

**WEST JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES**

May 20, 2003

**The NIA Center
2nd Floor Conference Room
2900 W. Broadway
Louisville, Ky. 40211
(502) 852-4609**

ATTENDEES

**Cheryl Fisher, DuPont
Jonathan Miller, WJCCTF Bd/DuPont Dow Elastomers
Peggy J. Bolton, Shawnee
Tom Herman, Zeon Chemicals
Isaac Shoulders, Parkland
Dan Hicks, Rohm and Haas
Robert Hackett, Russell
Art Williams, APCD
Leslie Barras, WJCCTF Bd/River Fields
LaLetta Jenkins, Shawnee
Waddell McGee, WJCCTF Bd./Mid-America
Patricia Germany, California
Laura Friedman, Chickasaw
Evelyn Glass, Chickasaw
Norman Robinson, WJCCTF Bd./Shawnee
Fran Thomas, Chickasaw**

Arnita Gadson, Presiding

I. Risk Assessment/ Risk Management Update – Art Williams

The Risk Assessment Draft was received and sent to subcommittee and board members. It is being reviewed and awaiting comments. Sciences Int'l Inc. has 30 days to complete and return the final plan from the day of receiving comments. The comments will be handled in one of two ways, develop and send individual comments, or designate a central point for comment destination, then forward them to Sciences as one integrated group of comments. A date for final review will be set. Comments on draft are being received at this point.

Jim Bruggers, from the Courier-Journal did an initial assessment on May 12th and plans have been made to do another story.

The Risk Management Work Group has submitted a final draft. The Task Force Board is in the process of finalizing the document.

In the Final Risk Management Draft, there are three phases: Phase I - source identification. The Risk Mgt. Plan starts with the four Risk Drivers (chemicals of highest concern) named in the Risk Assessment Plan; the next Phase, II, will be what we do with the evaluation, for every chemical of concern, we will look at all options to develop recommendations; Phase III is the Action Plan - develop a proposal to provide strategies to accommodate the recommendation(s).

Art read letters from students at Cane Run Elementary written to him and the Mayor. Kids expressed concerns about the air and the harm it causes. Chuck Fleischer from the Jefferson County Public Schools received calls from concerned parents regarding air toxics. Frustration in the schools has increased significantly. Teachers have quit. There may be concerns county-wide. Parents have considered removing kids from schools, therefore schools will become a significant concern of the Task Force.

Thirteen air pollutants will increase due to the elimination of the VET (Vehicle Emissions Testing) program causing additional ozone and carbon monoxide problems. An estimated additional 657,000 pounds of air emissions will affect the county.

Peggy – If losing the VET program causes more pollution, will it be reinstated?

Art - Metro Government has the authority to bring it back. EPA released an eight-hour ozone standard under the Clean Air Act that says if you are a non-attainment area and have become an attainment area by using a control method to do so, you cannot discontinue the control method if it will cause the area to become non-attainment. EPA may not allow us to stop the VET program. Regulation provisions can get tougher. The area cannot attract industry. Some control measures could include cleaner fuel, car-pooling, etc.

Peggy – If we have disbanded the VET how can we reinstate?

Art – SIP (State Implementation Plan) has to have Federal approval. If they say no, we cannot stop the VET.

Question – Are SIP revisions predicated on the VET going away?

Art – Basically, there must be a maintenance plan

There will be an additional five tons of Butadiene added to the total air emissions with the loss of the VET. Jefferson County has 44 tons from mobile sources, 0 from area sources, 3.2 tons from Rohm and Haas, 13 tons from Zeon and 60 tons in 2002 from American Synthetic Rubber, a total of 139 tons for Jefferson County.

Leslie had concerns that industry is not responsive to the issues of the increase of butadiene.

Art – We must identify a process that will end with risk reduction and improve public health. There are fears in trying to develop a plan for a new health research initiative. Senator McConnell has spent \$1.7 million to research health effects of workers. EPA has information on children's health regarding the cumulative effects of exposure.

Fran – What are the companies doing?

Jonathan – making sure information is credible. Increasing awareness among companies and communities about what it means to be a good neighbor. DuPont Dow took the position that they would respond to the results of the study and act in a responsible way. He stated the issue was extremely complex and the mathematics was not available to ascertain the results of community exposure to small amounts of chemicals.

Under the laws, if operating a facility in a listed source category, MACT (Maximum Achievable Control Technology) standards must be met. EPA has to revisit what emissions are left over. EPA could not take into consideration cost and the economic impact on the county in setting standards that meet the Clean Air Act objective of being “adequately protective of human health.” EPA can consider costs when setting standards that are adequately protective of the environment

Laura – Now the report is out, what is this doing to the people in the community?

Cheryl – DuPont has committed to 0 injuries, - 0 incidents and 0 environmental releases. The company has spent in excess of \$1 million in remediation and improvements.

II. May 22nd Community Forum

All were reminded of the Community Forum at Jay’s Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. Participants were asked to arrive between 5:15 and 5:45 p.m. Reservations required.

III. Comments from the community - see discussion in I.

IV. Comments from the Board

Federal Register/Vol. 68, No. 97/Tuesday, May 20, 2003 notice regarding “Identifying Research Gaps in Environmental Health”, was presented. The National Agenda for the Environment and the Aging will lay out a strategy that combines research and educational programs to address environmental hazards that threaten the health of older persons.

News articles mentioned below are located in the Information Center. These articles can be found on the Courier web site at www.courier-journal.com

May 10th – *Anti-smog measures rejected*

May 12th – *Chemicals exceed levels seen as safe*

May 14th – *Danger in the air* (editorial)

May 17th – *Pollution threat rouses students to seek action*

Land Air and Water, Vol. 14, No.2, *PRIDE grant money will eliminate illegal dumps*, Spring 2003