for groundwater and soil gas; and, developing a new methodology for the vapor intrusion pathway which would include soil gas and indoor air criteria. These criteria-related issues will be further discussed in meetings in September 2009, with an overall goal of drafting rules and statute language in the near future.

- 3c. Water Bureau: Dennis Bush briefly discussed recent organizational changes within his section, which included the closing of the aquatic toxicity testing laboratory, the loss of one unit in the section, and the relocation of the fish contaminant monitoring program to his unit. Dennis also mentioned that his unit will be given additional duties such as reviews of water treatment additives and Rule 97 Certifications. Dennis (and his staff) also described some of the issues his unit is dealing with related to beach monitoring, groundwater discharge permits, and surface water discharges.
- 3d. WHMD: Kay Fritz briefly discussed two recent tox activities. WHMD was asked for comments on a peer review draft of the USEPA/USDA risk assessment of spent foundry sands (SFS) in soil-related applications. After Michigan's comments were reviewed, USEPA decided to provide them to the peer reviewers on the independent peer review panel. Also the first draft of the toxicological assessment for phenytoin has been completed. The phenytoin tox assessment is needed to help with off-site corrective action for a WHMD RCRA facility. The first draft has been sent to several DEQ toxicologists for peer review, and it is hoped the assessment will be final around the end of the year.
- 3e. DCH: Linda Dykema indicated that her Section has received an \*Excellence in Service to the Community\* award from ATSDR/NCEH for their health education efforts in Bay and Saginaw Counties. They also received a grant from the EPA to perform environmental education/justice-related work in these areas. Staff will be making several presentations at the National Environmental Public Health conference in Atlanta in October. Work is ongoing on updating the toxicological basis for the fish consumption advisory trigger levels.
4. Cumulative Risk (Kay Fritz and Chris Flaga): There may be interest in establishing a new TSG workgroup to address cumulative risk. Details for the proposal need to be further developed, such as the purpose, scope, participants, timeframe, etc. There was discussion of the distinction between cumulative risk assessment methods and the related risk management policies. Bob Sills offered to distribute the AQD cumulative risk assessment procedure document. Kay and Chris will further define and develop the proposal for future discussion.
5. Earth Day 2009: Kay Fritz gave a brief recap of the TSG participation in the April 22 Earth Day event, dubbed "Toxic World." This year there were 25 volunteers representing three departments (DEQ, DCH, and MDA) for the operation of four displays: The Fishing Hole, Dusty the (Lead) Dog, Happy World Coloring Table, and The Caterpillar Stop. All displays were well attended by the children.