



## Toxic Contaminants Workgroup

January 11, 2017 Conference Call

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### Meeting Summary

Meeting Materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/24815/>

#### **Actions & Decisions:**

**Decision:** The TCW agreed not to pursue the draft STAC proposal for examining atmospheric PCB deposition.

**Action:** Greg Allen and Scott Phillips will review available resources on relative risks of toxic contaminants in order to refine the drafted STAC workshop proposal, and will redistribute to the workgroup for review.

**Action:** Toxic Contaminants Workgroup members should review the proposed list of data sources, and provide feedback on prioritized layers to Chris Wright ([cwright@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:cwright@chesapeakebay.net)).

#### **Welcome, Introductions, Announcements**

- Award for the workgroup project “Assessing Benefits of Wastewater Treatment Plant Nutrient Control Upgrades on Toxic Contaminants” is underway. The RFP was released through the Chesapeake Bay Trust, and the contract will be in place NLT February 2017.
  - Tanya Spano suggested coordinating activities related to this topic.
- BMP draft scores submitted to Tetra Tech.
  - Greg Allen will follow-up on next steps of this project.
- Ches. Bay Commission had a session on PPCPs and endocrine disruption. May be follow-up on WWTP technologies and take-back programs.
  - Greg Allen suggested coordinating with CBC representatives to plan follow-up discussions from the meeting.
  - Marel King noted that the CBC will have additional information to share related to this during a future CBC meeting.
  - Tanya Spano offered to report back to the TCW on the MWCOG activities related to take-back programs.

#### **Discussion of Proposed STAC Workshop Topics** – Greg Allen, EPA and Scott Phillips, USGS

Greg and Scott led a discussion with the workgroup on potential topic proposals to submit for STAC Workshops. All proposals are due to STAC for consideration by

Wednesday, January 25, 2017, and additional information is available on the meeting calendar event page.

*Discussion:*

**'Assess Magnitude of Atmospheric Deposition of PCBs':**

- Tanya Spano: I would suggest consideration where we have existing TMDLs to prioritize if we have to do any targeting.
- Len Schugam: If it's not data, then I don't know who it could be incorporated into implementation itself.
  - Mark Richards agreed that a monitoring product would be most useful.
- Greg Allen suggested the workshop could be targeting towards discovering what could be known about the relative amount of a land/water volatilization versus actual deposition from industrial processes. A workshop could also discuss how to do actual monitoring work if that was determined to be a need.
- Tanya Spano asked why atmospheric deposition was a focus of this proposal?
  - Greg Allen replied that atmospheric deposition had been frequently and consistently identified as a gap, recognizing that it is not necessarily the biggest source of PCBs.
- Greg Allen asked the TCW whether they felt comfortable moving forward with this as a proposal, or if they should consider revising it.
- Fred Pinkney asked if there was a broader set of questions related to PCBs that could be proposed for a STAC workshop.
- Tanya Spano noted that it was important to identify outcomes that the workshop will help achieve.

**Decision:** The TCW agreed not to pursue the draft STAC proposal for examining atmospheric PCB deposition.

**'Developing Approaches to Assess Relative Risk of Toxic Contaminants':**

- Dan Jones: It would be useful to have a sense of how well-accounted we are for different contaminant groups, what the key datasets are, and additional information on concentration, spatial distribution, and toxicological effects. We could combine that in a document that could point to where further research directions are needed and to support on-going studies.
- Tanya Spano asked what this proposal would be seeking to implement.
  - Scott Phillips replied that this workshop would be used to develop a process related to relative risk, and to help prioritize what next steps would be. Examples could include addressing toxics in terms of source sector rather than geography.
- Greg Allen noted that this proposal was intended to serve as a way to serve as logic and justification for future work efforts.
- Tanya Spano suggested conducting a hotspot analysis. Greg Allen cautioned that these analyses do not consider other toxins that have a potentially large impact.

- Greg Allen suggested he work with Scott Phillips to review available resources in order to revise the proposal with more detail and potentially redistribute to the group for input before the January submission deadline.
- Tanya Spano offered to work with

**Action:** Greg Allen and Scott Phillips will review available resources on relative risks of toxic contaminants in order to refine the drafted STAC workshop proposal, and will redistribute to the workgroup for review.

### **PCB Resource Center – Data Layers** – Chris Wright, USGS

Chris will review a [proposed list of layers](#) that are thought to have potential to help TMDL planning and implementation. Members are asked to provide initial reaction to the value of the proposed layers and any thoughts on additional layers to pursue. No final decision is expected.

*Discussion:*

- Greg Allen asked the group about what datasets would be useful, and potential ways the group could review and prioritize different resources. Specifically, what sources would provide useful to jurisdictions implementing their TMDLs.
- Greg Allen suggested asking workgroup members to review the list of data sources, and provide prioritized datasets back to Chris Wright.

**Action:** Toxic Contaminants Workgroup members should review the proposed list of data sources, and provide feedback on prioritized layers to Chris Wright ([cwright@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:cwright@chesapeakebay.net)).

### **Expectations and Planned Presentations for 2017 Meetings** - Scott Phillips, USGS

Discussion on the frequency and structure of workgroup meetings. Plan presentations that align with specific activities from the workplans. Call for workgroup members to present work activities.

*Discussion:*

- Scott Phillips asked the group if there were any specific agenda items requested in February and March.
- Greg Allen suggested reviewing the workplans to identify specific key actions that require follow-up, and request that the project leads update the workgroup.
- Tanya Spano offered to work offline to coordinate joint meetings between the TCW and WWTWG.

### **Future Agenda Topics:**

- Next steps on the BMP scoring project; how did the USWG score the Toxics practices? How will single numbers be derived from all of the submissions?

- PCB Resource Center proposed list of layers: Results from workgroup prioritization  
(Chris Wright)

**Next Scheduled TCW Meeting:**

February 8, 2017

**Participants:**

Name	Affiliation
Scott Phillips	USGS
Greg Allen	EPA
Lindsey Gordon	CRC
Ning Zhou	VT
Chris Wright	USGS
Dan Jones	USGS
Don Smith	VA DEQ
Kelly Smalling	USGS
Marel King	CBC
Mark Richards	VA DEQ
Micka Peck	EPA R3
Tanya Spano	MWCOG
Lana Sindler	MWCOG
Nasser Ameen	MWCOG
Heidi Bonnafon	MWCOG
Thomas Barron	PA DEP
Len Schugam	MDE
Sherm Garrison	MD DNR
Fred Pinkney	USFWS
Deborah DeBiasi	VA DEQ
John Schneider	DE DNREC
Michael Rorrer	Clean Chesapeake Coalition