

**TOXICS STEERING GROUP (TSG) QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2015**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Members in attendance:**

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD):

Kay Fritz

Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH):

Jennifer Grey  
Christina Bush  
Lisa Quiggle

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ):

Dennis Bush	Kristen Kellock
Amy Babcock	Joy Taylor Morgan
Bob Sills	Divinia Ries
Mike Depa	Eric Wildfang
Keisha Williams	Christine Flaga
Doreen Lehner	Emily Weingartz

Deputy Director, Jim Sygo

**Highlights:**

Front Office Update – Jim Sygo

- RRD is undergoing a comprehensive update of the Part 201 cleanup criteria and is looking for assistance from toxicologists in the other divisions. Some assistance will be provided by toxicologists in the OWMRP but others may be tapped if the timeframe becomes critical. Overtime pay may be an option for those interested.
- The 2015-2016 budget is expected to be finalized in June.
- Western Michigan University has proposed a project: mining and compiling groundwater and soil data from MDEQ files for the purpose of generating a statewide soil and groundwater map with searchable files. They will provide an example for the department to consider using data from Ionia County.
- Jim supported publication of the recent TSG 1,4-dioxane report on the TSG webpage as well as other TSG Subcommittee reports.

Library/Librarian Update – Emily

In preparation for her retirement before the end of the year, Emily has been working on the library to do the following:

- Where available, incorporate permanent uniform resource locators (PURLs) for shelved holdings in the library.
- Checking all holdings on the shelf to the electronic records within the library database.
- Emily is also preparing to train interested toxicologists on her approach to searching the scientific literature. She will share sources and search strategies. Also discussed was the preparation of a desk manual to provide others with written guidance on how to locate scientific information, primarily toxicological, after Emily's retirement. Emily agreed to add the desk manual to her list of assignments.

#### Earth Day: Eric

Eric briefly introduced the Earth Day Activities and TSG's past participation to new the toxicologists. He also solicited volunteers for the MDCH Fishing Hole exhibit.

#### Possible MDARD funding for training: Kay

Kay asked for suggestions on training or speakers that can be funded with available MDARD grant money. The training must be associated with food issues to comply with the requirements of the grant. Several suggestions and topics were offered including "relative source contribution". Other ideas can be sent to Kay.

#### Possible U of M speaker on PBPK modeling: Keisha

Keisha asked if anyone would be interested in attending a seminar on PBPK modeling by a modeler at U of M. Several people were interested. Keisha will monitor future seminars by Dr. Oliver Jolliet.

#### Subcommittee/Workgroup Updates:

- *Children's Environmental Health Subcommittee:* Christina, Bob, and Divinia  
The CEH Subcommittee reported on their progress concerning the development of a consistent process to generate cleanup criteria based on developmental and reproductive data. This work was requested by RRD. Chris provided background information on the request. The Subcommittee met several times and is in the process of drafting their report. The Subcommittee plans to submit the report to the TSG for review and comments at the end of May. In discussing the update and promulgation process for the Part 201 cleanup criteria, Bob explained and compared different aspects of the air toxics screening levels (AQD) and the water quality standards (WRD) with the cleanup criteria helping to explain why the cleanup criteria are promulgated and the other risk-based standards are not.
- *Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Workgroup:*  
This subcommittee has not met recently. The draft report was completed in 2011. Chris indicated that RRD was directed by Jim Sygo to include the PFOS and PFOA criteria in the Part 201 criteria update/promulgation process. The subcommittee will meet in the near future to discuss the most efficient way to update the criteria that were drafted several years ago. WRD has developed Rule 57 Values for both PFOS and PFOA and their work could help expedite the criteria update.

- 1,4-Dioxane Subcommittee:  
The Subcommittee completed its review of the information provided by Michael Dourson, Ph.D., regarding the mechanism of action for the carcinogenicity of 1,4-dioxane. The resulting report was approved by the TSG and distributed to interested parties. Per Jim Sygo, the report can be posted on the TSG webpage.

Updates from DEQ, DARD, and DCH programs/sections/units:

- AQD: Bob reported that a meeting will be held in Detroit to address SO<sub>2</sub> nonattainment issues; the draft of the air toxics rules is undergoing final review and is expected to be submitted to LARA in two weeks; and, this year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the clean air rules which will be celebrated with various events.
- WRD: Dennis indicated that WRD staff is reviewing PFOS levels in fish and water from 11 sites across the state. Dennis and Joe Bohr are drafting a report which they will submit to MDCH for comment. WRD is getting closer to purchasing QPCR machines for some local health departments so that they can measure E. coli levels at beaches in a much shorter timeframe than previously.
- RRD: Chris reported on the status of the criteria stakeholder process. A meeting with stakeholders and Director Wyant will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup> to address a few remaining issues related to the comprehensive update of the cleanup criteria.
- DCH: MDCH will soon be the Department of Health and Human Services. DCH staff may be moving from their current location in May of 2016. Other information shared: the 2015 Fish Guidelines will be released today; discussion on the issue of formaldehyde emissions from laminate flooring.
- DARD: Kay is involved in a variety of issues for several programs within DARD such as pesticide drift complaints, applications for industrial waste materials to use as fertilizer/soil conditioners, avian influenza, and environmental contamination of fish.

The next TSG meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2015, 9-12 in John McCauley (4S).