

# Toxics Steering Group Meeting Summary April 16, 2018

Meeting minutes are posted on the [Toxics Steering Group \(TSG\) home page](#), under General Information.

Attendance from staff from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR):

## **TSG Director**

Michael McClellan, Environment Deputy Director, DEQ

## **TSG Chairperson**

Shannon Briggs, DEQ

Brandon Armstrong, DEQ  
Jordan Bailey, DHHS  
Christina Rose Bush, DHHS  
Dennis Bush, DEQ  
Aaron Cooch, DHHS  
Michael Depa, DEQ  
William Farrell, DHHS  
Christine Flaga, DEQ  
Jennifer Gray, DHHS

Sesha Kallakuri, DHHS  
Doreen Lehner, DEQ  
Deb MacKenzie-Taylor, DHHS  
Shane Morrison, DEQ  
Abiy Mussa, DHHS  
Mounica Nandula, DHHS  
Robert Sills, DEQ  
Joy Taylor Morgan, DEQ  
Keisha Williams, DEQ

## **Guests**

Dave Fiedler, DEQ  
Darlene Harris, DEQ  
Eric Shaw, DEQ  
Andrew Bertapelle, DEQ

Nicole Sanabria, DEQ  
Christina Pastoria, OGL, DNR  
Emily Finnell, OGL, DNR

## **Meeting Highlights**

TSG members thanked Chris Flaga for serving as Chairperson for the past three years (2015-January, 2018).

DHHS is in the process of hiring six toxicologists and DEQ plans to hire two toxicologists.

The TSG will have interactive displays including "Fishing Hole" and a live Daphnia display for Earth Day in Constitution Hall on April 19, 2018.

The Toxicology Library was moved to the Atrium of the North Tower of Constitution Hall.

The Lautenberg Amendments of the Toxic Substances Control Act were presented by Deb Mackenzie-Taylor. This presentation will be made available to TSG members and will be posted on the TSG SharePoint Team Room.

Darlene Harris and Eric Shaw provided an overview of the TSG Home Page and explained that information on the page should be reviewed to include most recent information while older information should be removed.

Chris Flaga completed the TSG Annual Report. The 2017 TSG annual report posted online on the TSG home page, under [School Health](#).

Direct Link for [Toxics Steering Group 2017 Annual Report](#).

Dave Fiedler provided an overview of the TSG SharePoint Team Room as a resource for TSG members to coordinate tasks and connect with staff from other Departments in the State of Michigan. Doreen Lehner and Shannon Briggs will meet with Dave Fiedler to update information on the TSG Team Room, including members and links to subcommittees and workgroups.

The TSG SharePoint Team Room will be used to update the DEQ Policy and Procedure Number 09-006 (DEQ Policy 09-006), dated August 20, 2012. The update is needed as the policy is older than five years and the TSG is comprised of staff from several Departments. As the DEQ Policy 09-006 is revised, the TSG will consider the increased collaboration between Departments and potential changes to accommodate the TSG as a multi-departmental group.

Michael McClellan provided an update from the Front Office on the following items:

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the DHHS and the DEQ was discussed with Susan Moran (DHHS). The DEQ is waiting for a response from DHHS.
- Activities related to per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) include attending a meeting with the DEQ Director and the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region V Office in Chicago. The DEQ added two staff to the Front Office to assist with PFAS. Scott Dean is the Strategic Communications Advisor for the DEQ communications team. He will be working on both PFAS issues and Enbridge/Line 5/Pipeline Safety Advisory Board related issues. Dennis Mack from the Public Service Commission (PSC) will assist the Executive Office with PFAS, Freedom of Information Act, and other issues that may arise. Dennis is an Administrative Law Judge for the PSC and formerly for the DEQ.
- Staff will give presentations on emerging contaminants at the [American Institute of Professional Geologists](#) (AIPG) 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Section Technical Workshop in Roscommon, MI June 12-13, 2018.
  - Sessa Kallakuri HHS and Christina Pastoria DNR will present “From Discovery to Decision: Toward a Framework for Prioritizing Emerging Contaminants in Michigan.”
  - Sue Leeming will present “Emerging Contaminants, Pathways, and Criteria: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Update.”

Updates from four TSG Subcommittees and Workgroups:

1. Emerging Contaminants Subcommittee  
Members include Joy Taylor Morgan (co-chair), Eric Wildfang (co-chair), Sarah Bowman,

Sesha Kallakuri, Bill Farrrel, Deb Mackenzie-Taylor, and non-TSG members, Kirby Shane, Emily Finnell, and Christina Pastoria.

2. Children's Environmental Health Subcommittee

Members include Deb MacKenzie-Taylor (chairperson), Christina Bush, Divinia Ries, Bob Sills.

The subcommittee was not convened during the past year, however (Deb Mackenzie Taylor provided support to RRD during stakeholder discussions on the process for addressing developmental toxicants. The process is based on the report that was written by this subcommittee. Members of the group will have a meeting to discuss membership and select the next chairperson.

3. PFAS Workgroup

Members include Joy Taylor Morgan (chairperson), Christina Bush, Dennis Bush, Eric Wildfang, Kay Fritz, as well as non-TSG members, Bob Delaney and Kirby Shane. The TSG PFAS Workgroup was absorbed into the larger multiagency PFAS Technical Workgroup which is a part of the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART). Bob Sills is serving as the scientist for the DEQ for technical discussions. Bob Sills (DEQ), Kory Groetsch (HHS), and Tammy Newcomb (DNR) attended the MPART meeting with the Governor's Office and external experts.

4. Vapor Intrusion Workgroup

Members include Shane Morrison (chairperson), Deb MacKenzie-Taylor, Jennifer Gray, Kory Groetsch, Lisa Quiggle, Divinia Ries, Keisha Williams.

Toxicology Updates from Departments and Programs:

- HHS update from Christina Bush and Deb MacKenzie-Taylor
- Air Quality Division DEQ from Bob Sills: Public meeting scheduled for May 3, 2018 for the 48217 Air Monitoring.
- Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection DEQ from AI Taylor
- Water Resources Division DEQ from Shannon Briggs
- Remediation and Redevelopment Division from Chris Flaga

Next TSG meeting: Monday, July 31, 2018, 9:00 AM to Noon  
Joseph Sablich Conference Room (5S), 517-284-5173

Tentative Agenda for July 31, 2018:

- Environmental Justice
- Emerging Contaminants Update
- Results and Feedback from TSG involvement in Earth Day (Divinia Ries)
- Progress with TSG Policy 06-009 Update
- Please send additional agenda items to Shannon Briggs