

SRRTTF Funding Work Group

DRAFT Meeting Notes

March 21, 2013 | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Department of Ecology

4601 North Monroe Street | Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Attendees:

Tom Agnew, Liberty Lake

Adriane Borgias, Ecology

John Culton, Senator Murray's Office

Aubri Denevan, Ruckelshaus Center (*on phone*)

Kelsey Gray, Ruckelshaus Center

Ben Jarvis, IDEQ (*on phone*)

Doug Krapas, Inland Empire

Bud Leber, Kaiser Aluminum

Mike Neher, City of Post Falls

Mike Petersen, Lands Council

Lisa Dally Wilson, SRSP (*on phone*)

Funding Work Group Chair and Co-Chair

Tom Agnew and Rick Eidestadt were tentatively established. Doug Krapas volunteered to step in if needed.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane to check with Rick Eichstaedt to see if he is interested in this) or Doug Krapas

Brainstorming regarding funding needs:

- Assistance with technical work plan and tasks is ongoing and will be more fully developed as the Technical Consultant continues working.
- Community Education
- Consumer Choice Labeling
- Adriane put together a draft boilerplate language and labeling concept. She's looking for comments on this today or in the future.
- Tackling new sources that are being generated. No pigment manufacturers in this area, but the WG can look at how the products are being used. If consumers are approached now, they might be more willing to make a change than the big manufacturers.

Discussion with John Culton, Senator Patty Murray's office

- John asked the work group to consider "where and how can EPA partner with this effort?" He suggested reaching out to Jordan Smith for more information on federal funding grants. The WG can ask the Senator Murray's office for letters of support.
- Also consider how the Task Force's efforts match up at the federal level (Columbia River Act: the Columbia River is the only major watershed that does not have Congressional funding for this type of work).
- TSCA reform: how to expand on this and put it on the radar screen. There is a need to correct the EPA messaging on this issue. PCBs are not a legacy issue, but are portrayed as such by EPA and other federal agencies, so the myth is perpetuated.

- We don't know all of the sources to the river, and we have technical data gaps that need to be filled.
- John suggested the SRRTTF develop a white paper, focusing on the TSCA issue (2 page max).
Bullet points:
 - Talk about the why's of TSCA reform (distinguish between a large regulatory overhaul that could derail our efforts vs. a change in the regulation regarding inadvertent production of PCB).
 - What the Task Force envisions for the reform.
 - Evaluate the specific problem
 - The dischargers and communities are at a disadvantage and are held to cleaning up something they did not create.

ACTION ITEM: Post the NACWA letter on the SRRTTF website. (DONE)

ACTION ITEM: The SRRTTF should do a network campaign with the professional associations that we are involved with to raise awareness of this issue.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane Borgias to send John the ECOS resolution and NACWA letter (DONE).

ACTION ITEM: Consider a meeting with EPA (cross program: water quality and TSCA) to discuss; possibly in June or at another time when that is convenient.

ACTION ITEM: Consider networking with other congressional on this topic such as Representative Cathy McMorris Rogers and Senator Crapo's office. This is not a partisan issue.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Next Full Task Force meeting is April 3, 2013, 9:00am – 12:30pm at the Water Resources Center
- Next Funding Work Group meeting is June 5, 2013, 1:00pm – 3:00pm