

STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary – January 23, 2007

The meeting was called to order by our chair, Steve Wamback. Following introductions, the minutes from July's SWAC meeting were approved (September and November SWAC meetings were cancelled).

Elections/Nominating Committee – Steve Wamback

The SWAC charter states that a nominating committee be selected to receive and consider nominations for the chair and vice-chair of the SWAC. Steve asked for volunteers to be on this committee. Dennis Durbin, Brad Lovaas and Dan Cantrell volunteered to be on the committee. Lorie Hewitt volunteered to be Ecology's representative. The nominating committee met after the January 23rd SWAC and agreed to meet again (by phone) on February 14 and bring their nominations to the March 27, 2007 meeting.

Spotlight on Home Composting Project - Chery Sullivan

To support Ecology's Beyond Waste Organics Initiative, staff sent out a survey asking who is doing what concerning home composting. 33 counties responded--29 said they are doing something to promote home composting. When we asked what their needs were, most counties identified lack of funding as the main barrier to developing home composting programs, or to increasing education and outreach.

After speaking with several respondents, all agreed that a home composting education workshop would provide some no- or low-cost solutions to some funding problems. Representatives from 20 counties attended (10 from each side of the Cascades). 95% of the attendees said they would attend if another workshop were held. We would like to get representation from all 39 counties if we hold another workshop.

The next step will be to gather statewide representatives to create a training manual for compost educators to use as a statewide guide.

Clark County has a successful Master Composter program which has a strong volunteer outreach component. They also have motivated and dedicated staff, and a local government that is committed to reducing organic scraps being burned or landfilled.

Mercury in Biosolids - Jon Bennett

In July 2006, an ad hoc advisory group was created composed of several programs at Ecology, all of which were working on different aspects of the mercury problem. The idea was to communicate what each program was doing and to try to find common directions.

Information was presented at this meeting which indicated that the level of mercury in biosolids had decreased at those municipalities where some form of mercury reduction program had been implemented, such as amalgam separator units in dental offices. The initial discussion focused on the Seattle wastewater treatment plants, but it was also mentioned that Spokane had seen the same effect.

Jon decided to tabulate the mercury data in biosolids for the past several years for Seattle, Spokane, Olympia (LOTT), and several other municipalities. He then checked with those municipalities to see whether or not they had implemented any mercury reduction programs. The Seattle data was very convincing as to the effectiveness of their program, which had been implemented over the past several years. They also sent him some additional information on mercury reduction which is included in the attached report.

In general, those municipalities where mercury reduction programs had been in effect for several years showed a definite decrease in the level of mercury in their biosolids. The biosolids for those municipalities which had not implemented such programs, or which had just started them, showed higher levels of mercury.

While uncertainties remain and continued monitoring is essential, there is general consensus that this is a real effect which points to the positive results of the mercury reduction programs which have been or are being implemented.



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CPG Highlights (offset cycle + work group) - Cullen Stephenson, Lorie Hewitt

Last fall's offset cycle funding was \$5.3 million. We received 111 applications which amounted to \$10.3 million total. 83 projects were funded. Evaluations will be sent out asking how the offset cycle is working.



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07-08 Off Set Cycle F

Enforcement/registration for haulers of tires and recyclables – Cullen Stephenson

SB 5788 says that if you're going to be a transporter of recyclable materials, then register or suffer a penalty. We have a list of about 60 recycling haulers, but we believe that some haulers are not yet registered. For tires, there are only 11 registered transporters of scrap tires and 6 storage sites. We are planning to send out notification letters to haulers and to the public (may be a website) to let people know the list and ask that they use registered haulers and sites.

Electronics: We have a list of registered manufacturers who are now paying a fee. So far, we have collected 90% of fees. We're sending out a letter to the general manufacturing community saying we will enforce if they aren't registered. We are also sending out a list to retailers asking them not to do business with the non-registered manufacturers.

Summary of Ecology Budget – Cullen Stephenson

Ecology submitted their budget carry forward items. The litter account currently has \$4 million in cash balance above our carry forward level. Because there are significant additional good uses for funds, we asked for additional funding for litter pickup, education (litter campaign), and for local governments.

CLCP Program: We need to find better ways to deal with crop waste. There is a \$2M request in our CPG budget to fund up to that amount of organics burning alternatives.

CPG: The 05-07 budget was \$22.2 million which includes the \$8 million supplemental funding. There is currently \$25.4 million in the Governor’s budget, which includes the 22.2 adjusted for inflation and the \$2M for organics burning alternatives.

We asked for a placeholder to cover enforcement and the biosolids rule.

Local Toxics Specialist – Darin Rice

The Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program focuses their efforts on helping businesses reduce their pollution. Example: There are currently 15 auto body businesses in the state that are registered. There are approximately 750 licensed auto body businesses that haven’t registered. SWAC members offered their support in the form of a letter to Ecology Director Jay Manning encouraging the Governor’s and Ecology’s proposal to reduce toxic threats by funding ten local source control specialist positions. The letter and a focus sheet are attached.



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Letter of support to M



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Source Control Focus

Attached are 2 links. One is an FAQ document for the burning ban. The other is a link to the website that has a much more extensive discussion of the issues.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0602016.pdf>

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/outdoor_woodsmoke/2007Burn_Ban_FAQ.htm

Attendees

1. Bennett, Jon, Ecology (Presenter)	14. Matsuyama, Jim, NETCHD
2. Cantrell, Dan, WSRA	15. Mele, Suellen, WCRC
3. Croll, Tim, Seattle Public Util.	16. Olsen, Gretchen, Kitsap Co.
4. Dean, Bill, Thurston Co.	17. Rice, Darin, Ecology (Presenter)
5. Durbin, Dennis, Stevens Co.	18. Schille, Bob, Waste Management
6. Fox, Helen, Ecology	19. Smedes, Jerry, Smedes & Assoc.
7. Hatch, Tiffany, Goodwill Ind.	20. Starry, Art, Thurston Co.
8. Hewitt, Lorie, Ecology	21. Stephenson, Cullen, Ecology
9. Jackson, Sego, Snohomish Co.	22. Sullivan, Chery, Ecology (Presenter)
10. Keller, Pete, Allied Waste	23. Wamback, Steve, Pierce Co.
11. Large, Dean, WCI/Clark Co.	24. Washburn, Terri, Kitsap County
12. Lorch, Craig, Total Reclaim	25. Westmoreland, Eddie, Waste Connections
13. Lovaas, Brad, WRRRA	