

Section 5 Study Oversight Team Meeting Summary

Place: Oak Room at 49 Main St, Proctor, VT

Date: Monday, October 29th, 2007

Time: 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Meeting Attendees (in alphabetical order):

Name	Affiliation
Michael Ames	Cambridge Environmental
Claire Ayer	State Senate
Tony Colak	Omya
Julie Hackbarth	ANR
Chris Jones	ANR (guest)
Mike Laurent	Omya (alternate)
Matt Levin	VCE (alternate)
Bev Peterson	RCO
Steve Roy	Geosyntec
Jo Anne Shatkin	CLFV
Lynn Silloway	Florence
Annette Smith	VCE
Jasmine Tanguay	CLFV
Dano Weisbord	CLFV
Stephen Zemba	Cambridge Environmental

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Facilitator Dano Weisbord welcomed the group. He provided an overview of the meeting by reviewing the proposed agenda. Meeting participants introduced themselves and their affiliations.

II. Approval of meeting summary for September 17th Meeting

- The group reviewed the September 17th meeting summary. Matt Levin proposed that the text in Section VII (a. Final Delivery and Presentation Draft Plan) be changed from “The Legislature will depend on ANR to draw recommendations from the report” to “Legislature will depend on ANR to *offer* recommendations from the report.” Senator Ayer had no preference and no other members objected so the wording was changed.
- Julie Hackbarth requested a clarification of the last bullet in Section VII (a) of the notes and it was reworded to eliminate jargon.
- Pending review by Laura Green to ensure that the representation of the perchlorate toxicology presentation is technically correct, the summary will be posted to the OmyaInVermont.net website.

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III. Consultant Meeting with ANR

- The consultants discussed a meeting with ANR scheduled for the next day to brief ANR management and staff on the Study's findings to date. Anticipated attendees include Secretary Crombie, Deputy Secretary Sayles, Deputy Commissioner Justin Johnson, new DEC Commissioner Laura Pelosi, Waste Management Division head Skip Flanders, Solid Waste Program head Cathy Jamieson, and Section Chief Julie Hackbarth.

IV. Discussion on the Role of the OT at Report Delivery

- Dano Weisbord led a discussion on the role of the Oversight Team at the time the final report is delivered. He asked the group, "How does the OT tell the story of its role in this process?"
- A proposal was discussed wherein the OT would meet separately from Cambridge Environmental and Geosyntec (possibly at a meeting attached to the December 17th presentation) to discuss its thoughts about the final report and ideas for communicating with the Legislature.
- The structure of presentations to the legislative committees was discussed. In terms of the presentation to the legislature, there are four committees that should be presented to. It may be possible to have just two meetings if committees can find a way to meet jointly. Sen. Ayer suggested calling committee chairs after Thanksgiving to begin setting up appointments.
- Tony Colak asked about the ability of the committee rooms to accommodate a large group. Sen. Ayer responded that arrangements can be made to relocate the meeting if needed.
- The group discussed the concept of collaboratively writing and editing a written description of their involvement.
- Annette Smith noted that she also wanted to maintain VCE's independence and "reserve the right to testify on behalf of our members."
- Julie Hackbarth proposed that as part of the report there might be a review of the process written by the Oversight Team that would allow members to get out on the table where they might go with this afterward. She indicated that it would be "good to avoid surprises."
- The OT agreed that it will contribute a written summary of the process to accompany the final report.
- In terms of media, the group agreed that the most appropriate approach is to inform reporters about the time and location of committee presentations. CLFV will consult with VCE regarding Montpelier press contacts who should be informed of the presentations.

V. Presentation Of Preliminary Hazardous Air Pollutant Study Findings

- Steve Zemba and Mike Ames of Cambridge Environmental presented the results to date of the Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) Study. This investigation addresses the study question "Do emitted pollutants (HAPs) such as formaldehyde and acrolein pose significant risks?"
- To estimate risks to health from HAPs/other chemicals emitted to ambient air by Omya, the team used existing and recently developed data to estimate facility-wide emissions, "model"

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dispersion of these pollutants to estimate ambient concentrations at locations in Florence, and evaluate any resulting risks to health.

- All sources are evaluated together: emissions of formaldehyde, acrolein, and other chemicals (identified in previous East Plant studies); other processes at Omya with similar emissions; and emissions related to fuel oil combustion (which are exempt from VT Hazardous Air Contaminant regulations, but will be evaluated by the Section 5 Study).
- Preliminary health risk estimates show that for long-term exposure to HAPs, neither regulatory standards nor Cambridge Environmental's own toxicity values are exceeded. Excess theoretical lifetime cancer risk, at maximum modeled levels, is 1.5 in one million. Short-term exposure to selected HAPs present no significant risk.
- Questions from the Oversight Team led to several clarifications: the modeled values represent emissions levels after the process change last year, and the arsenic levels in emissions are likely from burning of AP42 oil (typical of this type of fuel combustion).

VI. Smith Pond and Tributaries Assessment

- This portion of the study involved a reconnaissance-level investigation of Smith Pond and its tributary, including water quality sampling, a Smith Pond aquatic vegetation survey, Smith Pond fish collection, other wildlife observations, and other surface water observations conducted on 7/5/07 and 8/2/07
- Overall, the aquatic plant community exhibited conditions typical of a small, eutrophic pond. Plants generally appeared to be healthy and vigorously growing. Both the species composition and diversity of plants observed in the pond appeared to be typical of a pond of this size and depth.
- Each of the stream reaches were stable, with no significant evidence of actively eroding stream banks or other signs of channel instability. There was no evidence observed of calcium carbonate deposits or other unusual stream bed deposits. There was no other notable evidence of habitat impacts (e.g. unusual odors, surface sheens, litter, degraded or limited vegetated stream buffer, etc.).
- High conductivity was detected at one location (MSGP SN002), but there is no known effect on aquatic life due to conductivity levels and this detection is likely a result of calcium carbonate in the riprap above the sampling location.

VII. Next Steps

- CLFV will work with the group to identify a date for the next Oversight Team meeting, likely the week before or after Thanksgiving. Deputy Secretary of ANR John Sayles expressed interest in coming to the meeting to address the Oversight Team, and so efforts will be made to accommodate for that request as well.