

# CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2005

<b>Attendees:</b> Abdel Halim El-Sayed	MDC – Microbiologist
Lucy Dunn	EML – Wallingford
Phil Rusconi	Premier Laboratories
Bert Geuser	ACT Laboratories
Jeffrey Curran	Dept. of Public Health
Kim Maloney	Town of Wallingford
Barbara Obert	Baron Consulting Co.
Phil Schlossberg	Dept. of Public Health
Dermot Jones	Dep. of Public Health
Kevin Miller	Fuss & O’Neill Inc.

### **Administrative:**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM.
2. Acceptance of July meeting minutes. Minutes accepted and seconded.
3. (Phil R) Both Laura Rival and Richard Kobylenski have excused absences.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Jeff Curran’s Update**

1. (Jeff) Presented three topics to the group
  - The DOT ban on mercury shipments – a reminder to have manufacturers contact the DEP for a letter of exemption for whatever products they would like to ship. The DEP contact is Tom Metzner at (860) 424-3242. The website for more information is [www.newmoa.org](http://www.newmoa.org) and look for Imerc link. The Hach Company has already been granted an exemption.
  - The DEP QA/QC group has submitted its rationale for the preservation of soil samples for volatile organics. The “unofficial/official” requirement compliance date is March 1, 2006.
  - New EPOC method for volatiles in ambient air.

#### **Finalization of Letter of Introduction to CT Bureau Chiefs**

2. (Phil R) Presented the final draft of the letter to the group and questioned who the recipients should be.
3. (Bert) Indicated all of the bureau chiefs listed on the DEP website as well as Environmental and Public Health committee chairmen.
4. (Abdel) Notified Phil R. that his name should be corrected.

5. (Jeff) Made a motion to have Phil R. email the letters to as many of the recipients as possible and that he would also email him a copy so that some hard copies can be made.

### **Commercial Laboratory Wastewater Permit**

6. (Bert) Art Major, Deputy Bureau Chief, indicated that commercial laboratory wastewater permits are low on the DEP's priority list. It was also discussed that the miscellaneous permit regulations did not fit the application. The last draft produced by Karen Leonard would be retrieved and reviewed. Her approach was to use a best management practice. This appeared to fit the application very well.

### **New Members Drive**

7. (Barbara) The committee should solicit new applicants as the last drive was two years ago.
8. (Jeff) Made a motion to have Phil R. contact anyone who had previously submitted a resume to see if they are still interested. Jeff will post a notice which announces that the committee is looking for new members on the website.
9. (Dermot) Use Phil R's and Bert's email addresses in the posting.
10. (Barbara) Are we only looking for people to fill certain positions?
11. (Abdel) Last time, the committee voted on certain people for certain positions.
12. (Kevin) Most members could easily hold several positions.
13. (Abdel) If applications for a certain positions are not received then the member should be able to stay.
14. (Phil R) Proposed that original members will have one more year of service, newer members will have two more years of service and newly appointed members will begin their three years of service, all beginning January 2006.

### **EDI Letter from Committee**

15. (Phil R) Discussed the EDI meeting that was recently held in Wallingford.
  - EDI is definitely going to happen starting January 2006
  - NOV's for EDI reporting will not begin until July 2006
  - The speakers justified the reasoning behind electronic submissions.
16. (Barbara) Found it objectionable that since the state could not fund the project itself that they thought it was justified to impose it on the water supply community. The presenters at the meeting also did not comprehend that many owners still do not understand what is expected of them. The state is far from prepared on their end to impose such a costly mandate.
17. (Bert) The state is forcing laboratories to comply without doing their homework first.
18. (Jeff) It is still going to happen. Each state has its own timetable with the EPA.
19. (Phil R) Will call or send a letter to the DWD stating the transition may have been smoother if the advisory committee was involved.
20. (Barbara) The commissioner, to whom the committee serves, does not get a copy of the minutes.

21. (Phil R) Has discussed with Dr. Iwan personally regarding the existence of the committee. Will call Dr. Iwan to communicate that the committee's input might have been valuable in this undertaking.
22. (Abdel) Thanks to Barbara for all her efforts.
23. (Bert) Several other states' have gone through this undertaking with far more ease and with the cooperative efforts of all the people involved.

#### **New Business:**

24. (Abdel) Presented a letter from a Laboratory Operations Committee meeting stating that when analyzing metals or inorganics, laboratories should have a QC or standard at or below the reporting detection limit.
25. (Jeff) If reporting less than 1 then you must have a standard at that level.
26. (Phil S) You should bracket the reporting limit.
27. (Phil R) The statement reads "reporting detection limit".
28. (Dermot) Will send LabOps a letter to correct the terminology.
29. (Kevin) EPOC posted a 60 page document on the web for methods. For RSRs, there exists multiple documentation for the same thing.
30. (Jeff) The DEP is looking for ethanol in groundwater from gas station leaks around 1ppm or less.
31. (Phil R) Scheduled meeting dates for 2006. The dates chosen are January 20<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, and October 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - New Topics for 2006 – as presented by committee members
  - Actions that laboratories should take when MTBE and other volatiles are detected in drinking water samples
  - Become involved in DEP and electronic reporting if and when it is proposed
  - Gather information regarding laboratories not covered under DPH jurisdiction
  - Review updated Environmental Laboratory regulations and suggest changes
  - Define educational and experience qualifications for analyst positions
  - Suggest general ethics statements for environmental professionals
32. (Jeff) Will email the updated regulations to committee members for review.
33. (Phil R) Will arrange to have the LABOPs committee minutes sent to us and we will send our minutes to them.
34. Meeting adjourned at 12:00PM. Next meeting is January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM at the MDC Training Center.

*The committee would like to extend its deepest thanks to **Lucy Dunn** who has declared this her last meeting. Lucy has been a very active participant in this group and we hope that she decides to rejoin in the future! Best Wishes Lucy!*

Submitted by: Kim Maloney