

**FINAL**

# RI Mercury Reduction Commission

**2/18/2005**

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

**RI DEM, Office of Waste Management, Conference Room, Providence RI**

**Type of meeting:**

Meeting #14

**Attendees:**

Commission Members Present: Marcella Thompson (Chair), Sheila Dormody, Terry Gray, Elizabeth Stone, Claude Cote, Pamela Horner, Jamie Magnani, Eugenia Marks, Nicholas Tsiongas

Commission Members Excused: Howard Rosenberg, Andrew Knapp

Commission Members Absent: Robert Vanderslice, Susan Kaplan (RIEDC)

Guests: Beverly Migliore (RI DEM), Paul D'Adamo, Jack Hogan

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

**Agenda Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1 of 3 pages

**Discussion:**

Call to order by Chair Marcella Thompson at 10:15 am. Reviews meeting agenda. No changes.

**Conclusions:**

NA

**Action items:**

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Compose February 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, distribute electronically and address feedback comments with the commission members.

[E. Stone and M. Thompson](#)

04Mar05

Post final meeting minutes on website

E. Stone

07Mar05

Rewrite section 2 of commission report in response to draft edit comments at last meeting.

[R. Vanderslice](#)

03Mar05

Submit new version to Pam Horner for/at next meeting.

Rewrite section 3 and 4 of commission report in response to draft edit comments at last meeting.

[T. Gray](#)

03Mar05

Submit new wording for specific recommendations as discussed in prior meeting.

Submit new versions to Pam Horner for/at next meeting.

Submit section 5 to Pam Horner for/at next meeting in electronic form.

[A. Knapp](#)

03Mar05

1. Amend Auto Subcommittee report with edits as agreed upon and forward to Chair Thompson and Pam Horner.

[S. Dormody](#)

01Mar05

2. Format report consistent with full commission report.

[P. Horner](#)

04Mar05

1. Followup on details discussed at this meeting with re E-Waste Subcommittee (see below) and report to Commission at next meeting.

[C. Cote, J. Magnani](#)

04Mar05

<b>Discussion:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of the Governor’s Office request to hold off consideration of the auto sub-group report until the following three sectors have the opportunity to make a presentation to the full commission: auto body sector, auto manufacturers and auto dealers. Sub-group Chair Sheila Dormody expresses her great displeasure with the last minute request and sees no need to hold off any further on discussions of the sub-group report. She explains how ample opportunity was given to outside groups to participate (particularly representatives of the auto manufacturing sector) in the sub-group process. In particular, there was the auto manufacturers’ (represented by AAM through local representative Jack Hogan) lack of attendance and willingness to provide information at the sub-group meetings. Group discussion of why AAM did not attend a majority of the sub-group meetings.</li> <li>• Two dates considered for these groups’ presentations: March 4<sup>th</sup> or March 25<sup>th</sup>. Due to Sub-group Chair Sheila Dormody’s schedule, it is determined the presentations would be allowed on March 25<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Sheila Dormody makes a motion to place the sub-group report on the table for discussion and a vote by the full commission. Seconded by Nick Tsiongas. Jamie Magnani and Eugenia Marks also vote in favor (4 in total). Chair Thompson, Pam Horner and Clause Cote vote not to move forward with discussion of the report. Terry Gray from DEM abstains.</li> <li>• By a vote of 4-3, the auto sub-group report was formally before the commission for discussion.</li> <li>• Chair Thompson indicates that even though the report is before the commission for discussion, she is still going to allow the auto body sector, auto manufacturers and auto dealers to make their presentations on March 25<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Discussion of report             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Followup of previous discussion on whether or not to keep the 43 lb. collection goal in the draft statutory change as presented by the commission or in the regulation. It was determined it should remain in the draft statutory changes with the 43 lb. goal set for the first two years with future collection goals through regulatory determination.</li> <li>○ Discussion of the two-year time frame for implementation of voluntary performance based criteria program. The disposal ban draft statutory changes – it was explained that the draft changes to the disposal ban section would not go into effect until DEM has adopted regulations (if necessary because the auto manufacturers default on the voluntary performance based criteria program) and the mandatory bounty program takes effect.</li> <li>○ Discussion of the total monetary exposure for the auto manufacturers. It was estimated (based on the number of annual retired cars in RI (~60,000) and the number of switches per vehicle) that the total exposure would be less than \$200,000 per year.</li> <li>○ Discussion of the sub-group’s desire to move away from the traditional “command and control” approach for the problem of mercury switches. Discussion of the benefits of the performance criteria approach put forth by the commission (with a bounty program as a fallback if the auto manufacturers fail to comply with the law). The hope is to create an opportunity for auto manufacturers to design their own mercury switch plan instead of having DEM tell them how to best collect mercury switches. Creativity on the part of the manufacturers may lead to a cheaper program than the per switch bounty program.</li> <li>○ Paul D’Adamo (as a sub-group participant and representative of the auto recyclers industry in RI) voices support of the draft legislation presented by the auto sub-group.</li> <li>○ Discussion of Metals Recycling position and contribution to the auto mercury sub-group.</li> <li>○ Comments by Jack Hogan (representing AAM) about the level of creativity shown by the auto sub-group. He is happy to learn that the per switch bounty program (similar to ME’s program) was not pre-ordained. He looks forward to coming back and making a formal presentation to the full commission on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March.</li> <li>○ Chair Thompson made a motion that the commission accept the report as amended with edits– seconded by Pam Horner. Everyone else voted in the affirmative (Terry Gray, Claude Cote, Jamie Magnani, Sheila Dormody, Eugenia Marks and Nick Tsiongas). The report was accepted by a vote of 8-0 with a few minor edits agreed to by the commission. Sheila Dormody will amend and forward to Chair Thompson. Pam Horner will format the sub-group report to be consistent with the full commission report.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions:</b>		
Commission accepts report of Auto Subcommittee Group with a few minor edits agreed to by the Commission.		
<b>Action items:</b>		
	Person responsible:	Deadline:
1. Amend report and forward to Chair Thompson and Pam Horner.	S. Dormody	01Mar05
2. Format report consistent with full commission report.	P. Horner	04Mar05

<b>Discussion:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft E-Waste paper (written by Sheila Dormody, Eugenia Marks and Jamie Magnani) presented to the commission for discussion.</li> <li>• Since there will be a radical change in technology for televisions in the next few years, disposal rates will increase dramatically. Chair Thompson asks that the sub-group look at this issue again in more detail.</li> <li>• Discussion of EU E-Waste efforts. Chair Thompson asks that the sub-group look at this issue again. More specific information on the EU efforts might want to be added to the commission report in an appendix or with a web link.</li> <li>• It was suggested the sub-group examine the work NEPSI has done on this issue.</li> <li>• Chair Thompson asks Claude Cote to join the sub-group for continued discussions. She especially asks the sub-group to look at the universe of products that will be affected by the full commission's recommendations and what gaps might exist as a result.</li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions:</b>		

<b>Action items:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
1. Followup on details above and report to Commission at next meeting.	C. Cote, J. Magnani	04Mar05

**Preliminary Agenda for March 04, 2005 at DEM Headquarters**

**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 meetings: March 4<sup>th</sup>**

**March 25<sup>th</sup> Special presentation by representatives from the auto manufacturers, auto dealers and/or auto body sectors.**

<b>Action items:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
1. Complete and post Agenda for March 04, 2005 meeting.	M. Thompson and E. Stone	28Feb05

**Adjournment**

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 am.

Recorded by Elizabeth S. Stone of RI DEM  
 Reviewed and Edited by Marcella R. Thompson, Chair  
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