

Toxics Steering Group
DRAFT Meeting Summary
April 12, 2017

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	Abiy Mussa

Department of Environmental Quality

Christine Flaga (Chairperson)	Tim Achee (Librarian)
Bob Sills	Keisha Williams
Deb MacKenzie-Taylor	Dennis Bush
Kristen Kellock	Sarah Bowman
Joy Taylor Morgan	Shannon Briggs
Eric Wildfang	Divinia Ries
Mike Depa	Shane Morrison
Doreen Lehner	

Others Present

Amy Epkey, Acting Deputy Director
Michael McClellan, Acting Chief of Staff for Amy Epkey
Rhonda Klann, RRD
Al Taylor, WMRPD

Meeting Highlights:

Introductions: New PI Librarian, Timothy Achee

Tim's first day was April 10th. He will be working an 8-Noon Monday through Friday schedule. Tim has 8 years of experience as a librarian and archivist. He most recently served as University Archivist and Assistant Dean for Archives and Records Management at Saint Louis University in Saint Louis, MO. Besides a Master of Library and Information Science, Tim also has a Master of Arts in History, a Master of Science in Applied Analytics, and a post-Masters Certificate in the curation and management of digital assets. Tim will be meeting with the toxicologists and other staff of the WRD, RRD, and AQD over the next few weeks as he learns his responsibilities.

WMRPD Vapor Intrusion Activities (Al Taylor)

Al provided a summary of the process WMRPD is using to evaluate and address the risks from vapor intrusion at the 250 RCRA facilities managed by WMRPD. Multidiscipline teams, which include staff from RRD and DHHS, evaluate the information on hand, request additional sampling to fill data gaps, and forward information about the high priority sites to DHHS. Priorities are established based on current use of the property and comparison of the data to vapor intrusion screening levels. Media-specific screening levels are derived from the Recommended Interim Action Screening Levels (RIASLs) and the time-sensitive RIASLs developed by the TSG Volatilization to Indoor Air Workgroup. The screening levels

identified and used by DHHS staff during the first vapor intrusion evaluations and evacuations conducted in Kent County last summer are also used. Information is summarized on a screening form; if a high priority determination is made, DHHS is notified by way of a completed awareness form. Al is the WMRPD manager who signs off on the forms.

RRD Vapor Intrusion Activities (Rhonda Klann)

RRD has a much larger universe of contaminated sites than the WMRPD Part 11 sites, and due to the differences between Part 201/Part 213 and RCRA, it is more difficult for RRD to identify and address sites with vapor intrusion risks. That said, RRD has a similar process for evaluating and prioritizing sites with potential and known vapor intrusion risks including sending information about high priority vapor intrusion sites to DHHS. Rhonda provided a draft RRD Vapor Intrusion Pathway Hallway which presents information about the VI-related functions, contact staff, and the tasks for those staff. Rhonda also discussed some of the budgetary issues related to vapor intrusion as well as concerns related to the use of the RIASLs. Vapor intrusion training has been initiated for staff (RRD and WMRPD) and it will eventually be offered to external users as well.

Update from the Front Office (Amy Epkey and Michael McClellan)

Amy provided information about the 2018 DEQ budget indicating that significant changes could occur as it moves through the Senate and the House. Michael indicated that he is responsible for redrafting the MOU between the DEQ and the DHHS. The original MOU was signed by DEQ and DHHS in April of 2016. Michael's intentions are to have a draft MOU available for TSG review in July. Also mentioned was the communications strategy that the front office is working on as well as the Employee Survey results which will be released in the near future.

DHHS Vapor Intrusion Activities

Lisa provided an overview of DHHS's activities related to vapor intrusion. The local county health departments have the authority to evacuate buildings where significant vapor intrusion risks have been identified. DHHS uses Action and Trigger Levels they generated using the USEPA OSWER Vapor Intrusion Assessment Calculator (i.e., the orange and yellow table) for a subset of eight volatiles to evaluate and make decisions concerning the health of building occupants exposed to vapors from groundwater and soil contamination. Staff from DHHS and DEQ (Rhonda, Kory, and Al) are working together to create a consistent process and policies related to the vapor intrusion pathway.

Kory spoke to issues arising when EPA has been called in to collect data where vapor intrusion risks are likely to be high. Confidentiality issues have arisen that prevent EPA from sharing the data with DHHS. In some cases, EPA provides the data to ATSDR who then shares it with DHHS. The DEQ, DHHS, and the Attorney General are working on a Data Use Agreement with EPA.

Use of Bioavailability in Risk Assessment (Divinia)

Divinia provided a handout of definitions and graphics from an ITRC draft document entitled: *Bioavailability of Contaminants in Soil: Considerations for Human Health Risk Assessment*. Divinia is a member of the ITRC technical team writing this document. Information on bioavailability is specific to lead, arsenic, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Bioavailability information reduces the

uncertainty in risk assessment of the oral exposure pathway. For example, lead bioavailability can vary significantly from site to site depending on the amount of fines that are present in the soil; typically, the greater the concentration of fines in soil, the lower the bioavailability. For arsenic, EPA uses a default bioavailability of 60% which represents an upper confidence level of 95%. Lower bioavailability based on site-specific information would increase the resulting soil direct contact criteria.

The ITRC document is expected to be final by the end of the year. The group is also working on a training module. Included in the document and training are case studies for PAHs, lead, and arsenic. The information in the document, specifically the case studies, will help staff identify the kind of information needed to determine when a bioavailability assessment should be done and how a site-specific relative bioavailability value is established.

2017 Earth Day (Eric) and Future Earth Days (Divinia)

Eric provided background on the Quality of Life Earth Day event for new staff. The event fulfills an environmental mandate for the DEQ to provide information about the environment to the public. There are typically about 50 different displays which educate kids about some aspect of the environment. Attendance at the event has been as high as 2,500 but more recently attendance is in the range of 1,300 to 1,500 children.

Divinia discussed the TSG's involvement with Earth Day starting in 2006. In the past, the group was very active but in the last few years, the group has not participated. Divinia strongly encouraged the group, particularly the newer staff, to re-engage with Earth Day and come up with new ideas to present information about risk assessment and toxics in the environment. Chris Bush will route old emails and photos of previous TSG Earth Day displays (under the name "Risky Business") to initiate discussions and ideas for next year.

Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) and Mercury Spill Response Workshops (Chris Bush)

Chris Bush spoke about the Mercury Spills Workshops that are held across the state. Presentations given at previous workshops can be obtained from the DHHS website. Chris also updated the group on her involvement with PFAS-contaminated sites. Her work on Wurtsmith continues and more DOD sites with PFAS contamination are being identified with additional sampling planned. Non-DOD sites have also been identified; some examples are State Disposal and a landfill used by Wolverine Worldwide.

Triennial Report/State of the Environment & Emerging Contaminants (Eric)

Eric gave the group a "heads-up" about the State of the Environment Report (aka the Triennial Report). The last report was in 2014 however, it was published in 2016. One of the chapters is about emerging contaminants written by members of the TSG. TSG members were encouraged to start thinking about new emerging contaminants and provide their names if they are interested in working on the chapter. Eric, Amy Babcock, Kristen, Deb and Joy contributed to the last report.

Subcommittee/Workgroup Updates

- PFAS Workgroup (Joy et al.): The draft addendum of the 2011 PFAS white paper was distributed for full TSG review (optional) by Chris F. on April 3. The group was asked for their comments by

April 26 – send your comments to Joy or Kristen. A briefing memo will be sent along with the report to division management first, and then on to the Executive Office.

- VI Interim Action Screening Levels Workgroup (Deb et al.): Deb updated the group on the recent activities of the Workgroup. A few chemicals have been added to the report and it will soon be sent to the RRD and WMRPD directors and then on to the Executive Office. A briefing will accompany the final report. As evaluations of additional chemicals are needed, the evaluations and Recommended Interim Action Levels will be added to the report.

Updates from Toxicology Units/Sections and Programs

- MDARD (Kay): Kay is still involved with the contaminated soybean issue but expects that it will be resolved in the near future since the soybeans have to be moved from the grain elevator by June 1.
- DEQ/WRD (Dennis): Dennis will be interviewing four candidates for the vacant toxicologist position the week of April 21st. WRD managers have been briefed about PFAS and additional monitoring will take place. A comparison of qPRC results to *E. coli* data is being conducted.
- DEQ/AQD (Bob): The changes to the Air Toxics Rules have been released. The revised Air Toxics Rules were promulgated on December 20, 2016. The public comment period will end on April 14. Trainings and webinar sessions will occur both for staff and the public. Bob updated the group on recent public hearings and meetings in southeast Michigan. A new air monitor was placed in the Detroit Area. Bob and Keisha are on a committee addressing air quality issues in Detroit.
- DHHS (Kory): Unit manager positions are in the process of being filled and technical positions will soon be posted.
- DEQ/RRD (Chris): Chris and Eric gave an update to the criteria update work taking place in RRD. The current stakeholder process continues with possibly only a few more meetings to take place and decisions made about a rule package in the near future.
- DEQ/OWMRP (Deb): Nothing more to add beyond the VI-related discussions that already took place.

Miscellaneous

- Chris asked that all members provide input for the TSG Annual Report. Some information has been gathered and Chris will provide a draft by cob April 21 with comments due by cob May 5.
- A brownbag lunch will be scheduled to discuss writing technical fact sheets that can be understood by the general public. A health educator from the DHHS will provide training.
- A special TSG meeting may be scheduled for Bryce Feighner to present on the status of Flint drinking water.

The next TSG meeting: Tuesday, July 24, 2017; 1:00 – 4:00

John McCauley Conference Room (4S) (517-284-5189)

The meeting was adjourned at noon.