



Delaware Cancer Consortium Environment Committee Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008
Delaware Technical Community College
Dover, DE

Attendees

Environment Committee Members

Attended	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.
Did Not Attend	The Honorable Liane Sorenson, Delaware Senate
Attended	Ann Tyndall, American Cancer Society
Attended	Kevin Eichinger, University of Delaware
Attended	Karen Tomic, University of Delaware/ Health Core

Staff & Agency Liaisons

Attended	Jill Rogers, Division of Public Health
Attended	Robert Zimmerman, DE Dept of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Attended	Katherine Hughes, Division of Public Health
Attended	Coleman DuPont, Aloysius Butler & Clark
Attended	William Leitzinger, Division of Public Health
Attended	Ed Hallock, Office of Drinking Water
Attended	Gerry Llewellyn, Division of Public Health
Attended	Jane Getchell, Division of Public Health
Attended	Karen Nunley, Division of Public Health
Attended	Gerald Llewellyn, DE Division of Public Health
Attended	Paul Silverman, Dr. P.H., Division of Public Health
Attended	Rick Perkins, Division of Public Health
Attended	Ashley Love, Division of Public Health
Attended	Carolyn Faulkner, Division of Public Health

Public Attendees/Other

Attended	Kim Furtado, Citizens for Clean Power
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Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with the addition of Mr. Robert Zimmerman to the attendance list.

Old & New Business

Welcome & New Committee Member(s) and/or Staff Introductions

Introductions were made around the room.

Questions

Prior to starting the conference call Ms. Meg Maley asked the committee if there were any items outside of the statewide monitoring proposal that they would like to discuss. The committee mentioned that they were interested in tanning salons. Ms. Maley stated that she thought the Tobacco and Other Risk Factors Committee was working on some tanning salon initiatives, but that she would check with Dr. Patricia Hoge and report back to the group.

Fiscal Year 2008 project review

Ms. Jill Rogers provided an update on the Environment Committee's Fiscal Year 2008 projects.

- The Healthy Homes website is up and running. A press release was issued on July 15, 2008.
- Fourteen DART buses will be retrofitted with filters in August 2008. 52 buses in the Brandywine School District, about 90% of their fleet, have been retrofitted with filters. 19 school buses in the Red Clay School district, about 20% of their fleet, have been retrofitted with filters.
- A summary of the workplace report will be presented during the September meeting.
- The educator position to work with the Department of Labor (DOL) is in the approval process.
- The Indian River project is still underway. Data collection should be complete in the next 6-8 weeks with analysis to follow and results anticipated in January 2009.
- An update on analysis of the well water results is scheduled for September.

Fiscal Year 2009 project preview

Ms. Rogers provided an update on the Environment Committee's Fiscal Year 2009 projects.

- By December 31 at least 35 Port of Wilmington vehicles will be retrofitted with filters.
- DNREC will be contact the Superintendent of the Colonial School District to begin discussions about providing filters in that district
- Discussions with Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO) and Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNRE) regarding incentives for dry cleaners are underway

Comprehensive statewide monitoring proposal

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) participated in the meeting via conference call. RTI responded to comments that members of the Environment Committee and public submitted regarding their statewide monitoring proposal. Several discussions ensued regarding the sample size, sampling methods, the executive summary of the proposal and possible funding sources.

It was determined that if Delaware decided to implement the monitoring proposal the purpose of the study would be to:

1. Establish a baseline so that Delawareans would know what is in the air and their bodies today. The baseline would allow Delaware to:
 - Repeat the study periodically to assess progress over time in reducing environmental exposures
 - Help to confirm current estimates of contaminants in the environment
2. Allow for follow up of unexpectedly high (or low) levels of contaminants in particular geographic areas with further study.
3. Allow very limited health risk information to people in Delaware for the substances about which there is enough data
4. Make general statements, at the statewide and county levels, about the source of contaminants.
5. Gather data about contaminants that affect health generally.
6. Allow for initial studies to be conducted in a few specific areas. These initial studies would yield specific exposure data about the study area.

The study would not provide any information about current cancer rates.

Issues/concerns that were discussed include:

1. Will the information the studies yield meet everyone's expectations?
2. What are potential funding sources for the statewide exposure study?
3. Is the proposed sample size in phase II large enough to allow for analysis of exposures at the CCD or zip code levels? If a larger sample size is needed how would it affect the budget?
4. Has RTI reviewed the study that was conducted in Pittsburg and could a similar study work in Delaware?

The committee discussed the following options during the meeting:

1. Recommending that both phases of the work be support by the Cancer Council
2. Recommending that Phase I of the work be supported as proposed with additional questions related to sample size to be resolved in the upcoming months
3. Recommend that the study not be conducted

Ms. Meg Maley urged the group to review the comments and responses and submit their recommendation via email.

Documentation

Along with the meeting agenda and minutes from the previous committee meeting, the following documents were provided at this meeting and are available upon request to Katherine Hughes, Division of Public Health. 302-744-1078 or via e-mail at Katherine.Hughes@state.de.us:

~ Comments and written responses to RTI's Statewide Monitoring Program

Future Meeting(s)

The next Delaware Cancer Consortium Environment Committee meeting has been scheduled for **Monday, September 15, 2008** 12:30 p.m. at Delaware Technical Community College Corporate Training Center located on the Terry Campus.