



## **Toxic Contaminants Workgroup**

December 14, 2016 Conference Call

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### **Meeting Summary**

#### **1:00 Welcome, Introductions, Announcements**

- Greg Allen presented a new report from the state of Washington that explores PCB contamination in general consumer products. The report is available [here](#). Workgroup members noted that another area worthy of investigation is where the consumer products get used and/or recycled.
- Current workgroup staffer, David Wood, has recently accepted a position with the Chesapeake Stormwater Network. Lindsey Gordon ([Gordon.lindsey@epa.gov](mailto:Gordon.lindsey@epa.gov)) will be fulfilling his duties with the TCW until a new hire is on board.

#### **1:10 BMP Co-Benefit Project Scoring – Greg Allen, EPA**

- Greg presented the drafted BMP co-benefits scoring spreadsheet, and explained the work-process to determine the rankings of each BMP. The draft version of the scoring will be sent to Tetra Tech by COB Thursday, 12/15.
- Question on whether the USWG will be breaking out toxics between inorganic and organic. Greg replied that they did not split out the scoring between organic and inorganic contaminants.
- Workgroup members raised no significant concerns or questions regarding the proposed scoring of the different BMPs.

#### **1:20 Overview of STAC Feedback – Scott Phillips, USGS**

- The Toxic Contaminants Workgroup provided an update of our activities as part of a STAC Dec 7 meeting, which included a session on Contaminants. Scott reviewed the feedback received from STAC, including opportunities for workshops and reviews.
- STAC just announced their request for workshop and review proposals. Scott Phillips asked if anyone would be interested in discussing workshop topics that the Workgroup could move forward with, and whether they would be interested in helping develop the proposal. This work would need to be completed in early January 2017, and proposals are due 1/25/17.
- Greg suggested the workgroup could request STAC input on which proposals would be viable, or that the workgroup could submit a proposal for the topic they rank highest priority.

- The workgroup should consider the top 1 or 2 workshop topics they would like to propose, and will make a final determination on these topics during the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- John Schneider noted that atmospheric deposition of PCBs is an important estimator for toxics loadings to the Bay, and that in DE estimates currently indicate they're enough to not meet criteria. Suggested exploring PCB sources as a potential topic for a STAC workshop.

1:30 Toxic Contaminants Work Plans: Status for 2016, Plans for 2017 s – Workgroup Members

- Greg and Scott facilitated a discussion of both the Research Work Plan and the Policy and Prevention Work Plan.
- TCW members provided updates on each of their key actions, and these updates have been reflected in revised versions of the workplans.
- Ian Hartwell: Fieldwork on mussel transplantation facilities has completed, and results are coming in. This could be presented back to the workgroup in 2017. Scott noted that the work completed on MusselWatch will be added into the workplan.
- Scott suggested a presentation on the report studying tumors on bullhead catfish sometime in Spring 2017.
- FWS, UMBC & UMD are doing caged mussel studies in the Anacostia watershed to look at contaminant concentrations and the condition of the mussels. This will be done in mid-2018, and could provide a presentation on the first-year data in summer 2017.
- DOEE will send suggested revisions to the language in the workplan: "Evaluate outcomes from Anacostia River sediment investigation to improve understanding of contaminants other than PCBs."

3:30 Adjourn

**Next Scheduled TCW Meeting:**  
January 11, 2017

Agenda topics for January:

- Discussion on proposed STAC workshop topics: PCB sources (including atmospheric deposition)