

**Rhode Island Mercury Advisory Working Group
Mercury Commission Sub-Group on Auto Parts**

Meeting Minutes from Monday, December 06, 2004

2:30-4:00 pm

RI DEM, 4th Floor

Attendees:

Sheila Dormody, Terry Gray, Jamie Magnani, Paul DiAdamo, Greg Benik, Chris Reilly, Sarah Hoisington, Beverly Migliore, and Wally Gurnd

Minutes from last meeting-approved unanimously.

- Review of progress since last meeting**
- Retirement rate**

„h Terry Gray presented charts applying Maine’s model for rate of vehicle retirement to Rhode Island registered vehicles. Two model scenarios included Maine’s original assumptions and AAM data. The difference is in the average vehicle life.

„h The charts only account for vehicles registered in the state and don’t account for the whole vehicles from out of state processed here. Therefore, we may want to add an upward adjustment for out of state cars shredded at Metals Recycling.

„h The group decided to go with the AAM assumptions as best guess
;V The 15 year vehicle life seems more realistic.
„h Discussion ensued about the average amount of mercury per switch. NJ study showed average switch is 1.2 g. SAE study is 0.8-1.0 g. Wisconsin-average switch is 0.8-range 0.7 to 1.5 g. The group decided to change the assumption to 1.0 g per switch.
„h Terry will develop a revised chart based on the decisions.

Alternatives:

„h Bev Migliore presented a chart and info on alternatives to mercury in car parts. The chart will be included as an appendix in our final report to the commission.
„h Bev will continue to seek additional information about alternatives not noted on the chart.

Implementation of Phase Outs in Connecticut:

„h Bev reported that only Ford has requested an exemption from the CT phase out law for their ABS brake system. They received an exemption for the replacement part only. The CT phase out is proceeding as per their law.

Review of proposed recommendations:

Education system

„h Paul DiAdamo presented draft language for the necessary components of the educational program for auto recyclers. See outline handout for details.

„h The group recommends that Rhode Island not go toward tracking VIN numbers as has been a problem in the Maine implementation.

„h Our report will note the resources available from NY and other states.

„h Bev will talk with Maine DEP staff to research their outreach program to the general public as required by their law.

„h Our report will include a recommendation for general public outreach about the program. Sheila will review Genie's report to the commission for potential inclusion of relevant sections.

Voluntary Awards:

„h Liz Stone and Bev developed draft language for our report's recommendation for an awards program for voluntary measures to remove mercury from autos. The program is similar to the P2 awards of days gone by. The awards will be for fleets doing voluntary change outs.

„h Sheila will circulate the draft language for the recommendation.

Performance Criteria:

„h Terry Gray presented the recommendation for legislation to

require auto manufacturers to meet performance criteria to collect mercury switches.

„h The group agreed on suggested changes including mandating that, if the criteria are not met, DEM must develop regulations for an alternative collection program and establishing a cost to manufacturers for the switch collection program. The cost will include fair labor rates. Additionally, the collection target will be revised based on the updated vehicle retirement rate chart.

„h Sheila will send Terry language on cost.

„h Terry will update and circulate the revised recommendation.

„h The group will review and finalize the proposal at our next meeting

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Preparation for Report to the Commission

„h Sheila circulated current language in the very draft report to the commission. Please review and use the „Track changes“ feature to send comments to Sheila.

Action Items

„h Finalize retirement curve -Terry

„h Complete alternatives chart - Bev

„h Combine Eugenia's report on public education with operator training - Sheila

„h Check with Maine re: public education - Bev

„h Update performance criteria proposal to use cost factors tied to wage data - Terry. Sheila to send language.

„h Review report-all

Next meeting

December 13, 2004

2:30-4:30

DEM 4th floor Conference Room B

Respectfully submitted by Sheila Dormody with critical assistance from Terry Gray.