

**TOXICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

February 26, 2001

A meeting of the Toxics Advisory Committee was held at DRBC offices in West Trenton, NJ. Members or alternates present were:

**Delaware**

Richard Greene

**Pennsylvania**

William Goman

**Environmental/Watershed**

Maya vanRossum

Dr. Laurel Standley

**Industry**

Bart Ruiters

**Academia**

Dr. Michael Piasecki

**Public Health Interest**

Not represented

**New Jersey**

Steven Lubow

**Municipal**

Dennis Blair

**Agriculture**

Not represented

**New York**

Not represented

**Resources**

Daniel Russell

**U.S. EPA**

Charles App

**Delaware River Basin Commission**

Dr. Thomas Fikslin

Dr. Namsoo Suk

Carol Collier

Daniel Liao

John Yagecic

**Other Attendees**

David Piller, Exelon Power

Dr. Joseph Rogan, Exelon Power

Roy Romano, Philadelphia Water Dept.

Bruce Aptowicz, PWD

Cathy Libertz, EPA, Region III

Chuck Yingling, PA DEP

Wayne Jackson, EPA Region II

Rollie Hemmett, EPA Region II

Steve Washburn, Environ/TMDL Coalition

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 A.M. by Chairman Bart Ruiters

L. Standley announced that Dr. Jeff Ashley would serve as her alternate, and D. Russell announced that Simeon Hahn of NOAA will be his alternate.

**II. Approval of Previous Minutes**

Discussion and approval of the minutes of the December 13 meeting were postponed.

### **III. Update on DELEP Activity**

Presentation of the three year plan was made to and accepted by the Steering Committee. Sources of funding will be looked into for the unfunded portion of the PCB plan.

It was the consensus of members that there is a need for a program office. The Steering Committee decision was that the office will be established as part of DRBC and the Director will report to the Executive Director of DRBC. This proposal will go to EIC at its meeting in March for a final decision.

EPA will take an active role and provide funds for this office.

### **IV. Follow-up on Expert Panel Meeting February 16, 2001**

The Expert Panel suggested:

- \$ Working on various models, from less complex to more complex.
- \$ Data analysis of annual budgets zones. DRBC staff is initiating work on this related to:
  - Flow
  - Total solids
  - Organic carbon
  - Fish
  - PCB
- \$ A schematic diagram of the food chain model.
- \$ Development of one database for all data accumulated.
- \$ List sources of data
- \$ QA/QC analysis
- \$ Mass balances

The next Expert Panel meeting will be in two months. The annual budget work should be done by then.

## **V. Discussion of Water Quality Criteria Issues for PCBs**

A question arose during the conference call of February 14 between the states and EPA as to which criteria would be the basis for the TMDL. The criteria in place when the TMDL is established would be the basis.

Level of approval for criteria - EPA. The states criteria is not effective until approved by EPA, even if it is more stringent.

Discussion on this reached agreement pertaining to criteria to be applied for development of a TMDL. L. Standley was asked to write up the proposed motion during lunch. It reads as follows:

*It is the recommendation of the Toxics Advisory Committee (TAC) that DRBC, in concert with the states, proceed with use of the BAF in revising water quality criteria. Further, the TAC recommends that a food chain model be developed that provides the linkages between sources, fate and transport, and accumulation in the food chain. The BAF used for the criteria should be based upon estuary-specific data and should be consistent with construction of the food chain model.*

*If it is not possible to use estuary-specific data, methods recommended by EPA using food chain multipliers should be used.*

Motion by C. App to accept the statement, seconded by L. Standley. Approved.

A sub-committee was formed to discuss BAF. This sub-committee will be comprised of: R. Greene, W. Jackson, D. Hakowski, S. Lubow (or T. Belden), Carol Young, B. Ruiter. B. Ruiter volunteered to chair the sub-committee.

## **VI. PCB Strategy**

A draft document was handed out. C. Collier recommended it be brought to the Commissioners. Comments from TAC members are needed by March 7, after which the sub committee will meet via conference call (March 12 at 10:00 A.M.) and the results of their discussion will be brought to the next TAC meeting, March 23, 2001 at Rohm and Haas, Bristol. Comments from TAC were requested in an electronic format.

A proposed budget was handed out and the TAC members were asked for suggestions on finding more money, or adjusting the numbers, since some of the numbers are estimates based on past experiences. The budget is based on a three year time period.

It was suggested that a small narrative statement on each item was needed, possibly inserted as footnotes.

TAC members were encouraged to attend the outreach meetings.

## **VII. Priority Data Collection - T. Fikslin**

Data Collection Activities for 2001- T Fikslin

1. Currently developing a trib. monitoring project plan, which will include continuation of the USGS sampling program with the addition of dissolved & particulate PCB measurements
2. Sediment work ( mapping, sed. type, dating) planned for this summer (Aug-Sept). DNREC funding Dr. Sommerfield, U. DE.to do studies with EPA R3 assistance for some ship time. Scope of work is to be completed in March.
3. Chronic toxicity data to be collected Fall, 2001.
4. Not sure about when model calibration monitoring will be done. Still working on this.

## **VIII. Metals**

DRBC is implementing acute criteria for metals in permits and docket decisions.

B. Ruitter asked which metals, if any, need a TMDL. The 303(d) does not list metals.

A presentation on metals was requested of DRBC and the states at the April meeting.

## **IX. Comprehensive Plan**

The update on the Comprehensive Plan will be on the agenda for the March meeting.

## **X. Adjournment**

Moved by C. App and 2<sup>nd</sup> by L. Standley, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

**XI. Next Meeting**

March 23 at Rohm & Haas Bristol

April 24 at Dupont (tentative location)

**Adjourn**

Adjourned at 3:40 P.M.