Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force

Facilitated by the William D. Ruckelshaus Center (Chris Page and Kara Whitman) DRAFT Conference Call Notes | Monday March 28, 2016 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Attendees:

John Beacham—City of Post Falls
Kris Holm—City of Coeur d'Alene
Adrienne Kronebaugh*—Kootenai
Environmental Alliance
Mike LaScuola*, Sandy Phillips—Spokane
Regional Health District

Bud Leber*—Kaiser Aluminum
Dave McBride*—WA Department of Health
Dave Moss*—Spokane County
Mike Petersen*—Lands Council
Elizabeth Schoedel*—City of Spokane
Jerry White*—Riverkeeper

Introductions and Agenda Review:

After introductions and confirming a quorum (8 of 12 voting members in attendance), Chris Page went over the agenda; no changes were made. Chris gave an overview of the process of the generation of the Letter to The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The group discussed edits to the letter.

ACTION ITEM: Ruckelshaus Center to incorporate all changes from the call, and fix any typos, then place on Task Force letterhead, and send to Task Force for one last review. Task Force to send any last minute tweaks to Ruckelshaus Center no later than C.O.B on Tuesday, March 29th. Ruckelshaus to send to the final letter to EPA/Catherine Gockel. (COMPLETE, Final letter posted on the Task Force website at http://srrttf.org/?p=6030).

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Chemical Safety Bill: protection against legal claims

The group discussed the potential for the Task Force to draft a letter response to the Monsanto protection in the Chemical Safety Bill. The bill passed with little dissention, though it looks like many of the legislators did not fully realize what the bill contained. A response letter will need to be drafted by April 20th for review by the Full Task Force for decision at the April 27th Task Force meeting. The City of Spokane will share its comment letter once it is final. All attendees to the call agreed that a comment letter would be appropriate, submitted to all U.S. House of Representative members that makes sense.

ACTION ITEM: Ruckelshaus Center to contact Doug Krapas and ask if he would be willing to draft the letter. Elizabeth Schoedel can work with him on this. (COMPLETE, update Mike Petersen, Doug Krapas and Elizabeth Schoedel drafted a letter that will be sent out for Task Force review on Monday April 18th)

Extra Meetings in 2016?

Chris Page asked the group if they thought more meetings will be needed in 2016 to work through PCB control actions/ comprehensive plan. This would Increase scope for the Ruckelshaus Center Budget. The group agreed that his could well be possible.

ACTION ITEM: Ruckelshaus Center to put together a few scenarios for additional meetings and cost in the scope/budget.