

**Pesticide Analytical & Response Center
Minutes for Board Meeting of November 29, 2006
ODA Conference Room D**

Board Members Present

Chris Kirby – PARC Board Administrator
Dale Mitchell – ODA Co-Chair
Michael Heumann – OPHD Co-Chair
Greg Pettit – DEQ
Brad Knotts – ODF
Richard Kepler – ODF&W
Garnet Cooke – OR/OSHA
Dave Miller – State Fire Marshal
Sandy Giffin – OHSU/Poison Control

Consultants Present

Rose Kachadoorian – ODA, PARC
Dr. Fred Berman – CROET
Dr. Dan Sudakin – OSU
Lauren Slusser – OPHD
Dr. Jeff Jenkins – OSU
Will Lackey – ODOT

Guests Present

Bill Fleenor, Lane County Commissioner
Terry Witt, OFS

I. Introductions:

- a. All present were introduced. Called to order: approximately 9:05 am.
- b. Minutes from the September 27, 2006 meeting were accepted.

II. Old Business:

Waldport Working Group Update

- a. Dr. Dan Sudakin/Michael Heumann spoke about an email from Michael Watson (EPA Region 10). Michael Watson contacted health care providers in Waldport area. Alsea River Clinic; the clinic is aware of concerns but has had no specific contacts with individuals. The clinic is close to Corvallis and therefore it is possibly not capturing a large portion of the Alsea population. There is a family practice clinic in Yachats, that he did speak with, and reported that some people had complained about health concerns they felt might be from exposures related to former herbicide applications. The provider did not see evidence or pattern of complaints at the clinic. The provider did refer a patient to a neurologist for assessment of possible symptoms of a pseudo-Parkinson's disorder.
- b. Michael Heumann (OPHD) spoke with Benton and Lincoln County Health Departments. They had no new information.
- c. Kevin Masterson (DEQ) followed up with historical information. Environmental site cleanup found (Waldport address) that was parallel to river. Few spills, low cleanup, not associated with on going contamination. Not associated with concerns of the community. Kevin reviewed the ECSI (Environmental Cleanup Site Information) database. Copies of the documents will be provided to the PARC Coordinator.
- d. Michael Heumann indicated that the observed cancer rates in the area of concern are lower than the expected rate of cancer for that area.
- e. OPHD received a call from concerned person in area. They were advised to communicate with their local physician, and have their physician contact OPHD.

Florence Case

- a. A meeting was held with OR-OSHA, ODA, the DHS Emergency Medical Services Program, OPHD and the Fire Chief's Association. It was agreed that there was value to go forward with developing training and education materials for emergency responders. OPHD developed a write-up of the incident and made it available to OR-OSHA and the EMS program. OR-OSHA and the EMS program agreed to develop the specific training information they needed for their audiences.
- b. OR-OSHA left a message with Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST).
- c. OPHD is working with EMS, and they are making some of the lessons learned in the Florence case part of their training. OPHD will find out where the training is being used, how the training is conducted, and if other states might be interested. EPA has requested a copy of training for possible use in other states.
- d. PARC may make recommendations, but is waiting for an assessment from EPA. EPA has criminal investigation underway.

PARC Coordinator position Update

- a. Made offer to candidate for PARC Coordinator position; waiting to hear back.
- b. PARC database should be up and running in January.

III. New Business:

DEQ Pesticide Stewardship Program

- a. Greg Pettit (DEQ), watershed data gathered in 2006 being reviewed. Results are not available.
- b. Lab moving to new location (Hillsboro) June/July 15. Will be able to have lower detection limits.
- c. Aquatic Pesticide permits – DEQ is asking for Oregon Attorney General's opinion concerning the U.S. Court of Appeals ruling. Some challenges for Western States. DEQ will work with ODA. Jeff Jenkins, brought up that it is important to know when a pesticide is considered a pollutant and when it is not.

Lane County Concerns

- a. Brad Knotts (ODF) – Some citizens are concerned about forest pesticide use, and that pesticides are not adequately monitored.
- b. ODF – A 2000 chemical application study showed for aerial applications, all contaminants were below level of concern. There were no run-off events. Study discusses the concept of having further monitoring, but that it should be considered a low priority. There were 83 monitoring questions, resources for 2 questions. Area of interest: harvesting affects on streams, temperature was main area of concern, rather than pesticides. Monitoring strategic plan.
- d. Greg Pettit (DEQ) asked if PARC could have a copy of the ODF 2000 Aerial Chemical Application study report. The link to the report is:
http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/PRIVATE_FORESTS/fpmpProjects.shtml#Chemicals_Pesticides.
- e. It was indicated that there were no fish kills in the area; DEQ does not routinely monitor for pesticides in the forest environment.

- f. Dale Mitchell said that ODA has not been directly contacted by individuals involved or associated with the Pitchfork Rebellion. However, ODA has been contacted by other individuals over the years from this general area.
- g. Dale Mitchell and Brad Knotts: No violations of the rules when they investigate allegations. No confirmation of off-target movement of pesticides.
- h. OR-OSHA wanted to know if there were any plans to monitor water in the forest environment. DEQ indicated, "not at this time, there is no funding. We have lost a lot of funding." DEQ will look at the Willamette basin because there is a higher level of concern. DEQ added, there is a possibility of looking into the area by Hwy 36, if a decision package is funded by the legislature.
- i. Bill Fleenor (Lane County Commissioner) indicated that he met with organizers of the Pitchfork Rebellion and they presented anecdotal data, not scientific data. He added that they had a lot of data, and they were concerned that their issues were falling through the cracks. People expect a high quality of water and there is a cultural clash going on. He wants to figure out a method of how to petition an agency and work together with timber industries and agencies. He is concerned about public health. He believes the area should be studied and that it is a unique situation that has developed over 33 years.
- j. Greg Pettit wanted to know from Commissioner Fleenor, what information do they have and what information have they given to any of the PARC agencies, or other agencies. DEQ and ODFW has seen some maps that have been developed. They have 3-4 generations of family histories (unclear what agencies these have been provided to). Commission Fleenor indicated that we have a moral responsibility.
- k. OPHD indicated that they work with local public health departments (such as Lane Cty), and that often these local health departments will quickly turn to the state for assistance. Lane County needs to evaluate the situation before the state becomes involved (the name of Dr. Sara Hendrickson was mentioned).
- l. OPHD stated, that there is often a lack of resources. State public health receives "0" (zero) dollars to do environmental work. Research is based on grants to conduct specific types of work.
- m. The PARC Board discussed the function of PARC with Commissioner Fleenor and indicated that he was the first person to come and speak with the board about the issues of the Pitchfork Rebellion. OPHD suggested that Pitchfork Rebellion members should develop a "citizens report" and share their concerns about the cancer clusters. The first step is "face validity". There is a two page form to complete (pre-epidemiological data form). Lauren Slusser will provide the form to Commissioner Fleenor. Commissioner Fleenor again stated that they have fallen through the cracks. OPHD reminded Commissioner Fleenor that no one has come to PARC, we do not have money, but can and will communicate with him.
- n. Brad Knotts stated that the Board of Forestry makes the Forest Practices Rule, and that there is a coordinated process and that the public is welcome to comment. Garnet Cooke (OR-OSHA) indicated that often when people do not know the process, they feel powerless because they do not know how to access information.
- o. OPHD stated that chronic affects are more difficult to study/evaluate. Both acute and chronic health concerns should be evaluated by the person's physician, the individual should share their concerns with their personal physician.
- p. Dale Mitchell stated that the board needs a summary, so board can evaluate what may, or may not be able to be addressed by PARC. He suggested that a single leader should be selected to represent the group. He added that if an

individual from the area had concerns about a recent application, they should contact PARC. PARC can make a referral to the proper member agency.

Agency Updates

- a. Oregon Public Health Division: Lauren Slusser is shifting to full time occupational health position at OPHD, only 0.5 FTE position has been assigned to PARC. They are in the process to fill the vacant 0.5 FTE Pesticide Coordinator position. As a result of the Florence case, OPHD has been contacted by WA, and they will look at pyrethroid and pyrethrin case data regionally, from the PERT and PARC systems. They plan to publish a description of their findings, with a focus on commercial interior applications.
- b. ODA – Increase pesticide registration fees to maintain base program. Projecting a 5% increase in funding. Will continue household survey (PURS). The PURS computer system will be on line January 2007. EPA container regulations and label requirements. Discussed ESA program, including “Bulletins Live”.
- c. Forestry: People/organizations can “subscribe” to notification documents; documents can be posted on the web by subscribers. Concerns about personal safety.
- d. DEQ: January 20, 2007 pesticide collection event in Pudding River area. Greg will send information to Rose Kachadoorian, PARC Coordinator.
- e. ODFW- New director.
- f. OSFM- Completed 2006 hazardous substance survey.
- g. OR-OSHA: Working on 2006 annual Pesticide Emphasis report, which will be provided to EPA; Hazard Communication, Central Posting and PPE are the most frequently violated rules. Out of 54 Tier One inspections, 32 employers had previous enforcement contact with OR-OSHA. There were 4 repeat violations.
- h. Poison Control: Completed electronic data transfer process to OPHD; that will aid in identifying unexpected number of specific events. Provided information in English and in Spanish about ethylene glycol. Improved pesticide notification between OPHD and Poison Control; information automatically sent from Poison Control to OPHD.
- i. OSU: Special contract (aoec.org) to provide educational module on OP’s for medical students. Could be made available to clinic staff working in the field. Possible web site link identifying medical providers. Should PARC have a direct link to AOEC?
- j. CROET: Toxicology Information Center moved and they now have a larger meeting room. Good resource library.
- k. ODOT: PARC Flyer well received. Rose Kachadoorian should send out electronic version of flyer.

III. Continued Old Business: (Out-of-Order)

a. Yellow Jacket/School Case: OR-OSHA, the affected person had a pre-existing condition. School was notified in August that employee could have a pesticide related health situation, but did not notify OR-OSHA until September. There was some discussion that the inhalation exposure would not cause some of the symptoms expressed (shaking, chills etc.). It was brought up that the liver tests were normal, then exposure occurred and they became abnormal, and then after a period of time they became normal again. There appeared to be a desire for more education from the PARC board members about these tests. There was some discussion about whether the inert (other) ingredients could be responsible for the symptoms experienced by the school employee. Revisit this situation next meeting.

b. Truck driver/Disinfectant Case: OR-OSHA The possibility was also suggested that the inert (other) ingredients could also have played a role with the truck driver and disinfectant case. OR-OSHA visited the site, and said the product was slightly different than originally stated. It is Medaphene Plus Disinfectant Spray (EPA Reg. No. 211-32-11694), (o-phenylphenol (0.21%) and ethyl alcohol (69.623%)). The original product was (o-phenylphenol (0.19%) and ethyl alcohol (68.00%)). OR-OSHA issued a hazard communication violation.

c. Discussed the Baker County results. Residue level in soil is not a level of concern (0.11 mg/kg). Jeff Jenkins indicated that if one pound 2,4-D/acre was applied, and mixed to a depth of one foot of soil, it would result in a level of approximately 0.4 ppm depending on the bulk density of the soil.

d. Discussed the cats that were killed by carbofuran mixed with meat. ODA and the local police department are unable to locate the perpetrator(s) at this time.

Adjourned at noon

Next meeting scheduled for January 24, 2007.

Materials Distributed –

- 1) "Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC)- Recent Incidents, Prepared for November 29, 2006 PARC Board meeting.
- 2) Copy of newspaper article, "Worker not licensed to Use Pesticide". The Oregonian, October 1, 2006. This article is in reference to the Florence Case.
- 3) Information from the following EPA web pages concerning inerts (other) ingredients in Pesticide Products, <http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/inerts/> & <http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/inerts/tips.pdf>
- 4) Fact sheet concerning the new rule issued by EPA, "Application of Pesticides to Waters of the United States in Compliance with FIFRA: Final Rule", November 2006 (http://www.epa.gov/npdes/regulations/pesticides_factsheet.pdf).