

GLRPPR Winter 2003 Meeting Recap

The Winter 2003 Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) meeting was held on March 4th through the 6th in Chicago, Illinois. The event was hosted at the conference center located in the Metcalf Federal Building, where U.S. EPA Region 5 is headquartered.

On March 4th the GLRPPR steering committee met. The committee meets face to face two times a year, in conjunction with the roundtable member events. A number of new committee members joined the meeting including, Ted Smith of EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office, Fariha Pannu of the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Karen Teliha of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and Laura Rauwerda of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). These individuals will replace outgoing committee members including Emma Lou George of EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD), David Herb of MDEQ, Hani Sharaya of IDEM, David Foulkes of Ohio EPA and Steve Neville of Ontario Ministry of Environment. Although unable to attend this meeting, Mary Beth Holly of Techsolv will now represent Ohio on the committee.

The Winter Meeting drew approximately 79 people from throughout the Great Lakes region. The majority of individuals who attended the event represent state (26.6%) and federal (24.1%) government agencies. The balance of attendees represented educational institutions, industry, non-government and trade organizations, consultants, and local government agencies.

Bharat Mathur, Deputy Regional Administrator of U.S. EPA Region 5, welcomed guests to Chicago and the Roundtable meeting. Other distinguished speakers included Tom Ustanik from Lansing Cleaners located in Lansing, Illinois. Lansing Cleaners is a two-time Illinois Governor's Pollution Prevention Award winner. Mr. Ustanik addressed the significant benefits his business has enjoyed as a result of waste minimization and pollution prevention activities. He also provided helpful details on the specific projects that his business has initiated.

Dr. Timothy Lindsey of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, Suzanne Malec from the City of Chicago Department of Environment, and Aaron Rosinski from the Southeast Environmental Task Force provided a panel discussion about the Ford Motor Industrial Park that is being designed and built on Chicago's south east side. The motor park concept places supplier manufacturers in close proximity (within 3 miles) to the auto manufacturing facility. A number of environmental, zoning and citizen related concerns were discussed by the panel of speakers.

Ms. Rodica Baranescu from International Truck and Engine Corporation addressed the audience about cleaner diesel fuel technology. A breakout session earlier in the conference also focused on the pollution prevention options that could be implemented in order to comply with the new EPA Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) coating standards.

Other sessions featured pollution prevention in educational institutions. Three schools in Illinois have made significant facility wide changes that have provided educational opportunities for students while minimizing waste and/or costs. Sessions were also presented on Environmentally Preferable Purchasing, Environmental Management Systems, Energy Efficiency, and Hospital Pollution Prevention Activities.

As with all GLRPPR meetings, each state, region or national program representative is provided time to share updates and activity summaries with others within the Great Lakes region. Additionally, members are encouraged to share new resource materials and documents. This helps inform individuals from state and regional programs and minimize duplication.

To view presentations, photos, the agenda, speaker biographies and a list of attendees from the Winter 2003 Meeting, see <http://www.glrppr.org/chicago2003/>.