

TOXICS STEERING GROUP (TSG) QUARTERLY MEETING
Friday, July 11, 2014
MEETING SUMMARY

Members in attendance:

Department of Community Health (DCH):

Christina Rose Bush Jennifer Gray

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):

Amy Babcock	Christine Flaga	Joy Taylor Morgan
Dennis Bush	Kristen Kellock	Divinia Ries - Chairperson
Mike Depa	Doreen Lehner	Eric Wildfang

Others Present:

Jim Sygo, DEQ Deputy Director

Highlights:

Past TSG activities – Divinia Ries

- a) A TSG letter of support was sent to Dr. Linda Dykema of the DCH on June 13, 2014, to support the Division of Environmental Health's grant application for funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to establish and maintain a Michigan portal to the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.
- b) Along with the Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, and Kentucky Departments of Health/Environment, the TSG signed a letter drafted by Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA) to the Japan Ministry of the Environment requesting copies of the original 1,4-dioxane drinking water and inhalation studies conducted by the Japan Bioassay Research Center. Chris Flaga has not received feedback on the status of the request at this time.
- c) Michigan Triennial Report, Emerging Contaminant section – The contaminants being considered are listed below. The last 2 were new additions. Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) was removed from the list for 2014 because it has been addressed. TSG members can submit any additional recommendations for emerging contaminants that may be of concern to Michigan to Amy, Deb, Joy, Kristen or Eric.
 - Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products
 - Perfluorinated Compounds
 - Polychlorinated Naphthalenes
 - Nanomaterials
 - n-Propyl bromide
 - Endocrine disruptors
 - Triclosan
 - Microplastics
- d) The TSG brownbag on July 10 was about physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling. Amy attended a three-day training session at Michigan State University in May and will schedule more PBPK brownbags for interested TSG members.

Front office update – Jim Sygo

- Triennial report has a section on emerging contaminants (see above).
- "Telling the story" has had a positive impact on getting the message out and on funding.
- Composting may be a future emerging issue. The DEQ is addressing this issue in Macomb County by focusing on best management practices.

- Cleanup criteria stakeholder process is ongoing. Jim gave a brief description of the process.
- Enbridge consent judgment being worked on. Diamond Plating consent judgment is also in the works.
- 1,4-Dioxane issue and inquiry on Japanese data request by TERA were discussed.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Children's Environmental Health Subcommittee - No activity to report at this time.
- 1,4-Dioxane status, deliberative draft report, and recommendation – Chris Flaga
A deliberative draft report stating the subcommittee's comments and conclusions related to TERA's proposal for a mutagenic mode of action for tumor formation in rodents had been drafted and distributed to the TSG prior to the meeting. The discussion was led by Chris Flaga.
 - a) Chris distributed a handout and presented the background for TERA's proposal and the presentation made to the department on October 8, 2013. A summary of the subcommittee's comments and recommendations was presented.
 - b) Jim Sygo provided direction to the TSG regarding the report. TSG members present were in concurrence with the report. TSG members not present will be contacted. The draft will receive further revision before submitting to management.
 - c) Jim will brief the Executive Section on the report and Chris will update RRD management.
- Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) status report - Amy Babcock & Joy Taylor Morgan
 - a) The Water Resources Division (WRD) has developed final water quality values for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) was informed that WRD does not agree with their approach presented in the 2014 Health Effects Document; i.e., USEPA's use of the rat study as basis for developing the oral toxicity value. WRD used the PBPK analysis of the monkey data to derive a reference dose.
 - b) The Air Quality Division is following the USEPA's work on a reference concentration for PFOS. PFCs are on the Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) List.
 - c) Christina Bush reported that the fish data from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant project are undergoing QA/QC checks and should be available at the end of the summer or early fall. Surface water data are available.
 - d) Jim gave the approval for Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD) to develop Part 201 criteria for PFOS and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).

Other Business:

- Mike Depa will finalize the TSG Annual Report by the end of July.
- Kay Fritz sent a note that she is working on "iodine toxicity in dairy cattle and dioxin contamination of agriculture land in the Tittabawasee River floodplain".
- Linda Dykema is now the Manager of the Division of Environmental Health at the DCH.
- Dennis Bush reported that the WRD plans to give \$500,000 to local health departments to purchase digital polymerase chain reaction (dPCR) equipment, which will allow rapid testing of beach water samples within hours. This will be a major advancement in the protection of human health since the current culture method takes at least 24 hours to get results (Note: The dPCR is a more precise and faster method than the conventional qPCR method).
- The TSG Brown Bag is scheduled every 2nd Wednesday of each month at CH-3S-ARTHUR-IVERSON at 12:00-1:00. Members are encouraged to use the Brown Bag time to share scientific information, feedback on training/conferences or practice presentations.

Next meeting:

Date: October 2, Thursday, 9-11 a.m., Lillian Hatcher Conference Room, Constitution Hall
Agenda will include library organization and maintenance (Emily) and Subcommittee updates.