

**Citizen's Advisory Workgroup (CAWG) Meeting Summary
May 12, 2020 {Finalized June 16, 2020}**

ATTENDEES:

Patty Baldwin	Mike Jury	Christina Schroeder
Bill Barnett	Theresa Landrum	Randy Rothe
A. J. Birkbeck	Deb MacKenzie-Taylor	Steve Sliver
Connie Boris	Susan Manente	Ian Smith
Daniel Brown	Lynn McIntosh	Shelli Thurston
Daniel Burlingame	Pam McQueer	Marcus Wasilevich
Daniel Buyze	Penny Minhinnick-Burns	Aaron Weed
Jennifer Carney	Tammy Newcomb	David Winn
William Creal	Amy Peterson	Sandy Wynn-Stelt
Jeff Dutton	Kelly Ploehn	Hal Zweng
Kenneth Harvey	Bob Potocki	

The attached presentation was used to help facilitate the discussion.

Meeting Summary

MPART UPDATES

No requested additions for the current agenda.

PERFLUORO-4-ETHYCYCLOHEXANESULFONATE (PFECHS) continued from the previous meeting: Mike Jury continued the discussion regarding PFECHS and what MPART is doing:

Background

- Compound is cyclic as opposed to linear or branched.
- Primarily used as an additive in aircraft hydraulic fluid formulations to inhibit erosion on seals and prevent fires in hydraulic systems.
- This compound is found in surface waters and in fish found in the Great Lakes.
- Used in commercial aircrafts, not by military as it was incompatible with existing military fluids and materials. They use a synthetic fluid.
- Found at some airports (Hamilton International Airport, Ontario, and Beijing International Airport), St. Lawrence River, Canadian Ice Cap and Resolute Bay, Nunavut, North and Baltic Seas in Europe and all The Great Lakes. Probably from a combination of aerial deposition from aircraft, runoff from airport runways/taxiways, and maintenance shops and hangers.

Q: Mike asked if anyone has contact with maintenance personnel of an airport? He is curious to know how much of this fluid is lost from the aircraft, once a flight, every 6-months, etc.

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What MPART is doing about PFECCHS

- A referral to the Human Health Workgroup to look into and find toxic information available,
- Coordinating with partner states; Wisconsin and Minnesota, who were unaware of this compound at the time,
- MDHHS lab is currently validating a method to detect PFECCHS in tissues and groundwater,
- Currently most commercial labs have not had a need and therefore unable to analyze, besides Merit Lab in East Lansing.
- Mike predicts more labs will begin analyzing for it as more information is available.

Q: David Winn-Is it used at Wurtsmith? There is a commercial airline there.

A: Mike-He would assume since it is a commercial aircraft, but he is not positive. No complaints or spill notices received to his knowledge.

Q: Bill Creal-Any ideas what the dangerous levels would be?

A: Mike-Not yet, which is why the Human Health Workgroup was asked for their help.

Q: Pam McQueer-Are other compounds being identified/addressed in areas of concern? And how would that be managed?

A: Steve-If you have a chemical of concern, please bring it up to the group. It would be managed through the MPART workgroups. White Paper possibly being drafted to address. Some do not consider this a PFAS, and there is currently a group trying to define what a PFAS compound is.

Q: Daniel Buyze-Oil Dry materials used at automotive and aircraft maintenance facilities, is there any intention to test nearby landfills for that material that is disposed of after a spill?

A: Mike-Not at this point since the lab is not equipped to test for that compound, but he will bring it up/find out more. Will also, discuss with landfills to being analyzing for that compound with routine sampling.

Q: Theresa Landrum-With in being found in fish, how harmful is it if being consumed?

A: Human Health Workgroup currently working on it and looking at current information.

CAWG WEBPAGE

Kelly Ploehn introduced it and how to navigate the CAWG page.

Steve asked the members look at the webpages before the next meeting, to discuss, helpfulness, transparency, etc.

Q: Bob Potocki-What group is responsible for PFAS levels in inland lakes?

A: Steve-The Technical Advisory Workgroup, which is the entire MPART Team; Human Health Workgroup, Toxicologists, Water Resources Division, Wastewater Workgroup, and others. He also showed where to find specific water quality information, by watershed, on the website.

Comment-Bill Creal indicated that Mike Alexander is the workgroup lead and would know. His email is provided in the write-up.

Q: Connie Boris-Was any work done with the River Rouge Watershed

A: Steve-Yes, there is ongoing work there

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Q: Daniel Buyze-Is there a schedule of tests in areas of known contamination, even if source is removed?

A: Steve-There is a sampling plan, can be redirected if a source is found.

Mike-There is a five-year sampling plan

Q: Lynn McIntosh-Concerned about the water conditions in North Kent County. Takes inventory/photos/documents. Can citizens get involved in the Surface Water Workgroup?

A: Mike-Sampling procedures use strong acids and bases for preservation of the sample leading to exposure concerns for untrained persons.

Q: AJ Birkbeck-Impressed and appreciates new information found on website. Is concerned it may be difficult to navigate and is it possible to form a subgroup to assist with the usability of the website, input, feedback from citizens, etc.

A: Steve-Always looking for way to improve and be useful. Possibly pick areas to focus on for each meeting.

Q: Aaron Weed-Where is MPART on remediation actions? I don't want us to get into analysis paralysis.

A: Steve-Hard to determine, many sites around the state and various stages. Easier to discuss on a site-by-site basis.

DISCUSSION OF THE SURVEY

Form subcommittee to follow MPART closely, be involved in the after-action review and assist with the best approach.

Ken Harvey (Lead)

Shelli Thurston

AJ Birkbeck

Daniel Burlingame

Comment: Ken Harvey-Encouraged everyone to participate in the surveys, to help the group and MPART.

EXPANDED UNIVERSE

New Groundwater Investigations (when proposed criteria is adopted)

Sites exceeding pending groundwater criteria

39

Areas surrounding public water supplies exceeding proposed MCLs

28

Prioritization of these sites

-Public health

-Not all will require an investigation of private wells

-Hydrogeology and contamination at some locations is well defined and possibly not an urgent concerns

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Limited Resources

Staff
Funding

Public Awareness in Mass Considerations

-Currently planning

-Ideas being considered:

Pre-recorded introduction on webpage introducing MPART, PFAS 101, and Health Effects,
Briefing Legislators/Local Officials
Individual site writeups on the web
MPART GovDelivery

Comment: AJ Birkbeck-Prerecording is great idea because there is a lot of information. However, people may want more site-specific information and how it is impacting that community,

Comment: Patty Baldwin-Likes the idea of a prerecorded introduction as an introduction, and agrees with AJ about site-specific information as well,

Comment: Daniel Brown: Also, would like to see general background information with prerecorded introduction. Including sites, watersheds, landfills, and military basis around Michigan.

Comment: Ken Harvey-subcommittee can assist with these sites.

Comment: David Winn-Consider including the source of contamination, to understand where it is coming from.

Comment: Daniel Brown-Concerned about confusion around PFAS guidelines for fish consumption, so translating existing content on exposure pathways to pre-recorded videos would also be helpful (and especially valuable to those with visual impairments).

NEXT STEPS

- Public Advocate Web Presents Feedback

- DHHS Update

- Topical Workgroup Review

- Subcommittee Focus

Comment: Daniel Brown-Observed foam on Portage Lake, he reached out to MPART and Michael and they have been assisting.

Comment: Patty Baldwin-Fish consumption guidelines could be passed out with Fishing Licenses.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

June 9, 2020

July 14, 2020