

**Toxics Steering Group  
Meeting Summary  
December 14, 2016**

**Members in attendance:**

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Kay Fritz

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Jennifer Gray

Kory Groetsch

Lisa Quiggle

Christina Bush

Jacob Carrick

Department of Environmental Quality

Christine Flaga (Chairperson)

Bob Sills

Deb MacKenzie-Taylor

Dennis Bush

Kristen Kellock

Sarah Bowman

Joy Taylor Morgan

Shannon Briggs

Amy Babcock

Eric Wildfang

Divinia Ries

Mike Depa

Shane Morrison

Bob Wagner, Deputy Director

Heidi Grether, Director

**Meeting Highlights:**

Library-related Matters

Chris Flaga presented updates on the DEQ part-time librarian position, subscription renewal of SciFinder (a comprehensive bibliographic research database for the following topic areas, chemistry, environmental science and toxicology), and the possible relocation of the DEQ library.

Update from the Front Office

Bob Wagner provided updates on various issues including: the department's plans to address the vapor intrusion pathway; funding for the department; the cleanup criteria rules and criteria stakeholder process; the DEQ/DHHS Memorandum of Understanding; DEQ staffing; and employee surveys. Director Grether joined the group and further discussion ensued on the use of "best available science", risk communication, a multi-agency unified voice, and other issues relevant to the TSG.

Grain Grown on Contaminated Soil (food safety considerations)

Kay Fritz presented a situation in which she is currently involved. Soybeans were grown on contaminated dredge spoils from the Kalamazoo River and transported to a feed mill where they were mixed with uncontaminated soy beans. The situation raises various concerns and issues which include food safety, potential ingestion of contaminated deer and livestock, potential public health impacts, appropriate placement, management, and use of contaminated dredge spoils, etc. Discussions continue within DARD, DEQ, and DHHS.

TSG Subcommittee Updates

- *Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Workgroup (Amy Babcock and Joy Taylor Morgan, co-chairs):* The group is updating portions of the 2011 Whitepaper on PFCs to provide a briefing for the director and new managers and staff in the DEQ, DHHS, and MDARD. The briefing will include information regarding EPA's lifetime health advisories; a review of the currently available WRD, RRD, and DHHS PFOS/PFOA standards/criteria/guidance values; surface water and fish tissue monitoring data collected for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant; site-specific updates on Wurtsmith, Plainfield Twp., and Ann Arbor; and recommendations for future work. As indicated in the previous meeting minutes, the report will not require consensus from the full TSG, but will be reviewed and finalized by the Workgroup itself. The Workgroup anticipates completing the briefing in February, 2017.
- *Vapor Intrusion (VI) Interim Action Screening Levels (Deb MacKenzie-Taylor, Chair):* The Draft Report was finalized and sent to RRD and OHWRP managers on November 21, 2016, however revision and/or re-evaluation of a couple of issues are being pursued with some possible revisions to the document occurring in the near future. (The workgroup was created to evaluate if the chronic acceptable air concentrations (AACs) developed by RRD are appropriate for investigating and evaluating indoor air concentrations associated with vapor intrusion and to determine if the AACs are also protective of shorter term risks. The AACs are used to develop the inhalation-based cleanup criteria for the inhalation exposure pathways. The AACs were reviewed for a subset of volatile chemicals considered potentially significant to the VI pathway. The VI Interim Action Screening Level workgroup has drafted recommended values for the initial list and the process for evaluating additional volatile hazardous substances.)

Michigan Child Lead Poisoning Elimination Board (Lead Board) (Eric and Deb represented the DEQ)

The report was finalized and released on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The Board is a two year commission and may reconvene to fine-tune and/or prioritize their recommendations. The report also recommends that a permanent Michigan Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Commission be re-established in agreement with the recommendation from the Flint Water Advisory Task Force. *(The Lead Board was created by the Governor under Executive Order and is charged with making recommendations on testing of children for elevated blood lead levels, conducting follow-up monitoring and services (including case management), performing remediation and abatement of lead in homes, and dashboards and reporting. The Lead Board is chaired by the Lt. Governor and staffed by representatives from the Departments of Health and Human Services, Environmental Quality, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, as well representatives of pediatric hospitals, local government, education, nonprofit, and other public health agencies.)*

The Next TSG Meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2016; 9:00-12:00.

Joseph Sablich Conference Room (5S) (517-284-5189)