

June 11, 2010

Hello,

Here is the second installment of meeting materials for the June 21 MTCA SMS Advisory Group meeting. Attached you will find:

- Questions related to Draft Revisions of MTCA Method A Groundwater Cleanup Levels (this is a follow up to the materials emailed to you on June 8)
- Draft report: Development of Benthic SQVs for Freshwater Sediments in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho

As you prepare for the meeting, please consider the following:

Topic 1. Freshwater Sediment Standards

On June 21, Ecology will present a proposal for promulgation of both biological and chemical freshwater criteria. Attached is the latest draft of the technical report on freshwater sediment quality values (SQVs). Although the report provides details on how the SQVs were developed, at our meeting on June 21, Ecology will focus on implementation and policy issues around adopting both biological and chemical criteria for freshwater.

Please note that Ecology made a policy decision that the freshwater criteria development and structure would be consistent with the current Sediment Management Standards marine criteria.

Here are some questions to consider as you review the report and prepare for the meeting:

- 1) Do you think that developing and adopting freshwater criteria in a manner consistent with the SMS framework used for developing marine criteria is an appropriate approach?
- 2) Consistent with the SMS marine criteria, the chemical values for freshwater were developed with the goal of having the highest overall reliability for predicting toxicity to the benthic community. To do this, the acceptable level of false positives and false negatives were balanced to provide an appropriate sensitivity and efficiency. This allows reliably identifying contaminated sediment sites. Do you think this is an appropriate approach for freshwater sediment?
- 3) Ecology decided that the same suite of bioassays used in developing the chemical values will be used for the biological criteria. Do you see any implementation issues with this decision?
- 4) Consistent with the current SMS framework, Ecology developed two levels of freshwater SQVs, corresponding to the Sediment Quality Standard and the Cleanup Screening Level. Do you think this is an appropriate approach for freshwater sediment?

Topic 2. Method A Cleanup Levels

Please refer to (1) the discussion paper distribute June 8, 2010 (titled Draft Revisions – MTCA Method A Groundwater Cleanup Levels) and (2) the questions attached to this email.

Topic 3. MTCA Rule Framework

Please refer to the handout from the last meeting (titled Outline and Issues for Groundwater and Soil Cleanup Standards and proposed structure for the use of Method A. This was included as an attachment to the June 8 email.)

Topic 4. Groundwater discharging to surface water.

No preparation necessary; we will be introducing this topic.

As a reminder, the meeting is Monday June 21, 2010 at the Fabulich Center in Tacoma, starting at 9 am. Look forward to seeing you all.

Regards,

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