

TOXICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 18, 2005

A meeting of the Toxics Advisory Committee was held at the Environmental Protection Agency in Philadelphia, PA. Members or alternates present were:

Delaware

Rick Greene

Academia

Dr. David Velinsky

Agriculture

Not represented

Pennsylvania

James Newbold

Public Health Interest

Not represented

New Jersey

Steven Lubow

Environmental/Watershed

Dr. Anthony Aufdenkampe

Federal Fish & Wildlife

Tim Kubiak, USFWS

New York

Not represented

Industry

Larry Sandeen

Municipal

Dennis Blair

U.S. EPA

Dr. Rollie Hemmett

Delaware River Basin Commission

Bob Tudor

Dr. Thomas Fikslin

Dr. Ron MacGillivray

John Yagecic

Dr. Namsoo Suk

Donna Gushue

Other Attendees

Dr. Danielle Kreeger, DELEP

Tom Harlukowicz, PSEG

Bruce Aptowicz, PWD

Simeon Hahn, NOAA

David Pillar, Excelon

Roy Romano, Philadelphia Water Dept

Denise Hakowski, EPA Region III

Tom Starosta, PA DEP

Roberta Ricco, EPA Region III

I. RECOMMENDATIONS & AGREEMENTS

- Mr. Sandeen submitted a paper to the TAC on developing a modeling subcommittee that would become more involved with the Expert Panel.
- The TAC recommended that the projects *Chemical Pollution Histories in the Tidal Freshwater Estuary* (\$25,000) and *Evaluating Test Species for Chronic Toxicity Testing in Ambient Waters* (\$7,000) be funded by DELEP.

II. CALL TO ORDER

- Dr. Hemmett who is the new chairperson for the Toxics Advisory Committee called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Appreciation and thanks were expressed to Mr. Sandeen for his year of service as TAC chairperson.

III. DELEP UPDATE

- Dr. Danielle Kreeger, the new Estuary Science Coordinator for the Delaware Estuary Program, introduced herself to the members of the TAC.
- The first of two parts of the Delaware Estuary Science Conference was held last week in Cape May. Dr. Kreeger has been charged with helping to facilitate this conference. This conference is being split into two parts to allow some time to digest the results of the first event, which was geared to research scientists. The second half of the Science Conference will be held in May of 2005 in Wilmington Delaware.
- Dr. Kreeger's future goals include:
 - State of estuary synthesis.
 - Start to build or perhaps re-build a communication effort to coordinate chart science needs (looking for what are the future science needs for the estuary) and how to prioritize limited resources. The idea is get the scientific community at large to agree or build a consensus on the top 5 or 8 research needs that the Partnership wants to invest in, and then to develop a more national focus on the estuary program and to increase the overall funding available.
 - To facilitate capabilities on current issues (i.e. oil spill in the Delaware). To set up a hub/nexus working with the program where all the scientists when oil spills happen a person can immediately turn to one point/one place for a coordinate effort to address the issues.
 - To come together to build enthusiasm on the Delaware Estuary.

IV. DELEP GRANT PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, AND RANKING

- Ms. Klein mentioned at the last TAC meeting that the grant applications for the small grants program for the FY06 budget should be sent to DELEP by January 30, 2005. Mr. Yagecic sent an e-mail soliciting different grant proposals and two proposals were received. One proposal was from the Academy of Natural Sciences & the University of Delaware and the other was from the Chronic Toxic Workgroup.
- Dr. A. Ronald MacGillivray presented his proposal on Evaluating Test Species for Chronic Toxicity Testing in Ambient Waters of the Delaware Estuary. Dr. MacGillivray is looking at chronic toxicity issues where they have reproductive problems and other non-lethal problems that are potentially occurring in the estuary that need to be monitored more closely due to fact of the presence of toxics.
- Dr. Velinsky presented the proposal for Chemical Pollution Histories in the Tidal Freshwater Delaware Estuary. Funds are requested for fieldwork and radiochemical dating of sediment marsh cores taken from tidal fresh water marshes in the Delaware Estuary. It was noted that this proposal is being re-submitted (not granted previously).

The following is a resolution from the Toxics Advisory Committee for a grant that will be submitted by Dr. Kreeger to the Partnership:

Upon review, the TAC concludes that the projects *Chemical Pollution Histories in the Tidal Freshwater Estuary* (Phase 1 - core collection dating (\$25,000)) and *Evaluating Test Species for Chronic Toxicity Testing in Ambient Waters* (\$7,000) are of equally high priority and the TAC recommends that DELEP fund both of these projects. The TAC recommends that Phase 2 of the Chemical Pollution Histories Project (Chemical analysis) be funded as funds become available from DELEP.

Motion to accept the resolution was made by Mr. Sandeen and was seconded by Dr. Aufdenkampe. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Blair seconded. 2 abstentions. Motion carried

LUNCH 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

V. Review of meeting minutes from November 30, 2004

- The TAC reviewed draft minutes from the November 30, 2004 meeting. Mr. Sandeen moved to accept the November 30, 2004 minutes with the noted changes. Mr. Blair seconded the motion. Motion carried with two abstentions.

VI. STAGE 2 PCB TMDL – STRATEGY, SCHEDULE, AND ISSUES (Dr. Fikslin)

- Dr. Fikslin noted at the last TAC meeting he had outlined the elements for the Stage 2 strategy for the PCB TMDL. A handout today contained a summary of this strategy that goes into a bit more detail regarding each of the five elements that were reviewed before.
- Stage 2 strategy utilizes many of the elements that are identified in Stage 1. DRBC will be building upon the tasks that were identified in Stage 1 with filling in some of the holes in terms of data, in terms of characterization, further studying some of the processes that were identified during Stage 1 as important, and ones that would require some further investigation.
- Essentially, DRBC is in the same position that we were for Stage 1 in terms of what could be the controlling water quality criteria. Wildlife criteria were a potential target for the TMDLs back in Stage 1. At the present time, New Jersey had a proposed action, withdrew it, and now has to make a re-proposal. Mr. Lubow explained the process that this action will require on the part of the State of New Jersey;

Summary of Dr. Fikslin's presentation is attached.

Update from Other subcommittees:

- Mr. Blair noted that the Loading Subcommittee would be meeting on February 10.
- Mr. Sandeen noted that the Data Quality Subcommittee has finalized the data quality objectives. The coalition will sponsor two training workshops on the data quality objectives.
- On behalf of the Toxics Subcommittee, Dr. MacGillivray reported that he would present in a month or so the QAPP to EPA.

VII. MODELING SUBCOMMITTEE PROPOSAL FOLLOW UP

- Mr. Sandeen submitted a paper to the TAC on developing a subcommittee/workgroup that would become more involved with the Expert Panel.

VIII. CROWN VANTAGE LANDFILL UPDATE (See The attached file for details)

- The purpose of this presentation involved this particular site to solicit some feedback from the TAC. Mr. Yagecic noted awareness through this process, and through the IAC (Implementation Advisory Committee) that there is some dissatisfaction in terms of coordination of what's been done to remediate contaminated site and that maybe not the level of communication across political boundaries and between land programs, waste programs, and water programs and that there ought to be. In addition, one can look at the TAC as one avenue to potentially remedy that.
- Mr. Yagecic is looking for some feedback as whether the TAC thinks it would be worthwhile venue to do that, or whether it is really kind of an outside venue. Mr. Yagecic recommended that the TAC read though the memos providing the detailed information on this Crown Vantage Landfill site.
- Mr. Yagecic noted that back in November of 2004 DRBC went on a site visit with EPA personnel and saw the activities that were ongoing (photos shown). A list of the contaminants of concern were presented.

IX. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The TAC members were asked to put a hold on the dates of February 17th or 18th for the next meeting.

Mr. Sandeen motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Velinsky and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.