TUR Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
May 11, 2016
Saltonstall Building
100 Cambridge Street, Boston
Conference Room D

Members Attending: Mark Rossi (Clean Production Action), Bill Judd (Industrial Compliance Group), Lucy Servidio (Capaccio Engineering), Mark Monique (Savogran), Sam Lipson (City of Cambridge Public Health Department), Tolle Graham (MassCOSH), Elizabeth Saunders (Clean Water Action), Kathy Flannery (Department of Labor Standards), Jillian Riley (Attorney General)

Others Attending: Liz Harriman (Toxics Use Reduction Institute [TURI]), Rachel Massey (TURI), Heather Tenney (TURI), Alix Pierre-Louis (Massachusetts Water Resources Authority [MWRA]), Tiffany Skogstrom (Office of Technical Assistance [OTA]), Suzi Peck (MassDEP), Rich Bizzozero (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs [EEA]), Danielle Domingos (OTA),

Welcome and Executive Director Update

The Executive Director welcomed members to the meeting and provided a summary of what was discussed at the March 16, 2016 Administrative Council meeting. The Council discussed the TURA FY15 Governor's Report; trends in perc use and professional wet cleaning at Massachusetts professional garment care businesses; and the completion of the year-long regulatory pause. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) changes to Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) lists were also discussed. The Administrative Council voted to list the EPCRA nonylphenol category, consisting of six chemicals, to the list of reportable chemicals. On the CERCLA list, EPA has delisted three sodium phosphate CAS registry numbers that were incorrectly listed under the sodium phosphate tribasic name, and the Council discussed whether they should continue to be listed under TURA, with no decision reached. The Council had intentionally retained these substances during the review of the CERCLA chemicals carried out after the 2006 TURA Amendments. The Administrative Council asked for more information on where the three sodium phosphate chemicals are used in the state and which POTWs have the capability to remove them.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from the March 26, 2015 meeting were reviewed. None of the members had changes or edits for the March 26, 2015 minutes, a motion was made and seconded and the minutes were accepted by the committee as written. The February 4, 2016 minutes were also reviewed and accepted by the committee as written. The February meeting included a discussion of the FY15 TURA report to the Governor; one Committee member had requested additional financial breakdown and that was included. The member also expressed interest in additional

financial information from TURI training events; the Executive Director stated the program would include more detail where appropriate in the 2016 Report to the Governor.

Agency Updates

TURI

An update was provided on the availability of TUR grants. A work-in-progress case study of Merrimack Ales Brewery was reported as available. TURI, OTA and DEP participated in a workshop and focus group for the food processing industry on May 5th that included 20 food processors, discussions of issues and opportunities for assistance around energy and water conservation, cleaning and sanitization, and other environmental and health concerns. The Spring TUR Planner Conference held in the Springfield area had over 100 attendees, and the Massachusetts Chemistry and Technology Alliance participated by organizing a morning and afternoon session for the conference.

MassDEP

The representative from MassDEP informed the members that the E-DEP reporting is now web-based and as of May 11, 2016 was running smoothly. The next project will be to move Toxic Use Reduction Planner (TURP) certification applications to a web based format.

Question: What about Higher Hazard Substances? Do companies have to fill out a Form R for EPA and TURA?

Response: Yes, as has been true since the advent of higher hazard substances, facilities reporting on higher hazard substances that also meet the federal reportable threshold need to complete both a Federal Form R and a state only Form R. The eDEP system is not "smart" enough to determine if a facility is reporting below the Federal threshold, so has to present the state only form to all facilities. We hope this will change at some point in the future when EIPASS (MassDEP's and EEA's new data management system) gets built out.

OTA

A representative from OTA told the committee members that the MassCAR trainings finished in February and that the MassCAR checklist and fact sheets have been posted on the OTA website at www.mass.gov/eea/ota/masscar. For the six-month update for the EPA TUR/ Climate Resilience Grant, OTA is currently having meetings with RPAs to assess their needs and in order to write a Request For Proposal for training grants. Also, OTA has welcomed a new member of the technical assistance provider team, John (Jack) Illingworth. It was announced that Danielle Domingos would be moving on to another job.

Updated Ethyl Acetate Policy Analysis

The TURI draft policy analysis for ethyl acetate as a potential Lower Hazard Substance (LHS) was reviewed. The principal concern is flammability and its very low flash point of -4°C. Other human health concerns are irritation and neurotoxicity. A concern expressed at a previous advisory committee meeting, and discussed further at this meeting, was the introduction of a new type of hazard into a facility, flammability, when substituting ethyl acetate for a halogenated solvent like TCE. There was discussion about flammability hazard, how it is managed in different facilities, how it could be better communicated, and the trade-offs vs. other more toxic but less flammable substances. There was also discussion about whether designating a substance as Lower Hazard drives more companies to switch to that substance, or to use more of it. A question was asked about the SAB's process; the answer (see p. 3 of the policy analysis) was that they had compared a number of different endpoints for ethyl acetate and 3 other acetates, 2 of which have already been designated as LHS and one of which was delisted. They found it to be similarly or slightly less toxic, and more flammable with more potential exposure (higher vapor pressure) than the other 3. Discussion ended with little support for a recommendation of LHS designation for ethyl acetate.

Advisory Committee Member Activities & Priorities

Advisory Committee members were asked what they and their organizations/companies were focused on related to TUR and toxic chemicals. There was excellent discussion, and as meeting time ran out before all committee members had an opportunity to share, it was decided to continue this at a future meeting.

Mark Rossi: Announced a chemical footprint project similar to the carbon footprint project which several "brands" are piloting. The tool, scheduled to be released the following week, is being found useful for gap analysis. Mark also described the widely used GreenScreen for safer chemicals tool, which benchmarks chemicals with a score of 1-4. Chemical priorities include flame retardants, perfluorinated compounds, phthalates and alternative plasticizers.

Tolle Graham: Announced the Workers' Memorial Day event to remember workers killed in workplace accidents and illnesses; a copy of their report "Dying for Work" was handed around. Also in relation to recent events (the Dow chemical explosion with trimethyl aluminum and the ammonia leak at a seafood warehouse where one worker was killed), how could TURA be used to address chemicals that cause workplace accidents and deaths in MA? Could this be a way to set priorities for chemicals to be added to the list or designated as Higher Hazard Substances (HHS)? The seafood facility had had many OSHA refrigeration violations before the fatal accident - if they had been doing TUR planning, would that have made a difference? They are already subject to OSHA PSM and EPA RMP. It was noted that refrigeration systems are closed systems, and only recharged to make up for leaks during a year, so most would be unlikely to trip even a HHS threshold. Might there be a way to steer companies toward OTA assistance when they get an OSHA visit?

Sam Lipson: Priorities include lead in water and perception of the issue, small business issues, lead and asbestos removal issues, proper collection and control of unused medications (controlled substances) and sharps. The lead in drinking water systems has raised the issue for the public - is this an opportunity to raise awareness of other lead exposures, e.g., from trades and coming home on clothing? There are some laws that mandate enforcement by state authorities, and it has a chilling effect on local enforcement and the ability to inform about hazards. e.g., for asbestos removal, a contractor will give DEP a window of time, and it is unlikely that inspectors show up on the day that removal is occurring. Nano materials are also an ongoing concern, particularly in Cambridge with the many advanced materials and R&D facilities. It was also mentioned that it would be helpful to have the TURA program more involved in the flame retardant issues.

Adjourn

Handouts

TURI Industry Grants

TURI Small Business Grants

TURI Community Grants

Academic Research Grants

Merrimack Ales Case Study

Updated Draft Policy Analysis, "Potential Lower Hazard Substance Designation: Ethyl Acetate (CAS# 141-78-6)

Upcoming Events

May 18: SAB Meeting

May 18: Late Lessons from Early Warnings about Hazards to health and Environment – David Gee

May 25: CMBEN: Safety Updates and Resources

May 26: TRI/ TURA Reporting Workshop Chicopee

June 2: TRI/ TURA Reporting Workshop Newburyport

June 8: Honoring Champions of Toxics Use Reduction in MA – Boston MA

Links

TURI Cleaning Laboratory "Money Saving Mondays" on NECN

http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs169/1102108714611/archive/1124231191175.html

URI Greenlist Bulletin sign up
http://www.turi.org/TURI_Publications/Greenlist_Bulletin

TURI newsletter sign up
http://www.turi.org/TURI_Publications/TURI_Newsletter