

TUR Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
September 22, 2015
Saltonstall Building
100 Cambridge Street, Boston
Conference Room D

Members Attending: Mark Rossi (Clean Production Action), Joon Han (AB Cleaners), Elizabeth Saunders (Clean Water Action), Steve Gauthier (IUE), Bob Audlee (Stainless Steel Coatings), Ronald Westgate (Philips Lightolier), Bill Judd (Industrial Compliance Group)

Others Attending: Liz Harriman (Toxics Use Reduction Institute [TURI]), Rachel Massey (TURI), Heather Tenney (TURI), Mike Ellenbecker (TURI), Tricia McCarthy (American Chemistry Council [ACC]), Alix Pierre-Louis (Massachusetts Water Resources Authority [MWRA]), Mike Ellenbecker (TURI), Tiffany Skogstrom (Office of Technical Assistance [OTA]), Jill Vernes (Cappacio Engineering), Gabriel Porter (Occupational Safety Health Administration [OSHA]), Katherine Robertson (Massachusetts Chemistry Technology Alliance [MCTA]), Suzi Peck (MassDEP), Rich Bizzozero (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs [EEA]), Danielle Domingos (OTA)

Welcome and Member Introductions

The Executive Director welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.

Meeting Minutes from June 25, 2015

The meeting minutes from the Advisory Committee on June 25 were distributed and the Executive Director asked for questions and comments. A representative from MassDEP asked that it be noted more explicitly that there was no one from MassDEP at the meeting and the Executive Director, on behalf of the agency, gave the MassDEP program update. It was noted that this clarification would be added to the minutes and they were then accepted.

Executive Director Update

Regarding Higher Hazard Substance (HHS) designations, the Executive Director stated that the Response to Comments on the HHS designation of TDI is currently on hold due to the statewide regulatory pause. He noted that the Governor's Office would hold listening sessions on all current Massachusetts regulations, which will include the proposed regulations on the designation of TDI and the TURA fee proposal, in the upcoming weeks. More information on the exact schedule would be resent to the Committee members electronically after the meeting.

It was also noted that the two one-page TURA overview documents are now complete and available for distribution and use by any other state agency/organization.

The Executive Director stated that the Board of Cosmetology is re-starting the process of rewriting its regulations. In the past, the Administrative Council has provided input on these regulations, including on the requirement that Massachusetts beauty parlors and barber shops use paraformaldehyde onsite for sanitization. Massachusetts is the only state in the country with this regulation.

He also noted that there are three new Council members on the Administrative Council; Dan Sieger, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA), Jennifer Hoyt, Department of Fire Services (DFS) and Michael Flanagan, Department of Labor Standards (DLS) and that there is a vacancy on the Advisory Committee for a small business representative. The Executive Director is currently accepting recommendations to fill the vacancy.

TURA Program Agency Updates

MassDEP

A representative from MassDEP noted that the reports due July 1, 2015 were in and that approximately 480 were submitted. The MassDEP issued about 5 or 6 Notices of Noncompliance (NONs) for failure to file and a couple of facilities were issued penalties for multiple filing issues over the past years.

The MassDEP is currently working on the 2013 Data Release, which will include more information and graphics, including maps, than previous data releases.

MassDEP has adopted a TURA reporting amnesty for companies that self-disclose regarding a missed filing for a chemical or failure to file under TURA. The agency stated that it will be working closely with trade associations of targeted sectors this fall to inform them about the TURA reporting amnesty and have them disseminate the information to their members.

An Advisory Committee member asked for clarification about the scope of the amnesty, and the MassDEP representative clarified that it applies only to TURA reporting and planning, not to other MassDEP requirements.

TURI

TURI provided an update on a number of on-going activities, which are summarized in the handouts. Highlights include:

- Two grants for academic researchers working directly with Massachusetts businesses on safer surfactants for diagnostic laboratory testing and safer alternatives to solvents used in contact adhesive products.
- New TURI research project working with a Massachusetts business on safer alternatives to methylene chloride in household paint stripping formulations.

- Five community grants focusing on phthalates and flame retardants in early childhood education; safer sanitizers for food service; pesticide reduction; flame retardants in gymnastic facilities; and reducing toxics in personal care products.
- Upcoming demonstration events at Franklin Paint (Product Formulation – Oct. 15th) and Analog Devices (Water Conservation – Nov. 16th)
- Upcoming Toxics Use Reduction Planners’ continuing education conference, Nov. 19th in Lowell
- Peer Mentoring Workgroup convened by TURI and hosted by Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, focusing on sharing best practices for chemicals management.
- Pilot for FY16: new grant program targeted specifically at small businesses.
- Auto Body and Repair Shop Alternatives to Solvents Demonstration, September 19, Lowell, MA

Other handouts included a recent article, “Hex Chromium-Free Sealants for Defense and Aerospace,” and the 25th Anniversary Brochure.

A representative from TURI gave the Committee an update on the activities of the Science Advisory Board (SAB), noting that the Board recently finished their review of phthalate esters. TURI will now add a policy analysis and review of current regulation on phthalate esters before sending the document to MassDEP.

OTA

The representative from OTA stated that the TURA Program’s FY14 Governor’s Report is now available on both the OTA and TURI website. Some highlights from the report include:

- OTA completed 53 onsite site visits to facilities.
- TURI provided two research grants and five community grants.
- Demonstration events at KMK Cleaners, Raytheon, and ChemGenes.
- MassDEP certified 11 TUR Planners and recertified 135 TUR Planners.
- The Advisory Committee provided input to the Administrative Council on higher hazard substance (HHS) designations.

He also gave an update on EPA grants, noting that the CRASH Course update for auto body shops and auto repairs shops grant ends in October. Currently, OTA is finalizing the document and will be conducting four workshops across the state. EPA also recently awarded OTA with a grant on preventative emergency planning, which will begin in October. OTA will work with regional planning agencies and local first responders to educate them about toxics in their community, and will educate facilities that use chemicals in high risk areas to make them more climate change resilient.

Adjourn

Handouts

TUR Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda 9/22/15

TURA Decision-making Document
Designation of TURA Higher and Lower Hazard Substances
TURA Services for MA Businesses
TURA: Overview
FY14 Toxics Use Reduction Program Governor's Report
TURA 25th Anniversary Brochure
FY16 Community Grants and Academic Research Grants
FY16 Small Business Grant RFP
Description of the Peer-Mentoring Workgroup
"Hex Chromium-Free Sealants for Defense and Aerospace" Report
TURA FY16 Training Calendar