

TSCA/iPCB/Green Chemistry Workgroup Meeting Summary
April 6, 2022

TSCA Members in Attendance

Vikki Barthels (SRHD)

Jeff Donovan (City of Spokane)

Ben Floyd (White Bluffs Consulting)

Lauren Heine (ChemForward)

Gary Jones (Printing United Alliance)

Doug Krapas (IEP)

Anna Montgomery (Braided River)

Robert Mott (Mott Consulting, LLC)

Cheryl Niemi (Ecology)

Elsa Pond (WA DOT)

Naghmana Sherazi (The Lands Council)

Lisa Dally Wilson (Dally Environmental)

iPCB/TSCA Agenda Items Discussed:

1. WA HHWQC Lawsuits: Action: D. Krapas and others (i.e.: Ecology) to provide any updates on the following lawsuits

a. **HHWQC:** On March 29, 2022 EPA published draft HHWQC for WA

- EPA is reversing their prior approval of human health criteria, resulting in a return to a PCB Water Quality Standard of 7 picograms/liter (ppq).
- Public comments to the draft rule are due by May 31, 2022
- D. Krapas asked Ecology what the State's position was on this proposed rule and if WA intended to defend the State's proposed rule. Ecology personnel available for the meeting were unable to address this question, but Adriane P. Borgias provided an email response to D. Krapas on 04/07/22 with the following regarding Ecology's position on the EPA's draft Human Health Criteria rule:

Please see the quote from Director Watson:

"It's critical that fish from Washington waters are safe to eat, and the human health criteria are an important component of that," said Laura Watson, director of the Washington Department of Ecology. "EPA's proposal embraces the more protective standards that Washington Tribes and community members have championed, and we welcome this renewed commitment to safe, clean, healthy waters in our state."

b. **Settlement requiring EPA to complete a PCB TMDL for the Spokane River:**

- EPA to complete a TMDL for PCBs in the Spokane River by September 30, 2024.

2. Education/Outreach: Action: The Lands Council (TLC) is to provide updates on the iPCB National Outreach Campaign project:

a. N. Sherazi provided the following update regarding the status of this project:

- The website is live. www.ipcbfree.org
- Ben Floyd reviewed and confirmed that all changes have been picked up
- TLC is finalizing the script for outreach and intends to complete the brunt of outreach by May 2022
- A draft final report is scheduled for SRRTTF consideration by June/July 2022

3. iPCB/TSCA Workgroup Projects, Approved & In Process:

- a. **PCB-11: Sources and Pathways to the Spokane River:** this work is currently under control of the TTWG and will be an element of the 2022 synoptic survey/mass balance in August/September. **Action Item: L.D. Wilson to provide updates on the progress of the TTWG on this project**
- b. **PCB Policies Evaluation, Phase 1: 3rd Party Research Effort:** **Action Item: Braided River Consulting to provide updates at the iPCB/TSCA monthly meetings**
 - See attached presentation update from Braided River ([SRRTTF 4th Project Update_040622.pdf](#))
 - A draft summary report is scheduled for April
- c. **Develop Industry List of Pigments: Chlorinated vs. Non-Chlorinated:** **Action Item: ChemForward to provide updates at the iPCB/TSCA monthly meetings**
 - See attached presentation update from ChemForward ([Inadvertent PCBs database update_040622.pdf](#))
 - Dr. Mott and G. Jones suggested identifying if pigments are active or inactive on the TSCA inventory (DSL or NDSL). EPA is currently redoing this listing and suggested that ChemForward reach out to EPA regarding the timing as a product of their work on this project.
 - Dr. Mott stated that there are only a total of 250 pigments and that many of these are not being produced for commerce.

4. 2022 Proposed Projects: The workgroup discussed the following list of projects:

2022 Proposed iPCB/TSCA Workgroup Projects
Request that EPA to perform Cost/Benefit Analysis and reevaluate TSCA
Evaluate existing product testing data to determine if TiO ₂ specific congeners can be identified
Perform statistical analysis of the TiO ₂ data provided
Test raw TiO ₂ and products with nexus to Spokane River to determine PCB concentrations & specific congeners
EPA or Ecology product testing programs to collaborate with the SRRTTF to perform testing of TiO ₂ products

- a. **EPA to perform Cost/Benefit Analysis and reevaluate TSCA -** K. Rains was not present to provide an update, but did send an email to D. Krapas that he had scheduled a meeting with A. Borgias (Ecology) on 03/03/22 to discuss the details of this proposal. **Action: K. Rains to provide an update on A. Borgias to get additional detail for this project**
- b. **TiO₂ Projects:**
 - i. D. Krapas suggested combining the first two TiO₂ projects (*Evaluate existing product testing data to determine if TiO₂ specific congeners can be identified* and *Perform statistical analysis of the TiO₂ data provided*) into one 3rd party research effort. **Action: D. Krapas to develop scope of work for the this TiO₂ project**

- ii. D. Krapas suggested combining the second two TiO₂ projects (*Test raw TiO₂ and products with nexus to Spokane River to determine PCB concentrations & specific congeners and EPA or Ecology product testing programs to collaborate with the SRRTTF to perform testing of TiO₂ products*) into one effort.
 - **Action: D. Krapas to develop scope of work for the this TiO₂ project**
 - **Action: Ecology & EPA to evaluate regulatory programs for TiO₂ testing support**

5. Safer Products WA: Action Ecology, C. Niemi and C. Manahan to continue updates
The overall website for SPWA: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Reducing-toxic-chemicals/Safer-products>

The EZ View site for those who are interested in following the process:

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37555/safer_products_for_washington.aspx

- a. C. Niemi stated that the draft report required to the legislature by June 1, 2022 is currently going through an internal review and are still soliciting feedback on any rules/regulatory action.
- 6. TTWG and Funding Groups: Action: L. Dally Wilson & K. Rains to provide updates**
- a. See item 4.a. above for an update on the iPCB/TSCA project *PCB-11: Sources and Pathways to the Spokane River*
 - b. K. Rains was not present, so no update was provided for the Funding Workgroup as it pertains to iPCB/TSCA work
- 7. EPA research opportunities: Action: EPA updates by M. Mullin & L. Edmondson**
- a. No EPA representatives were present for the meeting, so no updates were provided for the following projects:
 - b. **iPCB Key words for Scholarly Articles: Action: M. Mullin to follow-up on status**
 - c. **Children's Product Testing:** See the summary for the presentation by EPA in the October, 2021 meeting minutes
 - d. **NTP risk study of various Congeners and Aroclors:**
 - D. Krapas received a letter of response from EPA dated November 15, 2021 (EPA Letter to SRRTTF_111521.pdf) to the letter sent by the SRRTTF inquiring about the status of the NTP work.
 - The EPA letter provides an update on the work being done with PCB-11, but is silent on the other Aroclors and congeners. The iPCB/TSCA workgroup agreed that sending a follow-up letter inquiring about this other work was warranted but not critical path timing wise. **Action: D. Krapas to develop a draft response to the EPA letter.**