

**Toxics Steering Group
May 3, 2016 Meeting Summary**

Members in attendance:

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Linda Dykema
Lisa Quiggle

Kory Groetsch

Department of Environmental Quality

Christine Flaga (Chairperson)
Eric Wildfang
Divinia Ries
Deb MacKenzie-Taylor
Kristen Kellock
Shannon Briggs

Bob Sills
Mike Depa
Keisha Williams
Doreen Lehner
Dennis Bush
Joy Taylor Morgan

Highlights:

DEQ-DHHS Memorandum of Understanding

Jim Sygo explained the background for the MOU. Questions and concerns were discussed. Comments and suggested revisions should be submitted to Jim by June 3, 2016 for his consideration. Jim will consider the suggested revisions and distribute a final, signed version by August 1. Christine will schedule a meeting to compile and finalize the TSG comments and she will send the comments to Jim.

TSG Annual Report

A strategy for revising the 2015 annual report draft was identified:

- Subcommittee Chairs will provide updates of their 2015 Subcommittee activities.
- All TSG members will review the draft and provide comments on “Training”, “Outreach and Education”, and “Collaborative Activities”.
- Librarian services will be included in the “Future Needs and Recommendations” Section.
- Comments and suggestions will be submitted to Chris by COB May 16, 2016.

TSG Subcommittee Updates

- *1,4-Dioxane (Christine Flaga, Chair)*: The subcommittee last met in January 2015 for the purpose of finalizing the report “Review of a 1,4-Dioxane Presentation by Michael Dourson, Ph.D. on October 8, 2013”. That report was completed in February of 2015. TERA completed their work on the Japanese studies and presented it in a workshop to which the Subcommittee was invited. The Subcommittee did not participate due to the urgent work on the criteria update and specifically the CSA direction to use IRIS as a Tier 1 source for toxicity endpoints.

- *Children's Environmental Health (Deb MacKenzie-Taylor, Chair)*: The subcommittee completed the revision of the report "Process to Address Developmental and/or Reproductive Toxicity in the Derivation of Generic Cleanup Criteria". This report was previously completed in December 2015. The revision addresses RRD's request to incorporate a process for addressing exposure of pregnant residents and workers to those developmental toxicants with known prenatal exposure data and effects to the fetus. This will address use of the appropriate averaging time parameter within the criteria equations. The revision provides instruction on how to determine whether the exposure to the developmental toxicant is based on a single event exposure during pregnancy (one day) or averaged over the length of the pregnancy (nine months). Deb will send the report out to the full TSG for review of only the revised language.
- *Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Workgroup (Joy Taylor Morgan, co-chair)*: The group has not met recently but they continue to communicate via email and review articles and data they locate or receive from DEQ staff. The white paper written by the group in 2011 will be updated this year.

Next TSG Chairperson

Since completion of the Annual Report was postponed due to RRD's comprehensive criteria rules update project, Christine offered to continue as Chair until the end of the 2016 calendar year. Deb agreed that she would assume the role of TSG chairperson January 1, 2017.

Other Business and MDEQ Updates:

- **Scientific Information/Librarian Support**: Toxicologists in all programs identified the issues and difficulties they're having in locating chemical-specific information and obtaining articles since Emily's (DEQ librarian) retirement in January of this year. All agreed that this was a critical resource for obtaining chemical-specific toxicity and risk-assessment related information in the scientific literature. It was agreed that Christine would schedule a special meeting to discuss this issue. Everyone in the DEQ thought their Offices/Divisions (AQD, RRD, OWMRP, WRD) would support one-quarter funding for a departmental librarian position. (At the time of her retirement, Emily's position was officially located in RRD; RRD paid for the position and AQD and WRD paid for their chemical literature searches and the time Emily spent conducting the searches. Emily split her time between the three divisions for general library maintenance.)
- A status report was provided by Christine on RRD's cleanup criteria rules update and promulgation process. The rule package was submitted to ORR on April 15 and it was submitted to JCAR and LSB by ORR on April 27. Tentative dates have been identified for the public comment period, the public hearing, and informational public meetings. A brief summary of the specific updates was provided.
- Dennis Bush provided a summary of the following items of interest in his unit.
 - A proposal will be submitted to the USFWS for wildlife monitoring at several Areas of Concern with wildlife Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs). Wildlife monitoring (forage fish, eagles, and mink) at these sites will include measurement of PFCs.

- MI has distributed 11 QPCR machines to local entities for beach monitoring. The local entities are currently comparing QPCR results to the traditional culture method for measuring *E. coli*. Use of QPCR will allow local health departments to make decisions about beach closures more quickly.
- Recommendations for human health values for microcystin in surface are being drafted.
- Bob Sills provided an update on AQD's Air Toxics Rules and the changes in the rule package that were made as a result of comments submitted to the department. He also shared that AQD has adopted a procedure for developing a plain language FAQ addressing public health issues for air permits at the public review and comment phase of the process. Bob also briefly discussed the challenges of addressing cumulative risk related to air permits.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2016 from 9:00 am – Noon in the Joseph Sablich conference room (5S).