

TURA Administrative Council Meeting

September 10, 2020

12pm – 3pm

The September 10, 2020 TURA Administrative Council convened remotely, over zoom, consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus, known as, "COVID-19".

Council Members Attending (attendance taken by roll call):

Greg Cooper, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Michael Flanagan, Department of Labor Standards (DLS)

Marc Nascarella, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)

Jake Nunnemacher, Department of Fire Services (DFS)

Edward Palleschi, Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (OEHD), Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR)

Dan Sieger, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)

Meeting Attendees (recorded by chat box and / or participant list):

EEA: Caroline Higley

DEP: Lynn Cain, Hardiesse Dicka-Bessonneau, Jenny Outman

OTA: Caredwen Foley, Tiffany Skogstrom, Michelle Spitznagel

TURI: Liz Harriman, Gregory Morose, Heather Tenney

Other attendees:

- Erin DeSantis, ACC
- Liz Gugliotti, Irwin Engineers
- Carol Holahan, Foley Hoag on behalf of ACC
- Tricia McCarthy, Coyne/ACC
- Katherine Robertson, MCTA
- Laura Spark, Clean Water Action

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Participants were admitted at 12pm and were asked to identify themselves in the chat box for purposes of recording meeting attendance. Council members were identified by roll call.

It was explained that chat would be disabled during the meeting, and that there would be opportunity for attendee participation at designated times.

2. Approval of Meeting February 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The chair opened the meeting by asking if there were any changes to the February 11, 2020 meeting minutes. There were no changes brought forth and the motion to accept the minutes as written was seconded and approved.

Votes, taken by roll call, were 5 approvals and one abstention, and recorded as follows:

- Greg Cooper: yes
- Michael Flanagan: yes
- Marc Nascarella: yes
- Jake Nunnemacher: abstain
- Edward Palleschi: yes
- Dan Sieger: yes

3. EPA Listing of 172 PFAS Chemicals to TRI and Council Vote

Tiffany Skogstrom summarized that as part of Fiscal Year 2020's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), 172 PFAS chemicals were added to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRA). Under TURA, EPCRA chemicals are incorporated into the TURA chemical list after a vote by the Administrative Council.

Additional background was provided for Council members, noting that the NDAA mandated that EPA add these chemicals to the TRI as of 2020 reporting year. In general, they are longer chain PFAS, including precursors, for which EPA has issued a Significant New User Rules (SNUR) and that are reported as being in commerce under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). It also, includes several specific PFAS regardless of whether they are still in commerce (PFOA and salts, PFOS and salts, GenX, PFNA, PFHxS). These 172 substances were added to TRI individually, with a 100lb reporting threshold. Many PFAS chemicals are claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI), and are not included as yet. Substantiation of those claims is currently being reviewed and other PFAS may be added over the next few years. TURA must adopt these substances under the statutory language. After the council vote today, a regulations package will go out for public comment. This vote is a procedural step to begin the regulation process.

It was clarified that this is a smaller set of PFAS than the one the TURA Science Advisory Board (SAB) recommended, and for which TURI has prepared a draft policy analysis.

Comments or questions were invited from the council and the public. No raised hands were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the listing

Votes, taken by roll call, 6 approvals (unanimous) and recorded as follows:

- Greg Cooper: yes
- Michael Flanagan: yes
- Marc Nascarella: yes
- Jake Nunnemacher: yes
- Edward Palleschi: yes
- Dan Sieger: yes

4. TURA Program Updates

Liz Harriman offered a TURA program update; a document which is downloadable [here](#) as of the morning of 9/10/20. This document has links to new publications and resources.

- The TURA Science Advisory Board (SAB) will meet at 12pm on Thursday 9/30/20. Agenda items include a recent petition on Carbon Nanotubes and Carbon Nanofibers, and the SAB's deliberations on Quaternary Ammonium Compounds used for disinfection. The SAB finalized a recommendation for a PFAS Category in June; that is incorporated into the draft policy analysis.
- On June 24, 2020, the TURA Program received a petition to list carbon nanotubes and carbon nanofibers as hazardous substances on the TURA list at a reporting threshold of 100 grams.
- Recent TURA Program events include – virtual TUR demonstration site webinars (normally conducted in person) and webinars on cleaning and disinfection. TURI's cleaning lab is researching safer methods of disinfection, and offering that information via their website and webinars. .
- OTA has been offering virtual site visits to companies and has created a factsheet with a staff directory of sector experts.
- New TURA Program staff updates: Caredwen Foley was welcomed as OTA's new Communications Coordinator in June 2020. Rich Bizzozero retired from his OTA Director position in April 2020, and Tiffany Skogstrom has been serving as Acting Director.
- OTA has created a downloadable template to assist companies as they inquire of their suppliers as to which chemicals contain newly reportable PFAS substances under TRI.
- OTA is about to begin working with DEP to assist wastewater treatment facilities in engaging with potential upstream PFAS users by providing free and confidential technical assistance and TURA Program resources.
- MassDEP reported that there was a state audit of the TURA program at MassDEP from 2018-2019 that focused on filing of plans and reports and standard operations and procedures. The auditor report is available online.

No questions or comments were noted from Council members at this time. Attendees were invited to raise their hand via Zoom and ask a question or make a comment.

A visitor inquired as to when stakeholders would receive the Carbon Nanotubes and Nanofibers Petition information, and a TURA representative responded that the information was sent with the SAB stakeholder email.

Dan Sieger reported that the TURA Ad Hoc group attempted to meet earlier during the pandemic but received feedback that meeting during that particular reopening phase was too much of a burden on industry. We will be looking to schedule an Advisory Committee meeting and then begin the Ad Hoc meetings.

5. Scheduling next meeting

Tiffany Skogstrom will send out a doodle poll for the next TURA Administrative Council meeting after the TURA Advisory and Ad Hoc Committees have been scheduled.

6. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. All TURA Administrative Council members were in favor, and none opposed. Meeting adjourned.