

**Drinking Water Quality Institute – Health Effects Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
April 24th, 2006
NJDEP Building, 401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ**

Members present: David Pringle, Perry Cohn, Leslie McGeorge, Judy Klotz

Also attending: Gloria Post, Diane Pupa, Linda Walsh

Agenda:

- I. Finalize Subcommittee Health Based MCL Review Process Document
- II. Finalize "Existing" Draft Health Based Documents from 2/1/06 Mtg:
 - 1,1-Dichloroethane
 - Vinyl Chloride
- III. Review/Discuss "New" Draft Health Based Documents:
 - 1,3-Dichlorobenzene
 - 1,4-Dichlorobenzene
 - 1,1-Dichloroethylene
- IV. Status of Reviews in Progress:
Benzene; 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene; 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane; 1,1,2-Trichloroethane

Meeting Notes:

I.) The meeting began at 10:10 am and began with a re-cap of a conference call between Dr. Resha Putzrath of USEPA and Gloria Post, Leslie McGeorge, Perry Cohn, and other DEP staff involved with risk assessment regarding EPA's new 2005 Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment and how that differs from the 1986 EPA Guidance. Two points in the 2005 guidelines are key: 1.) EPA will not attempt a dose-response assessment (slope factor development) if the data doesn't support one; and 2.) there are now five new weight of evidence descriptors for describing carcinogenicity of chemicals, and they are no longer referred to as Group A,B,C, D, or E chemicals. The application of the new guidelines by the EPA programs is an evolving process and it will take time to see exactly how they are used and interpreted in developing chemical-specific risk assessments.

In NJ, a conservative approach is taken when considering suggestive/possible evidence of carcinogenicity and a safety factor of 10 is added to calculations when warranted. Neither the new or old EPA Guidelines address a safety factor, as this is a policy developed by the EPA Office of Water in developing its Health Advisories and MCLs, and as to how EPA's Office of Water will deal with suggestive chemicals under the new guidance. Therefore, Gloria Post was tasked with documenting how NJ will use the EPA Cancer Guidelines in addressing chemicals classified as suggestive. G. Post and E. Murphy will reconvene the committee which has been looking into this issue and outline DEP's Policy

in memo form and incorporate the information into the Health Effects Subcommittee support document.

II.) Subcommittee members discussed the technical basis of the 2 existing draft documents from last meeting (1,1- Dichloroethane and Vinyl Chloride). Members voted and agreed with the proposed recommendation to change the health based MCLs. In the case of 1,1-DCA to change the HB MCL to 23 ppb, and for vinyl chloride to change the HB MCL to 0.024 ppb. However, this contaminant (VC) will be referred to the testing subcommittee since an actual MCL change for this compound will likely be PQL driven.

III.) Subcommittee members discussed the technical basis of the latest draft documents for the following chemicals: 1,3-Dichlorobenzene, and 1,1-Dichloroethylene. Both documents recommend changes to the Health Based MCL's. For 1,3 DCB a change down to 6 ppb from 600 ppb was recommended. The current HB MCL for 1,3-DCB is based on data from 1, 2-DCB, as no 1,3-DCB data was previously available, and there is now an appropriate study on 1,3-DCB itself. For 1,1 DCE a change up to 63 ppb from the HBL of 1ppb is recommended, based on the use of a drinking water study instead of a gavage study, as drinking water studies are considered more appropriate for drinking water risk assessment. However, the current federal MCL is 7 ug/L, and states may not have a higher standard than the federal one, therefore, changing the MCL would result in the MCL becoming 7 ug/L rather than 60 ug/L. In addition, the current PQL's for both chemicals support the change and are achievable analytically. Members voted to accept both proposed HB MCL changes.

IV.) Judy Klotz needed to leave before the subcommittee could comment on the draft 1,4- Dichlorobenzene document, but she suggested that the subcommittee continue on without her.. G. Post summarized that the current number is 150 ppb and a review of health basis suggests a change to 14 ppb, based on a new chronic dog study which provides a more sensitive endpoint than the study previously used.. The subcommittee decided to recommend the Health-based MCL revisions for all five chemicals to the full institute, and that the draft documents would be finalized after incorporation of the comments of the subcommittee members.

V.) L. McGeorge asked G. Post to create a summary table of the studies used behind recommending the changes to the 5 HB MCL's. G. Post agreed to complete ASAP and asked for comments by 4/28. She promised to have the final version of the chart by next full Institute meeting on May 5th.

Action Items:

D. Pupa to poll subcommittee members regarding 1,4 DCB document.
G. Post to create chart, circulate, and finalize by 5/5/06 Full DWQI mtg.
Finalize 5 draft documents.
Provide policy for risk assessment for suggestive carcinogens.

Schedule next HE Mtg at Full DWQI mtg and discuss the remaining A280-chemicals:
Benzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane & 1,1,2-Trichloroethane

Refer Vinyl Chloride to the Testing Subcommittee since health basis is complete and any MCL change will likely be PQL driven.

Refer the three compounds (Ethylene glycol, MEK, 2,4,6-Trichlorophenol) currently without MCLs to other subcommittees for review. G.Post to provide ballpark idea of health basis prior to referral.

Minutes prepared by:

Diane Pupa

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Water Supply Operations

May 9th, 2006, Rev. Sept. 12th, 2006