

**FINAL VERSION**

# **RI Mercury Reduction Commission**

**1/14/2005**

**1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**RI DEM Conference Room A in Providence RI**

**Type of meeting:**

Meeting #12

**Attendees:**

Commission Members Present: Marcella Thompson (Chair), Sheila Dormody, Howard Rosenberg, Terry Gray, Andrew Knapp, Elizabeth Stone, Claude Cote (for Sherry Mulhearn), Pamela Horner, Jamie Magnani (for Dan Beardsley), Robert Vanderslice (for Patricia Nolan)

Commission Members Excused: None

Commission Members Absent: Eugenia Marks, Nicholas Tsiongas, Susan Kaplan (RIEDC)

Guests: Joan Milas (NEMA), Beverly Migliore (RI DEM)

## **----- Agenda Topics -----**

**Agenda Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1 of 3 pages

**Discussion:**

Call to order by Chair Marcella Thompson at 1:15 pm. December 10<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes both approved as amended with minor changes suggested by Sheila Dormody regarding button cell batteries (on 12-10) and switches and relays (on 12/17).

Reviews meeting agenda, no changes.

**Conclusions:**

NA

**Action items:**

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Compose January 14 meeting minutes, distribute electronically and address feedback comments with the commission members.

E. Stone and M. Thompson

04Feb05

Post final meeting minutes on website

E. Stone

01Feb05

1. Chair Thompson identifies pieces that are still missing from the report and what pieces she is still waiting for from various commission members (see action items).
2. Commission members offers feedback on the Commission’s Recommendations:
  - a. Discussion of the language on the top of page 41 regarding NEWMOA/IMERC. Numerous commission members feel this could be amended to more accurately reflect the commission’s thoughts on the state’s participation in the IMERC clearinghouse. Elizabeth Stone (DEM) indicates she would forward some alternative language.
  - b. Discussion of funding piece. Chair Thompson indicates there was some language that will still need to be added about regarding long-term funding of the mercury program.
  - c. Discussion of P2 Awards language – there is already a DEM ongoing awards program, but it needs to be continuing and not maintained on an ad-hoc basis. Criteria specific to mercury reduction efforts would be added.
  - d. Discussion of “sources of mercury inside RI” – Terry Gray indicated he would have to draft a second paragraph to further explain this issue. Discussion with other minor edits suggested.
  - e. Discussion of “biological monitoring” section – minor edits suggested.
  - f. Discussion of phase-outs and exemptions – how will this impacts mercury lab standard? Terry Gray indicated the language could be drafted broadly enough to address these products.
  - g. Discussion of giving the Department enough discretion through the legislation to grant exemptions for greater than 2 year periods (which is the current mandate). Terry Gray will submit language to this end.
3. Chair Thompson reminds the Commission that electronic waste ban and collection has not been addressed as yet, though it is known that the RIRRC has an ongoing program. She asks Claude Cote and Jamie Magnani to submit draft summary of actions and issues regarding e-waste collection and recycling for Commission review at the next meeting.

**Action items:**

Person responsible:

Deadline:

1. Complete report sections as assigned.	T. Gray, A. Knapp, H. Rosenberg	04Feb05
2. Submit draft summary of actions and issues regarding e-waste collection and recycling for Commission review.	Claude Cote, Jamie Magnani	

**Review of Recommendations from Auto Subcommittee**

Discussion about how the auto mercury sub-group report should be integrated into the report. Chairwoman Thompson indicates that she would like to use key portions/recommendations of the sub-group report through the full commission report, yet place the sub-group report in its entirety in the appendix or in its own chapter of the report. Commission reviews and discusses draft report from auto subcommittee.

Discussion of auto mercury report: Sub-group chair Sheila Dormody focused on the recommendations section (beginning on page 10).

1. Discussion of “performance criteria” approach to collection switches developed by the group. Discussion of the removal and collection goal - 43 lbs of mercury – for vehicles in RI. Discussion focused on how DEM developed this number and whether it’s a reasonable goal for the auto manufacturers.
2. Discussion on whether this exact number for the collection goal should be in the law or in the regulation. Chair Thompson asks the subcommittee to consider regulatory process.
2. Terry Gray (DEM) indicated that two issues still need to be flushed out from DEM’s perspective: 1) the timing of when the bounty program would kick in if manufacturers don’t meet the performance criteria; and 2) the timing of the Department’s development of regulations (again, if manufacturers default to the bounty program).
3. Continuing discussion of how to address the problem of implementing a disposal ban for auto mercury switches. How will these impact auto dealers and others in RI – will they be penalized if they dispose of a car w/ a mercury switch, even though it is the responsibility of the manufacturer to implement a plan to collect the switches? This issue will need to be discussed at the next auto mercury sub-group.
4. Sub-group chair Sheila Dormody explained the remaining sub-group recommendations on violations, public education & outreach, EPA/federal actions – no amendments were offered up.

**Action items:**

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Subcommittee to submit final draft.

S. Dormody

18Feb05

**REMINDER Commission members to provide feedback on the report in advance of the next commission meeting. Written comments should be sent to Chair Thompson and Pam Horner**

**Future meeting: February 4, 18 and March 4.**

**Action items:**

1. Complete and post Agenda for February 04, 2005 meeting.
2. Bring one hard copy of comments on version 2.0 draft to the meeting for the Chair and e-mail one electronic copy to Chair note in memo field: COMMENTS

Person responsible:

Deadline:

M. Thompson and E. Stone

01Feb05

ALL

04Feb05

**Adjournment**

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:00 pm.

Recorded by Elizabeth S. Stone of RI DEM

Reviewed and Edited by Marcella R. Thompson, Chair

END