

Meeting Minutes
Health Effects Subcommittee Meeting
Drinking Water Quality Institute
February 27, 2008
4th Floor Conference Room

Members present: Gloria Post, Judith Klotz, Perry Cohn, and Leslie McGeorge

Also attending: Keith Cooper (Rutgers), Kristin Hansen and Suzanne Shannon

Introductions:

Meeting attendees introduced themselves and a brief overview of the Drinking Water Quality Institute and Health Effects (HE) Subcommittee was provided to inform Dr. Cooper.

Meeting Notes:

The minutes from the November 13, 2007 HE Subcommittee meeting were reviewed and approved with minor revisions.

Update of DWQI Workplan:

The HE subcommittee reviewed the revised DWQI workplan dated December 2007. The subcommittee commented that MEK and TCP are under review, P. Cohn is currently drafting dacthal, and TBA will be reviewed shortly.

Contaminant Candidate List:

Comments on the Contaminant Candidate List are due May 21, 2008. The HE Subcommittee asked K. Hansen to ask Barker Hamill if the HE Subcommittee should comment on the list and draft a response for the DWQI's review. A suggestion was made that the HE Subcommittee may want to comment that contaminants with existing MCLs be on the list, such as chromium.

Chromium:

G. Post stated DSRT has agreed to discuss the status of chromium and what NJDEP is doing regarding the risk assessment study at the next DWQI meeting. K. Hansen will make sure chromium is on the DWQI agenda. Questions regarding chromium in the November 2007 meeting minutes still need to be addressed.

Dacthal:

A draft Dacthal Health Based MCL Support Document, written by P. Cohn, was provided to the HE Subcommittee for their review and comment.

P. Cohn provided a brief summary of the health effects of dacthal in the various studies he reviewed. The HE subcommittee then provided the following comments:

- L. McGeorge recommended to add language regarding Suggestive Carcinogen/Group C carcinogen policy in the executive summary.
- J. Klotz asked if there is occurrence data. P. Cohn stated he asked Karen Fell for data to include on page 5 of the document. K. Hansen will check with K. Fell.
- P. Cohn commented that there has been a significant decrease in dacthal use since 1988 as a result of registration requirements.
- L. McGeorge asked if dacthal is used on lawns in New Jersey. P. Cohn will check to determine if it used.
- L. McGeorge asked if dacthal was used up to 2000, could it still be present in water. Surface water monitoring has looked at dacthal and there have been some hits in ambient water.
- L. McGeorge suggested explaining 0.8 RSC in the summary of the document and reference EPA guidance in the summary and in the main document.
- J. Klotz requested page numbers be included on the document to assist with tracking changes.

The dacthal document was approved with changes and the draft health based number of 30 ppb may be given to the Testing Subcommittee.

MEK:

Methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) was on the original A280 list, but a MCL was never developed due to analytical restrictions. The existing health-based MCL for MEK was developed in the 1980's based on limited occupational toxicity information available at the time. G. Post reviewed the draft MEK document and studies. USEPA has finalized an IRIS risk assessment for MEK based on newer approaches and evaluating information not considered by New Jersey in our earlier assessment, and this USEPA risk assessment was discussed. It is based on the toxicity of butanol, which is metabolized to MEK. The USEPA Reference Dose is higher than the current NJ Reference Dose, but appears to have a sounder basis. It was decided that G. Post should continue to review the current information on MEK and draft a revised Health-based MCL Support Document.

The HE subcommittee provided the following comments on MEK:

- Has the Testing Subcommittee reviewed analytical methods for MEK?
- What are uses of 2-butanol?
- Do we have MEK data in Safe Drinking Water?
- Look for taste and odor information for MEK.
- Look for neurotoxicity information for MEK.

n-Hexane:

n-Hexane is in a similar situation as MEK in that; it currently has a health based MCL but no MCL. There is no newer information which could be used to update the current health-based MCL, so the health based MCL of 33 ppb forwarded to the Testing Subcommittee remains.

1,2,3-Trichloropropane:

1,2,3-Trichloropropane has been detected in ground water in New Jersey, including in some noncommunity water system wells. It is a potent carcinogen, which appears to act through a genotoxic mechanism. Both USEPA and California EPA have draft risk assessments for this chemical. The cancer slope factors developed by USEPA and California EPA differ, due to different modeling assumptions made in each risk assessment. USEPA is based on rat data and Cal EPA is based on mouse data, as well as other differences. G. Post will work on a draft document for 1,2,3-TCP and assess the modeling approaches used by USEPA and California EPA. Keith Cooper volunteered to work with her on this.

The Testing Subcommittee should try to achieve an MDL as low as possible.

L. McGeorge and J. Klotz mentioned they would like to receive more information on its use. Is it a byproduct in something that is still being used?

Occurrence data should also be reviewed.

Copper:

P. Cohn briefly discussed that California is considering a goal for copper in drinking water of 0.3 ppm. Currently the action level for copper is 1.3 ppm.

Next HE Meeting:

To be announced.

Anticipate April 2008.