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The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR)

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GLRPPR Winter 2003 Meeting Recap

The Winter 2003 Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) meeting was held on March 4-6 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 4 the GLRPPR steering committee met. The committee meets face to face twice 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. 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 specific projects that his business has initiated.

Dr. Tim 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/>.

Send us your Earth Day links!

In honor of Earth Day (April 22), GLRPPR staff members are developing a special "Site of the Month" to be featured on the GLRPPR web site home page. The April Site of the Month will serve as a portal to information on Earth Day events, activities and tips from throughout the Great Lakes region, as well as national information that may be of interest to our membership.

If your organization has Earth Day related information on its web site, or if you have other items to include on the regional Earth Day page, send your links and suggestions to Joy Scrogum at jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

<http://www.glrppr.org>

Delta Institute Initiates POTW Mercury Reduction Project for the Lake Erie Basin

The Delta Institute is a non-profit organization that works primarily on projects in the Great Lakes Region to improve environmental quality and promote community and economic development. The Delta Institute is implementing a mercury reduction initiative in partnership with two communities in the Lake Erie basin in Ohio. The project approach incorporates the following strategies:

- engaging publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) to identify and work with upstream dischargers of mercury;
- facilitating the development of community partnership to promote mercury reductions among POTW dischargers as well as other source sectors within the watershed;
- building capacity to enable stakeholders in the watershed to continue mercury reduction efforts; and
- broadcasting the results of the project so that it can be replicated in other watersheds.

To this end, the Delta Institute is assisting the Solon Water Reclamation Department and the Elyria Bureau of Water Pollution Control in developing and implementing mercury reduction plans. With the help of its mercury technical assistance consultant, the Delta Institute will:

- work with the Solon and Elyria POTW staff to identify baseline levels of mercury and evaluation metrics.
- complete a mercury source sector assessment for each POTW service area and work with the POTW staff to prioritize sectors where significant reductions can be achieved, developing a menu of options for addressing the priority sources and outlining an outreach plan.
- provide pollution prevention technical assistance to the POTW to reduce upstream sources of mercury.
- work with the POTW staff to complete a self-assessment to identify potential sources of mercury at the POTW.
- convene a community partnership (composed of community members, dischargers, local government representatives and others) to provide input into and assist with implementing mercury reduction initiatives.
- share project results with other Lake Erie basin municipalities via the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) public forum and the World Wide Web.

This project is funded by U.S. EPA. The EPA's Technical Work Group for the LaMP has agreed to coordinate with the Delta Institute to implement this project, and the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies Mercury Workgroup has agreed to act in an advisory capacity. Visit the project web page at

<http://www.delta-institute.org/p2hgsewage.php> for more information. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Abigail Jarka (312-554-0900 ext. 25) of the Delta Institute or Steve Skavroneck, project consultant (910-362-8791).

MnTAP Getting the P2 Message Out

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) staff is always working hard to get the word out about how businesses can prevent pollution, and the past few months have been especially busy. Below are highlights of two recent collaborative projects involving MnTAP.

Phosphorus Management Planning

MnTAP, in partnership with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), has developed a packet of Phosphorus Management Plan (PMP) Development Resources. The packet will help wastewater treatment facility operators reduce phosphorus levels from industrial sources using pollution prevention approaches. The packet includes a PMP template, two sample templates and additional resources on how to reduce phosphorus from various industrial operations. It is being distributed to the 600 publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) in Minnesota, but only 200 POTWs are currently required to develop a PMP.

MnTAP and the MPCA are conducting outreach to provide assistance to POTWs in preparing PMPs and help to industries with their pollution prevention strategies. The packet is available on MnTAP's web site at <http://mntap.umn.edu/pmp/pmp.htm>. Contact Cindy McComas, MnTAP, for more information about pollution prevention in phosphorus management planning at 612-624-4678.

H2E Workshops

Health care facilities have been identified as a source of mercury, dioxins and other toxic wastes released into the environment. To teach health care facility staff how to protect the environment, save money, reduce liability and gain community support, MnTAP, the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MOEA) and Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E) conducted five workshops throughout Minnesota. Workshop sessions covered reducing solid waste, eliminating mercury and polyvinyl chloride (a suspected dioxin precursor), avoiding hazardous chemical use, integrated pest management, environmentally preferable purchasing and how pollution prevention strategies can meet Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) standards.

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Workshop participants and other health care facility staff were also invited to attend a free facility tour at Ridgeview Medical Center in Waconia, Minnesota to see how H2E tools and free assistance from MnTAP helped the facility move toward becoming sustainable. These efforts and technologies have saved Ridgeview money and are part of its plan to meet H2E's goals of eliminating mercury and other toxic chemicals from waste streams by 2005 and reducing overall hospital waste 50 percent by 2010. Ridgeview efforts include formalin still operation, hydrogen peroxide sterilization, mercury-free sphygmomanometers and dilators and glutaraldehyde elimination. Contact Catherine Zimmer, MnTAP, for more information about environmental questions related to the health care industry at 612-624-4635.

Stepping on the EMS Path: Michigan DEQ Offers Workshop in May

An Environmental Management System (EMS) provides a framework to manage environmental impacts, reduce costs, and improve efficiency. Establishments all over the U.S. and the world are using EMS's to drive continual environmental improvement and manage day-to-day environmental performance. EMS's are based on the International Organization for Standardization's environmental framework - ISO 14001. The EMS creates an overall site-specific management system that addresses environmental concerns through the allocation of resources, assignment of responsibilities, and the ongoing evaluation of practices, procedures, and processes to achieve sound environmental performance. Each EMS is created by a team of employees and takes into account the geographic location, stakeholder and employee concerns, past uses of the site, corporate goals, and other factors when designing goals and objectives to achieve positive environmental/financial results.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is hosting an EMS workshop on May 14, 2003 in Lansing, MI. Participants will learn how implementing a proactive, voluntary EMS can improve their operations, help avoid costly environmental mistakes, increase employee participation in environmental efforts, improve their public image, and potentially improve their financial bottom-line. The workshop covers the basics of creating and using an EMS. The morning session is a panel discussion with EMS auditors, specialists, and facility representatives. Afternoon exercises bring EMS to life and provide valuable tips and techniques for getting started on the path to EMS success. Participants will also receive the DEQ's Environmental Management System Guidance Manual, which is very helpful during the training and afterwards as

a reference tool.

This workshop is designed for environmental staff and others from small to medium-sized manufacturing facilities, municipalities, farms, educational institutions, and consulting firms. It will be beneficial to those who are in the process of developing an EMS, interested in developing an EMS, or interested in staying up-to-date on EMS guidance. The workshop fee of \$75 includes continental breakfast, lunch, the manual, and all other training materials.

For more information on the EMS program, contact Kelie Bond at 517-241-7969, or e-mail at bondk@michigan.gov. For workshop registration information, contact the Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278, or e-mail at deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov. For online registration and workshop brochure, go to www.michigan.gov/deq, and scroll down to the "Training & Workshops" button on the left.

Local Resource Center (LRC) Making a Difference in Indiana

The Indiana Clean Manufacturing and Safe Materials Institute (CMTI), acting as one of eight Local Resource Centers (LRCs) around the country, has started working with several Indiana communities interested in Environmental Management Systems (EMS). The LRCs, selected by the U.S. EPA, are charged with assisting local governments with improving their overall environmental performance.

To date, four municipalities have begun working with CMTI to implement a formal EMS at their wastewater treatment facilities; and four others have participated in a survey of their management practices using ISO 14001 as a model. The fenceline for this project were wastewater treatment facilities chosen because treatment of wastewater is generally a community's most expensive service with the biggest potential environmental liability. So, it is in every community's best interest to manage this asset wisely.

The four communities that have already begun working to implement an EMS learned of the benefits of a formal management system by participating in the EPA's strategic goals program for electroplaters. These are larger communities that have already taken a proactive role in managing their assets and liabilities, and should serve as excellent role models for others interested in such an

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effort.

The communities that participated in the survey are smaller. While they were not necessarily interested in a formal EMS, they were willing to participate in the survey because of past or present dealings with personnel or compliance issues. In all four communities, the survey questions seemed to raise new issues the participants had not considered before. And, as more surveys are conducted, it is hoped that these insights can be shared with communities in the form of a guidance document or series of workshops.

For more information on EMS services offered by CMTI,

IDEM's Auto Salvage Facility Sector Project

In response to significant compliance issues associated with the auto salvage facility sector, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has undertaken a four-year program aimed at increasing the compliance rate of auto salvage facilities across Indiana. This project, which began in August 2000 and will conclude in August 2004, involves a unique sector-based approach to compliance in the form of a "compliance continuum." This approach begins with a compliance assistance manual written specifically for the auto salvage facility sector and outreach workshops, and concludes with an inspection/enforcement phase. Included in the inspection/enforcement phase will be an effort to address past mismanagement of wastes resulting in on-site contamination.

The outreach workshops, which will use the compliance assistance manual as an outline, will cover numerous topics including: making a hazardous waste determination, determining generator status, cleanup of contaminated areas, and a facility owner's responsibilities under Indiana's Rule 6 storm water program. Scheduled as presenters is staff from IDEM, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Indiana Department of Labor/Bureau of Safety Education and Training and the Indiana State Department of Health/Radiologic Health Section. The focus of these workshops will be the proper management of wastes and the numerous recycling and reclamation opportunities available to auto salvage facilities. Particular emphasis will be placed on the benefits of recycling and/or reclaiming waste fluids, as well as the removal of mercury switches prior to performing crushing activities.

A web site for the project is available at www.IN.gov/idem/autosalvage. This comprehensive site contains a wide variety of information including:

a database containing the location of auto salvage facilities located in Indiana; a downloadable version of the compliance assistance manual; a listing of the ten outreach workshops to be held across the state in Spring, 2003; and links to various IDEM guidance documents, as well as other information from outside of IDEM that is applicable to this sector.

Ohio EPA Pollution Prevention Supplemental Environmental Project Update

Ohio EPA has completed 111 pollution prevention (P2) Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) in enforcement settlements since 1991. SEPs are environmentally beneficial projects that a violator agrees to undertake when settling an enforcement action. P2 SEPs generally require a violator to reduce waste generation beyond what is required by law, and require a P2 assessment or project in exchange for a penalty reduction. P2 SEPs make Ohio's environmental enforcement more effective and achieve greater environmental gain.

Of the 111 P2 SEPs completed by Ohio EPA, 47 are from the hazardous waste program, 41 from air pollution, 12 from surface water and 11 from other environmental programs (e.g., drinking water, toxic release inventory, etc.). During federal fiscal year 2002, Ohio EPA incorporated 15 P2 SEPs into agency enforcement settlements. This includes six in the air pollution program, five from hazardous waste, three from surface water and one from the Toxic Release Inventory program.

Some examples of P2 SEP activity include the following programs. A door and glass manufacturer agreed to complete a pollution prevention study to identify source reduction and recycling opportunities in lieu of paying \$15,000 towards the penalty for an air violation. A musical instruments manufacturer eliminated the use of trichloroethylene as a cleaning agent as part of Toxic Release Inventory settlement. An electroplater agreed to install conductivity controls and complete other activities to reduce wastes from the plating line in lieu of paying a \$13,100 penalty as part of a hazardous waste settlement.

The Office of Pollution Prevention (OPP) works with Ohio EPA divisions and the Ohio Attorney General's Office (AGO) to incorporate P2 SEPs into current and upcoming settlement negotiations. OPP recently updated its website for P2 SEP information. The P2 SEP website includes guidance and case studies to facilitate agency SEP use. OPP works with Agency enforcement staff to identify

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cases where P2 SEPs are appropriate, develop language for orders, provide technical information, and attend settlement meetings.

OPP regularly reviews reports from companies or organizations that are performing P2 SEPs and makes recommendations to them directly or through the responsible divisions. A database to track agency P2 SEP use and results is maintained. Case studies that document the successful incorporation of P2 SEPs into enforcement settlements are developed and used to encourage the use of P2 SEPs within the Agency and as examples of successful P2 projects for the business community.

Ohio EPA stands committed to increasing the use of P2 SEPs in Ohio enforcement settlements, which benefit the environment, the violating company and the Agency. For more information regarding P2 SEPs, please contact the Ohio EPA Office of Pollution Prevention at (614) 644-3469, use the Office's web mail at p2mail@epa.state.oh.us or visit the Office's web site at <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/p2regint/p2sep1.html>.

New Green Chemistry Book Published

Environmentally friendly solvents for use in chemistry are the subject of a newly published book by Dr. William Nelson of the Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC).

The book, titled "Green Solvents for Chemistry," is published by Oxford Press. Dr. Nelson directs the Alternative Cleaning Technology and Chemical Process Alternatives Labs at WMRC. He is a renowned expert on cleaning processes and new cleaning regimes that reduce waste generation.

"The aim of the book is to introduce the use of green solvents throughout chemistry and to provide a comprehensive reference for solvents currently applicable in chemistry," said Nelson. "The book defines characteristics of green solvents, their current usage and their ecological and economic importance."

Since it is both a textbook and a reference book, Nelson says the book can be used by research scientists, academics, industrial scientists, and the military. He says there even are sections of the book that will be useful to people concerned about the hazards of common household chemicals.

Nelson got the idea for such a book while attending a research conference in 1996. He was doing work

at WMRC on alternative cleaning techniques and environmentally friendly cleaners. He used his work to write a chapter on solvents in a "green chemistry" book. In 1998 he began talking to Oxford Press about an entire book concerning "green" solvents. The company was interested, and Nelson spent about a year researching and writing the book that was recently published.

Nelson said there is expected to be interest in his book in Europe, where the field of green chemistry is well established. The book is available through the American Chemical Society and Oxford Press. Requests for it can be made at university and local bookstores.

WMRC is a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. It is headquartered on the campus of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Fine Print

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