

FINAL VERSION		RI Mercury Reduction Commission 8/20/2004 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM RI DEM Conference Room A in Providence RI	
Type of meeting:	Meeting #4		Note: Open Action Items Summarized On Last Two Pages
Attendees:	<p>Commission Members Present: Marcella Thompson (Chair), Sheila Dormody, Andrew Dzykowicz (for Susan Kaplan), Andrew Knapp, Jason Linnel, Jamie Magnani (for Dan Beardsley), Robert Vanderslice (for Patrician Nolan), Howard Rosenberg, and Joe Rotella (for Claude Cote), Eugenia Marks, Nicholas Tsiongas</p> <p>Commission Members Excused: NA</p> <p>Commission Members Absent: NA</p> <p>Commission's Keeper of the Notes: Elizabeth Stone</p> <p>Guests: Pam Horner (Osram), Mark Adelman (RI GOV), Beverly Migliore (RI DEM)</p>		
----- Agenda Topics -----			
Agenda Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes			1 of 9 pages
Amendment to Meeting Rules			
Discussion:			
<p>Call to order by Chair Marcella Thompson at 10:05 am. Reviews meeting agenda. Peter Bleasby indicates he has new business – an assessment of mercury sources in RI. Chair Thompson modifies agenda accordingly.</p> <p>July Meeting Minutes: Chair Thompson indicates there was an unintentional error on page 2 regarding labeling. Jason Linnel and Peter Bleasby propose different wording regarding labeling products/packages that contain mercury-added lamps used as backlighting in accordance with current regulations in CT. Bev Migliore (RI DEM) states proposed wording is different than what IMERG proposing to change in CT and VT. After much discussion and disagreement, Peter Bleasby proposes tabling this issue. Chair Thompson ended debate on this topic.</p>			
Conclusions:			
Commission votes unanimously to accept August meeting minutes as amended above.			
Members should be thinking about the use of the word “product.” It is an extremely broad category – and this might be complicating discussions regarding labeling.			
Action items:		Person responsible:	Deadline:
Compose August meeting minutes, distribute electronically and address feedback comments with the commission members.		E. Stone and M. Thompson	10Sep04
Post final August meeting minutes on website		E. Stone	10Sep04

Commission's September Interim Report		2 of 9 pages									
<p>Discussion: Terence Gray recommends listing accomplishments up front in an executive summary. Cover letter will be amended to include a summary of the Commission's accomplishments to date. Chair Thompson reminds the Commission that specific recommendations regarding proposed word changes to the law will be in the final report, not the interim report.</p> <p>Eugenia Marks proposes adding a notation that Kate Canada is no longer a Commission member. Report will be amended with notation. Sheila Dormody requests the interim report reflect the Commissions' overall goal of striving for consistency with other states.</p> <p>Peter Bleasby makes a motion for the commission to accept the interim report as amended above. By (individual) voice vote, commission members (present) vote in support of the interim report as amended. EDC representative Andrew Dzykowicz and RI RRC representative Joe Rotella abstain.</p> <p>Conclusions:</p> <p>Commission members accept the September Interim Report as amended.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="175 604 1455 772"> <tr> <td data-bbox="175 604 1008 638">Action items:</td> <td data-bbox="1008 604 1344 638">Person responsible:</td> <td data-bbox="1344 604 1455 638">Deadline:</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="175 659 1008 693">1. Amend report and send via e-mail as required by law.</td> <td data-bbox="1008 659 1344 693">M. Thompson, E. Stone</td> <td data-bbox="1344 659 1455 693">01Sep04</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="175 709 1008 772">2. Govenor to appoint replacements for Peter Bleasby and Kate Canada as soon as possible.</td> <td data-bbox="1008 709 1344 772">M. Adelman</td> <td data-bbox="1344 709 1455 772">17Sep04</td> </tr> </table>			Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:	1. Amend report and send via e-mail as required by law.	M. Thompson, E. Stone	01Sep04	2. Govenor to appoint replacements for Peter Bleasby and Kate Canada as soon as possible.	M. Adelman	17Sep04
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:									
1. Amend report and send via e-mail as required by law.	M. Thompson, E. Stone	01Sep04									
2. Govenor to appoint replacements for Peter Bleasby and Kate Canada as soon as possible.	M. Adelman	17Sep04									

Review of Regulatory Agenda					
<p>Discussion:</p> <p>The provisions of the current statute are slated to take effect July 1, 2005. The Commission's final recommendations will be posted January 2005. The legislature will have to review and subsequently determine whether to enact any or all of the Commission's recommendations. Companies will need time to comply with the regulation. Chair Thompson speculates that this process will take longer than six months and as a result, some portions of the law will need to be delayed beyond the July 1st date, e.g., labeling and phase-outs.</p> <p>Commission member Sheila Dormody states that it is premature to discuss these issues.</p> <p>Conclusions:</p> <p>Address regulatory agenda in January report.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="175 1205 1455 1234"> <tr> <td data-bbox="175 1205 1008 1234">Action items:</td> <td data-bbox="1008 1205 1344 1234">Person responsible:</td> <td data-bbox="1344 1205 1455 1234">Deadline:</td> </tr> </table>			Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:			

Discussion:

What has been done to address mercury waste to date?

What programs have worked and have not worked successfully? If not, what were the limitations?

What projects/programs are on-going?

How much does the program cost?

SEE ACTION ITEMS LISTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS AT END: THEY CONTAIN ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS THAT NEED MORE INFORMATION.

1. Identify current and projected sources of mercury hazards (Vanderslice, Bleasby, Linnell);

An Assessment of Sources of Mercury Emissions and Deposition in Rhode Island (Bleasby, Linnell). Report will touch on global, national and regional sources of mercury.

Need information on (Bleasby, Linnell):

Life cycle of mercury: how persistent is it?

Report will address the largest sources of mercury emanating from within RI (Gray).

Need more information on (Gray):

RI emission levels: industrial sector such as crematoriums and other types of incinerators and residential (consumers) sources as well.

Actual emission levels in air, water, soil, select species and compare to other states' sampling data. (Gray, Gagnon)

Commission will address the impacts and effects of mercury pollution on environment and health. There appears to be a lack of information about education and outreach regarding the health hazards of mercury. Specifically, mercury in fish. Chair Thompson re-asserts the commission's support for the Department of Health's efforts relative to mercury.

Need summary of DOH efforts (Vanderslice).

Need more specific information on exposure (dose/response) rates (Vanderslice).

2. Evaluate programs and efforts to reduce the sources in a cost-effective and efficient manner that does not place RI at a disadvantage(Knapp, Rosenberg, Gagnon);

Use NEWMOA database to start (Gagnon)

3. Build upon effective efforts in other states and achieve a consistency with other states in terms of approach and timing of implementation (Linnell, Migliore);

Update information currently on the website (NY) (Migliore). Present information in an easy-to-read format comparing other states' regulations to each section of RI law (Linnell).

4. Availability and effectiveness to consumers and the public of programs for disposal and recycling (Gray, Cote, Magnini);

Identify, document and evaluate all current programs in RI (Cote, Magnini)

Need specific information and examples (Hasbro: Knapp).

Summarize what are other states are doing too. Include electronic waste. (Cote, Magnini)

5. Availability and effectiveness to consumers and the public of programs for education (Marks, Horner, RI DEM staff)

The working group will frame a list of ongoing mercury reduction and education efforts in RI (Marks, Horner)

6. Address mercury in automobiles (Dormody, Marks, Magnini, RI DEM staff)

Need information on whether these sources are located on the automobiles. (Dormody, Magnini)

Comments:

Open discussion about what should be the Commission's focus from now until the end of the year. Chair Thompson emphasizes the Commission's first obligation is to present a report to the Governor and General Assembly addressing six questions listed above. The Commission's second obligation is to continue discussions on bans, disposal and phase-outs so that consensus can be reached where there is controversy in implementation.

Conclusions:

There is a lot of information needed quickly. Everyone needs to be mindful of how quickly time is passing!

Action items:

All attendees to forward all draft white papers to the commission as soon as possible. Distribute drafts to commission members BEFORE the next meeting so members have time to review.

Person responsible:

ALL

Deadline:

15Sep04

**Preliminary Agenda for September 17, 2004 at
DEM Headquarters**

5 of 9 pages

Discussion: Focus will be on background information for the Final Commission Report to Governor. Chair Thompson indicated the Commission will meet the 4th Friday in September (24th) and the 5th Friday in October (the 29th) as well.

Sheila Dormody announces the Subcommittee on Mercury in Automobiles will meet on September 8th at 2:30 pm in Conference Room B (4th Floor, Legal Office) at DEM.

Meeting minutes and other materials will be forward in coming weeks. All attendees were reminded to sign the attendance sheet and provide/update necessary contact information.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

1. Complete and post Agenda for September 17, 2004.

M. Thompson and E. Stone

13Sep04

Adjournment

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:45 am.

Recorded by Elizabeth S. Stone of RI DEM

Reviewed and Edited by Marcella R. Thompson, Chair

Status of All Open Action Items from May Meeting

6 of 9 pages

Action Item:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Provide qualitative and quantitative information regarding the following: How much mercury waste do households generate? (15 - 30%) Quantify. How much household hazardous waste ends up in the landfill? (Need NJ Data)	ALL	OPEN
What percentage of households comply with existing recycling requirements (for other products)? (RI RRC to provide)	RI RRC	
Is possible decision not to exempt household consumers reasonably enforceable? How to address this issue?		
Recommend policy/procedure for appropriate collection of mercury-added products on the state level and define role of RI RRC.	T. Gray, R. Vanderslice	OPEN
Provide information on all existing mercury-related collection efforts inside and outside of RI.	ALL	OPEN

Status of All Open Action Items from June Meeting

7 of 9 pages

Action Item:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Provide qualitative and quantitative information for the questions listed on page 4 of June's meeting minutes.	ALL	7/16/04
Decide whether households should be exempt from the disposal ban (policy)		
Decide whether or not to attach violation for non-compliance by household consumers.		
Prepare to discuss motor vehicle disposal ban.	ALL	
Obtain more detailed logistical and economic information re Maine's program	Dormody	
Diagram of car anatomy pointing to various parts that contain mercury.	Hogan	
Prepare a written presentation representing the Alliance's position on this issue. Forward to Chair Thompson as soon as possible.	Hogan, D'Adamo	
Provide qualitative and quantitative information for the questions listed on page 5 of June meeting minutes.	ALL	7/16/04
How much mercury is currently in the RI environment (air, water, soil, sentinel species)?		
What are the sources of mercury (international/		
interstate/regional/intrastate)?		
What are the contributing percentage(s) from these sources?		
What is the time life cycle for mercury in the environment?		
How much of an effect will this legislation have on reducing environmental mercury? Timeline?		
What are the systems relationship between the sources of mercury and total impact on environment and health?		
What manufacturers have voluntarily phased out mercury?		
What is the dose/response relationship of mercury exposure?		
Provide inventory of mercury emissions in RI.		
Summarize what levels other states/countries are phasing out and/or exempting.		
What does the NEWMOA registry reflect for mercury amounts in products?		

Status of All Open Action Items from July Meeting

8 of 9 pages

Action Item:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Establish Motor Vehicle Subcommittee	S. Dormody	20Jul04
Prepare balanced report for Commission review in September/October.		Sep/Oct 04
Provide qualitative and quantitative information for the following questions: How many mercury pounds were collected by RI RRC last year? How much does a lab pack cost to properly dispose of and how much does it weigh? What kinds/forms of mercury were contained in these lab packs? Provide flow chart mapping what happens to all the mercury that comes into RI RRC. How is it handled at the facility, how does it leave the facility and where does it end up? How much is actually brought to the facility in the last three years and how much does it cost to dispose of it properly?	C. Cote	20Aug04
Recommend policy/procedure for appropriate collection of mercury-added products on the state level and define role of RI RRC.	T. Gray, R. Vanderslice	20Aug04
Locate copy of MOU that was signed between DEM and RIRRC for the transfer of the Household Hazardous Waste facility from RI DEM to RIRRC	E. Stone	
Identify and provide information on existing mercury-related collection efforts inside and outside of RI and their capabilities/capacities.	T. Gray	20Aug0
Provide information as to the compliance with federal and state hazardous waste regulations in RI among businesses and manufacturers.		

Status of All Open Action Items from August Meeting

9 of 9 pages

Action Item:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

All attendees to prepare draft white papers and distribute to commission members BEFORE the next meeting so members have time to review.

ALL

15Sep04

END