



DRAFT

Delaware Cancer Consortium
Environment Committee

June 23, 2008

DNREC Office: Site Investigation and Restoration Branch
Newark, DE

Attendees

Members

Did not attend	Deborah Brown, American Lung Association of DE
Attended	John A. Hughes, Secretary, DE Dept of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Attended	Meg Maley RN, BSN, Oncology Care Home Health Specialists, Inc.
Attended	The Honorable Liane Sorenson, Delaware Senate
Attended	David Pyne, Department of Agriculture
Did not attend	Ann Tyndall, American Cancer Society
Did not attend	Kevin Eichinger, University of Delaware
Did not attend	Karen Tomic, University of Delaware and Healthcore

Public

Attendees/Other

Attended	Bill Zak, CCP
Attended*	Jim Raymer, PhD, Research Triangle Institute
Attended*	Jim Shannon, Research Triangle Institute
Attended*	Charles Rhodes, PhD, Research Triangle Institute

Staff

Attended	Jill Rogers, Division of Public Health
Attended	Katherine Hughes, Division of Public Health
Attended	Karen Nunley, Division of Public Health
Attended	Ed Hallock, Division of Public Health
Attended	Thom May, Division of Public Health
Attended	Paul Silverman, DrPH Division of Public Health
Did not attend	Allison Shevock, PhD, Division of Public Health
Attended	William Leitzinger, Division of Public Health
Attended	Ming Lau, Division of Public Health
Attended	Todd Keyser, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Attended	Rick Greene, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Attended	Thom May, Division of Public Health
Attended	Jamie Mack, Division of Public Health
Attended	Jack Liou, Division of Public Health
Attended	James Warner, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Attended	Jerry Llewellyn , Division of Public Health

* Participated via conference call

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Committee members approved the previous meeting minutes without changes.

Old & New Business

The meeting was called to order.

Overview of Multimedia Total Exposure Study

Representatives from Research Triangle Institute (RTI) participated in the meeting via conference call. Charles Rhodes, PhD began by stating that they developed two study designs as part of updating the original SJR-11 plan. The designs are to serve as study designs and not detailed work plans, however both designs are fully defensible, meet the national-level standards and allow comparisons of Delaware data with national databases.

Dr. Rhodes stated that overall goals of the Multi-Media Exposure Study are to:

1. Characterize human exposure representative of the people in Delaware.
2. Serve as a baseline for future Delaware trends monitoring.
3. Validate models to predict human exposures for Delawareans.

Design I is a 12 month purposeful design that improves the readiness for Design II. Design I would serve as a range-finding study for a targeted suite of contaminant exposure levels that are generally applicable to all of Delaware. Design I would collect 50-60 samples and use the proposed methods of the study is to demonstrate effectiveness.

Design II is a probability-based or hopscotch design that would be conducted over four years. The design will add to the understanding of who in Delaware is most/least exposed to toxic components during their daily activities. Design II sample 400 randomly selected residents in an effort to:

- Define exposure occurrences and distributions
- Define sources and causes for exposures
- Define exposures and dose status and trends
- Develop Delaware-specific exposure models

Ms. Meg Maley asked if the same people or households would be used for each phase of the study. RTI stated that while they would certainly try to use the same people they would also have a replacement strategy to account for people moving or dropping out of the study.

Senator Liane Sorenson inquired what the selection process would be. Would design I of the study consist of non-cancer participants or people at risk for cancer? RTI stated that there is not that level of CCD focus in design I. Design II takes cancer incidence into consideration.

Secretary John Hughes stated that it seemed like there was a lot more data than data analysis, and that he is interested in pinning down the analysis. RTI explained that in designing the study they wanted to get a complete picture of the exposure in Delaware, and to develop a baseline for tracking cancer incidence and trends over time. The data also provides modeling for transport models and household specific models for indoor data so that there would be a rich data set.

Healthy Homes Website

William Leitzinger, DPH, provided an update on the Healthy Homes website. The website provides consumer friendly information related to indoor pollution. The website also directs viewers to the other reputable websites that provide information on indoor pollution. Mr. Leitzinger showed the committee the contents of the website and encouraged them to take time to view the website. Committee members were instructed to send comments and suggestions to Mr. Leitzinger's attention.

Well Water Update

Ms. Jill Rogers informed the committee that all of the well water samples taken in Fiscal Year 2008 have been collected. The data analysis is underway and preliminary information will be available in July. Mr. Ed Hallock, Office of Drinking Water, stated that samples were taken from the Department of Agriculture's well monitoring network, shallow wells, and public water systems. They are trying to determine if there are known carcinogens in the water samples. All of the data should be in by September, and the committee will receive an update at that time.

In the interim Ms. Rogers suggested that the committee transfer the funding allocated for well water monitoring to another project. The committee agreed to purchase diesel particulate filters for the Port of Wilmington vehicles and school buses in the Wilmington area.

The committee will revisit well watering next fiscal year.

Dry Cleaning

The committee reviewed revised graphs that included a line that depicts OCEA levels. The graph showed that while detectable levels of PERC were found they were well below the OCEA level. The Division of Public Health advocated that the \$5,000.00 allocated for dry cleaning be allocated to the Occupational Health Program so that they can provide education to dry cleaning employees about the dangers of using PERC.

Ms. Maley stated that she did not think that a big impact would be made with only \$5,000.00 going towards educating dry cleaning employees. Mr. Robert Zimmerman suggested that the committee look at the regulator side to help dry cleaners move away from using PERC. Senator Sorenson suggested highlighting a couple of drycleaners that have stopped using PERC.

The committee then discussed the cost and implications of the chemicals being mishandled. The committee agreed that the best course of action would be to encourage dry cleaners to stop using PERC altogether. Ms. Rogers stated that she would look into the cost for dry cleaners to make the switch to safer cleaning agents, and determine a useful incentive for drycleaners.

Public Comment

Ms. Maley opened the floor to the whole room. Mr. Bill Zak asked if the pilot study is a valuable asset in and of itself or would it be a dead end without phase two of the study? Mr. Zimmerman stated that the study would provide some range findings, and that this information would be used to frame the type of questions that are asked if we go on to do Design II, and it would provide both DNREC and DPH with information regarding the effectiveness of the methods used.

A conversation regarding funding ensued. Dr. Paul Silverman stated that he viewed the committee's task as determining and evaluating the worthiness of the proposal. The advisory committee will then review the environment committee's recommendations and determine where the funding will come from.

Ms. Maley reminded all of those in attendance that the proposals will be posted on the website, and that comments are requested no later than close of business July 7, 2008.

Updates/Other

It was requested that updates on all the products in the works be provided before the next committee meeting.

Documentation

Meeting agenda and minutes are available at your request. Any requests for documents should be emailed to PHS Katie Hughes at Katherine.hughes@state.de.us or by calling 302-744-1078.

Documents provided at meeting:

- RTI Presentation of Study Design
- Study Designs for Pilot Testing and a Multimedia, Total Exposure Study in Delaware
- Healthy Homes Website Handout

Future Meeting(s)

The next Delaware Cancer Consortium Environment Committee meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2008 at Delaware Technical and Community College.