



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Board of Registration
of
Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals

ONE WINTER STREET, 3rd Floor
BOSTON, MA 02108

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting on February 26, 2014

Approved on March 20, 2014

Prepared by: Beverly Coles-Roby

Meeting Location: MassDEP Central Region 627 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

List of Documents Used at the Meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Minutes of Meeting on January 16, 2014
3. Course List
4. Memorandum prepared by John Guswa "Course Approval Process Follow-Up"

- 1. Call to Order:** John Guswa called the meeting to order at approximately 12:30 p.m. Also present were Benjamin Ericson, David Austin, Jamie Smith, Kathy Campbell, and Farooq Siddique. Gail Batchelder arrived at 1:10 p.m. Deb Listernick, Kirk Franklin and Robert Rein were absent. Staff members present were Beverly Coles-Roby and Lynn Read. Also present were Wendy Rundle, Executive Director of the Licensed Site Professional Association (LSPA); Wes Stimpson of WES Associates; Lillian Clark, of Cherrytree Group, and Rebecca Woolley, Environmental Analyst, CERO.
- 2. Announcements:** There were no announcements.
- 3. Previous Minutes:** The draft minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2014, were approved with minor corrections. The minutes were approved as amended.
- 4. Old Business:**
 - a. Directional Technologies, Inc.: Horizontal Remediation Wells for Improved Site Cleanup (January 14, 2014, Waltham, MA. 8 Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
 - b. The Committee discussed how much of a change in a course warrants a new course number and whether a slight modification would enable a LSP to take that course within the same cycle. In the case of Directional Technology's submission for approval, Mr. Siddique indicated that he had taken the course and that there wasn't anything so different that the course should be assigned a new number. Mr. Guswa asserted that the

subject matter was discussed in more detail in his memorandum. Mr. Ericson stated that the Committee wants to give guidance to the providers and LSPs. The Committee ultimately decided that the Directional Technology course should be approved for eight (8) technical credits and that the subject matter did not justify assigning a new course number.

- c. Mr. Guswa asked the Committee to review his memorandum and forward their comments to him. Mr. Siddique suggested that once a course is approved it could be offered more than once. Ms. Rundle questioned whether the Committee needed to consider changing the regulations. Mr. Guswa asked what the regulations required. Mr. Ericson told the Committee that it should define what constitutes substantive change. Ms. Coles-Robby wondered what the Committee should do going forward. Mr. Smith agreed that the Committee needs to define "substantive." Mr. Ericson added that with respect to an instructor, providers cannot substitute a random person and that the instructor must be someone qualified to teach. Mr. Siddique pointed out that every course has a lead lecturer. Mr. Guswa told the Committee that these questions would not be answered today and asked the members to consider: "What changes can occur [in a proffered course] and still keep the same number." He went on to say that the Committee must streamline the process for providers as well as the LSP Board so as not to penalize LSPs. The question is how much modification constitutes change.
- d. The Internet Subcommittee reported that it met on February 21, 2014, to decide which jurisdictions' Distance Learning regulations should be reviewed. The committee will meet again before the March 20, 2014 Board meeting.
- e. Ms. Woolley asked whether continuing education credits could be categorized differently for practicing and non-practicing LSPs. Ms. Batchelder offered to research how Connecticut deals with the issue.
- f. Ms. Coles-Roby raised the issue of a LSP's prior Request for Approval as opposed to a provider's Request for Approval. She pointed out language in 309 CMR 309(6)(a) that permitted such a submission. Mr. Guswa pointed out that the difference was that the LSP request approval of a conference not a course. No further action was taken on the LSP's request which was denied at the January 2014 Committee meeting.

5. New Business

Mr. Siddique informed the Committee that he thought that the course Communicating Risk to the Public was a very beneficial to a LSP. Discussion of whether the course Obtaining A Brownfields: Why You May Be Closer Than You Think is beneficial to a LSP followed. Mr. Austin said that it was a great course and applied to LSPs' consultations with clients. Mr. Ericson reminded the Committee that the Department of Revenue had revised its regulation about tax credits applicable to Brownfields. With respect to In-Situ Remediation Mr. Ericson inquired about restricting an LSP's ability to take certain courses that are too similar. Ms. Rundle told the Committee that A Short Course In Contaminated Fractured Rock Hydrogeology and Geophysics was different geology and a different location, but the same course. Mr. Guswa thought that the

course should have the same number because it is essentially the same course. Ms. Batchelder asserted that it was not a different course. Ms. Rundle told the Committee that one instructor was newly added. Mr. Ericson thought that the course was the same as Course No. 1469. He then asked whether this was an instance in which the course would retain the same number but a letter would be added. Mr. Austin said that he took the Connecticut course and that the one before the Committee seemed different. Ms. Batchelder said that everything is the same. Mr. Siddique believed that the responsibility of overcoming the threshold rested with the Committee, not the providers. Ms. Batchelder suggested that the Committee ask the instructor to present their slides to see if the geology is different. Ms. Rundle indicated that looking at the descriptions, nothing seemed different in this course and the one presented in New Jersey. Mr. Guswa told the Committee that the provider could submit more information on specifically what is different. As pertains to *Vapor Intrusion Site Management*, Ms. Rundle informed the Committee of a change in the instructor but no change in content. *Effective Data Visualization For Environmental Professionals* prompted Ms. Batchelder to wonder whether the provider was giving a balanced approach. Mr. Austin thought that the course was valuable because you learn science. Mr. Guswa wanted to ensure that the course focused on the basic principles rather than trying to sell software; accordingly, Mr. Guswa felt that the Committee should defer its decision until the March meeting to allow the Committee time to upload the training materials.

Course Approval Requests:

- a. Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association: *Communicating Risk to the Public* (March 27, 2014, Westford, MA. 5 ½ Technical credits; March 28, 2014 Brown University, Providence, R.I. 5 ½ Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- b. Cherrytree Group: *Obtaining A Brownfields: Why You May Be Closer Than You Think* (May 16, 2014, Boston, MA. 2 Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- c. VeruTEK: *In-Situ Remediation* (Early 2014, Boston, MA. 6 Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- d. LSPA: *Method 3 Risk Characterization-A Short Course For LSPs* (Spring/Fall 2014, Location TBD 6 Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- e. LSPA: *A Short Course In Contaminated Fractured Rock Hydrogeology and Geophysics* (March 21, 2014, Tufts University, Somerville, MA. 8 Technical credits, previously approved as Course No. 1469). **Recommend Approval as Course No. 1469.**
- f. Battelle: *Ninth International Conference On Remediation Of Chlorinated And Recalcitrant Compounds* (May 19-22, 2014, Monterey, CA. 50% of time spent in conference, Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- g. Rhode Island Society of Environmental Professionals: *Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry* (March 27, 2014, Lincoln, R.I. 8 credits previously approved as Course No. 1420). **Recommend Approval as Course No. 1420.**

- h.** LSPA: Vapor Intrusion Site Management (March 13, 2014, Westborough, MA. 1 Technical credit). **Recommend Approval pending receipt of new instructor information.**
 - i.** LSPA: Effective Data Visualization For Environmental Professionals (Spring/Fall 2014, Location TBD 8 Technical credits). **Defer Approval until March 20, 2014 meeting.**
 - j.** LSPA: Direct Push Methods For Groundwater Sampling to Support High Resolution Site Characterization (June 2014, Hanscom Air Force Base, Bedford, MA. 8 Technical credits). **Recommend Approval.**
- 6. Future Meetings:** The next meeting will take place before the LSP Board Meeting on March 20, 2014.
- 7. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.