

Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART)
Constitution Hall, Lansing, Michigan
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
April 4, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Kevin Besey, MDARD
Dan Eichinger, MDNR Director
Robert Gordon, MDHHS Director
Steve Sliver, MDEQ, MPART Executive Director
Mike Trout, MDOT
Frank Waters, LARA

Members Absent: COL Jim Shay, DMVA

Welcome and Introduction of MART Members

Liesl Clark, MDEQ Director, welcomed the MPART members and thanked the audience for attending.

Agenda and Conduct of Meeting

Steve Sliver, MPART Executive Director, noted that a quorum was established and reviewed the agenda. The meeting materials will be made available online at Michigan.gov/PFASResponse.

Presentation: The Path to a PFAS Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

George Krisztian, MDEQ, provided an overview of the path forward for creating MCLs. A statewide survey was conducted of Type I community water supplies, Type II non-transient non-community water supplies, and federally-recognized Tribal water supplies totaling 1,744 water supplies tested and approximately 7.7 million served by those supplies. Of those tested, only two supplies tested over 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA/PFOS, Parchment and Robinson Elementary. Those two supplies were immediately provided with alternate water sources. Moving forward, the next steps for middle tier supplies will be a quarterly monitoring program.

The timeline of the MCL process began on March 28, 2019, with the request for rulemaking, which was approved by the Office of Regulatory Reinvention. The Science Advisory Workgroup will work on health-based values, based solely on health-based criteria with an anticipated completion date of July 1, 2019. The MDEQ will also work with various stakeholder groups during this process. It is anticipated to have the draft rules developed by October 1, 2019, with the final rules adopted in April 2020.

Presentation: PFAS Human Health Drinking Water Screening Levels

Dr. Jennifer Gray, MDHHS, provided an overview of the PFAS Public Health Drinking Water Screening Levels Report developed by the MPART Human Health Workgroup led by MDHHS. In general, there are multiple components needed for development of screening levels and, as a result, there are multiple different screening levels (used as a generic term for health-based environmental media values) developed by different agencies. A brief description of the components of screening levels were provided, including a description of a methodology (developed by the Minnesota Department of Health) available to account for a lifetime of exposure, including prenatally and postnatally. Screening levels are one of many tools used by MDHHS to make public health recommendations for evaluating PFAS in drinking water and represent concentrations below which no or minimal risk of adverse health impacts would be expected. Levels above the PFAS Public Health Drinking Water Screening Levels would be further evaluated, along with other site-related information. They are not regulatory standards.

Presentation: Science Advisory Workgroup

Kory Groetsch, MDHSS, provided an overview of the Science Advisory Workgroup. Governor Whitmer directed MPART to form a Science Advisory Workgroup to inform the rulemaking process for an appropriate MCL no later than July 1, 2019. The Workgroup will recommend health-based values for PFAS in drinking water and will be comprised of external experts in toxicology, epidemiology, and risk assessment. Both MDEQ and MDHHS will provide staffing assistance to the workgroup by conducting a workshop, responding to information requests, assisting with the process, and responding to other technical requests. The charge of the workgroup is to provide to MPART, no later than July 1, 2019, a report recommending each calculated PFAS health-based values with written justification of the selected methodology and each selected input.

Motion: Robert Gordon made a motion to establish the Science Advisory Workgroup; Frank Waters seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all members present.

Public Comments

Laura Campbell, Michigan Farm Bureau, stated that Farm Bureau represents a lot of the rural population that are not noted on the sampling map. What are the plans once there is enforceable drinking levels for public supplies? What can we do to address private drinking water supplies, private wells, etc.?

Steve Sliver stated that there are approximately 49 sites of known contamination. In any of those locations if there was greater than 70 ppt PFOA/PFAS, the MDEQ would look right away at any private wells. If any levels were found in those private wells, they are put on an alternate water supply. The MDEQ is able to actively investigate and put people on a remedy. If there are areas on the map where higher concentrations are found, we are not limited to looking at public supplies but will also look at private wells.

Stephen Brown stated that he heard about data looked at from the United States, but there is also a large body of data on PFAS from outside the country and we should be

looking at it. With only three to five members on the workgroup, proper management and delegation to meet that deadline will require a large workgroup.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

APPROVED at the MPART Board Meeting on June 27, 2019