

# Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force Zoom Meeting

Meeting Notes

Facilitated by White Bluffs Consulting

July 22, 2020

Meeting Documents: <http://srrttf.org/?p=11422>

## Attendees:

### ***Voting Members and Alternates***

BiJay Adams – Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District  
Mike Anderson, Ben Martin – City of Coeur d’ Alene  
Brent Downey – Kaiser Aluminum  
Cadie Olsen, Jeff Donovan – City of Spokane  
Mike Peterson – Lands Council  
Mike LaScoula – Spokane Regional Health District  
Doug Krapas – Inland Empire Paper (IEP)  
Bill Baker – WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

### ***Advisors***

Karl Rains – Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)  
Brian Nickel – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Joel Breems – Avista

### ***Interested Parties***

Lisa Dally Wilson – Dally Environmental and Spokane River Stewardship Partners (SRSP)  
Ben and Lara Floyd – White Bluffs Consulting (WBC)  
Craig Borrenpohl, Alyssa Gersdorf – City of Post Falls  
Robert Mott – Mott Consulting  
Gary Jones – Printing United Alliance  
Dr. Kyle Shimabuku – Gonzaga University

**Introductions and Agenda Review:** After introductions, Ben Floyd reviewed the agenda. He also noted that with today’s limited meeting agenda, notes from the June Task Force (TF) meeting would be approved at the August meeting.

**PCBs in products database development Phase 1 scope of work approval:** Lisa Dally Wilson said this was an item in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan and it says Ecology will provide a base for the database and the TF will assist with supporting it. There was discussion about what the database will look like and how to determine if data are relevant for it. We decided to see if data exists that can be put in the database and Dr Shimabuku from Gonzaga provided a scope of work to help with this work. If they do find additional data, the TF can discuss how to put a clearinghouse of the data together. It would be a good opportunity for Gonzaga and the TF to start working together and others agreed.

Mike Peterson said after discussion with Dr. Shimabuku they have some good ideas for outreach. They will help initiate outreach to find out who has been doing any testing.

Dr Shimabuku said they will use students from Gonzaga, and it would be a great opportunity for them. They plan to reach out to the few labs who use the 1668 method and see if any of their clients will share data. They also plan to reach out to the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), following up on a 2012 resolution signed by several member agencies saying they felt the level of PCBs in products should be revisited. They will see if they want to engage more and share any data they may have. In addition, the team will search online to see what organizations seem to be monitoring for PCBs in products. The Washington Department of Enterprise Services may have leads as well. They plan to send out an email to see if the greater TF community may have leads as well (WBC can help with this). They will look online for any other databases that are similar to what Ecology has also. Gonzaga will make them aware of things the TF is working on to see if there are any potential collaborators identified.

**ACTION:** The Task Force approved the \$1,965 for Gonzaga to start the phase one scope of work for PCBs in products database development.

- Are we also going to be looking at data on PCBs that are contained in food? *Doug said not right now as we are focused on the iPCB issue at this point.*

**Other Announcements:**

Brian Nickel gave an update on the Kaiser clean-up effort and said there should be activity as early as next week on the removal work and contracts are in place.

They have a fact sheet available about the Kaiser clean-up which is posted on this webpage:

<https://response.epa.gov/kaisersmelter>

- What are they removing? *Brian said they are removing corrugated metal siding on some buildings that have a coating that contains PCBs and asbestos. There are some stormwater retention ponds which have accumulated a lot of PCBs and sediment they will remove also. The main non-PCB issues are PAH and asbestos.*

Lisa mentioned sending out the MOA in word format to all with a schedule of when responses are due, and WBC will send out today.

Mike Peterson said there is a guest opinion in the newspaper from Riverkeeper about the variance and comments are due this Friday. Lands Council will write comments in support of how the variance process has been conducted.

**The next meeting of the SRRTTF is a Zoom meeting on August 26, 2020 at 8:30 am**