

Act 154 Chemical Use Working Group
Meeting Minutes: Oct. 19, 2016
Vermont State House, Room 10, Montpelier, VT
Facilitated by Jen Duggan, ANR General Counsel

1. The meeting convened at 9am with introductions and a summary of the legislative charge by ANR Secretary Deb Markowitz.
2. Jen Duggan summarized progress of the workgroup thus far and reviewed logistics of the meeting and future communication. Minutes from the September 19th meeting were unanimously approved.
3. John Zaikowski of ANR's Office of General Counsel, introduced himself and his role as a facilitator of the meeting's exercises. He reviewed the ground rules of the group discussion.
4. The group completed an Affinity Diagram Exercise to name and group goals of each working group member. Goals were ultimately categorized into those focusing on a) Synergy and Harmonization b) Regulation c) Expanded Authority d) Data e) Public Awareness/Right-to-Know and Prevention f) Environmental Exposure/Environmental Justice/Vulnerable Populations/Human Exposure or g) Planning. Public comment was invited.
5. The working group was randomly broken into four groups and asked to identify and write down gaps on four large poster boards around the room. Gaps were categorized under the headings of a) Clean up and Remediation b) Management/Prevention of Releases c) Remedies and d) Reporting/Disclosure. Public comment was invited.
6. Members from each group reported back on listed gaps. John asked working group members to identify common themes among these gaps.
7. Jen outlined expectations for the next meeting that will focus on presentation of policy recommendations. Working group members are asked to circulate their policy recommendations by the Thursday before the next meeting on Nov. 1. Joanne and Jen will outline the procedure for this in upcoming communication.
8. The meeting was opened again for public comment. Chuck Schwer, Division Director of ANR's Waste Management and Prevention Division, provided an update on the current evaluation of the Environmental Contingency Fund, a state fund that provides money to address releases of hazardous materials when the responsible party is unknown. The fund needs to be adequately capitalized.
9. The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for **November 1 from 12:30pm-4 pm in Room 11** of the Vermont State House, Montpelier. ORCA media filmed this meeting and will make the recording available via their website in approximately a week at <http://www.orcamedia.net/series/vermont-state-house-special-event>.

Working Group members in attendance:

Dr. Ian Balcom, *Lyndon State College*
Paul Burns, *Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG)*
Josh Cox, *Vermont Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security*
James Ehlers, *Lake Champlain International (Lake Champlain International)*
Cary Giguere *Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets*
Lauren Heirl, *Vermont Conservation Voters*
Dr. Deborah Hirtz, *University of Vermont School of Medicine*
Jon Groveman, *Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC)*
Shaina Kasper, *Toxics Action Center (TAC)*
Ruma Kohli, *Global Foundries* (by phone)
Mitch Krauss, *Burton Snowboards* (by phone)
Deb Markowitz, *Vermont Agency of Natural Resources*
Scott Meyer, *Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA)*
Aaron Page, *Cabot Creamery*
Ken Rumelt, *Vermont Law School*
Sarah Vose, *Vermont Department of Health*
Martin Wolf, *Seventh Generation*

Interested parties and guests in attendance:

Linda Boccuzzo *Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets*
Allison Crowley DeMag, *Morris & DeMag, Inc.* (by phone)
Anne Hoogenboom, *Cabot Creamery*
Matt McMann MMR
Nicole Sala, *Seventh Generation*
Falko Schilling, *VPIRG*

ANR staff in attendance:

Jen Duggan
Marjorie Gale
Joanne Garton
Jordan Gonda
Ernie Kelley
Justin Kenney
Lynn Metcalf
Chuck Schwer
Tami Wuestenberg
John Zaikowski