

**Sediment Phthalates Work Group
Proposed Key Stakeholder Coordination Process**

2/15/07

Goals:

This document defines a proposed coordination process between the Sediment Phthalates Work Group¹ and key stakeholders including People for Puget Sound, the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition, Citizens for a Healthy Bay, and others interested in participation.

The goal of this proposed coordination process is to provide for frequent informal dialogue and two-way information sharing between the Sediment Phthalates Work Group and key stakeholders, throughout the duration of the initial Work Group effort.² Stakeholder input to the Work Group process is very important, and was a valued part of the initial policy group discussions and plans in initiating the Work Group process.

Recommended Process:

The Technical Science Committee effort involves information gathering related to four primary study areas, followed by development of alternatives for policy-level consideration in making recommendations (the Technical Science Committee effort is defined by the Scope of Work document, which is available for review).

The recommended coordination process will consist of focused meetings between Technical Science Committee members and key stakeholders related to each of the four primary study areas and focused meetings with the Work Group during the development of alternatives and recommendations.

For each primary study area, selected Technical Science Committee members most familiar with the material will meet with key stakeholders to present and talk through information gathered by the Committee, receive additional information from key stakeholders, and discuss primary messages that seem to be apparent from the information review. The Technical Science Committee information references and meeting notes will be provided to the key stakeholders ahead of time to assist in preparing for meetings of the Policy Committee, and will also be available on an Ecology website for the project.

¹ The "Work Group" is organized with a policy review committee and a technical science committee.

² As defined by the participating agencies in the Letter of Agreement dated 10/9/06, the Work Group is not a decision-making body. The LOA states, "The efforts of the Work Group are intended to reach a shared understanding of phthalate sediment contamination issues and develop recommendations for the regulatory agencies and community to consider.". Future regulatory decision-making processes will involve formal public processes and technical review.

When the Technical Science Committee reaches the point in the effort where alternatives are being developed for policy consideration, a special meeting of the full Technical Science Committee and key stakeholders is proposed for joint alternatives development. It is not required that the Technical Science Committee and key stakeholders reach consensus on the alternatives to present to the policy representatives of the Work Group agencies. Where the key stakeholder alternatives differ from those of the Technical Science Committee, the key stakeholders may if they choose prepare their own alternatives for consideration.

Additionally, it is proposed that when recommendations are considered by policy-level participants from the Work Group agencies, policy representatives will meet with key stakeholders to discuss.

Key stakeholders are invited to provide the Technical Science Committee with additional reference materials to add to the body of gathered information. Individual Committee representatives are available to meet as needed to review, discuss and bring information forward to the full Work Group.

Specific Recommended Meetings:

The following specific meetings are recommended, that fit with the overall pace and schedule of the Technical Science Committee effort. It is assumed that each meeting should be 2-3 hours in length. All meetings would be scheduled soon, at dates and times to be convenient for participants.

- Phthalate Occurrence and Pathways to Sediments
2/8 (Completed)
- Sources of Phthalates in Sediments
Propose 2/26 at 10am in Tacoma (Foss Waterway project office)
- Receptors and Risks
between 3/15 and 3/23
- Source Control and Treatment Options
between 4/3 and 4/13
- Alternatives Development
between 4/23 and 5/4 (meeting with full Technical Science Committee, 4 hrs in length)
- Policy Discussion re: Recommendations
between 6/4 and 6/15 (meeting with Work Group policy representatives)