

Minutes

Asbestos Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday December 2, 2015

Optional Training Session: Room 45 10:00 a – 12:00 p

Room 45 1:30p – 3:30p

The goal of the Asbestos Advisory Group is to advise DEQ on various issues relating to asbestos regulation.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Jim Devlin – Citizen at Large
Joe Radonich- State & Federal Public Works
Bruce Kirby – Contractors & Consultants
Ed Surbrugg – Consulting Engineers & Architects
Peggy Trenk – Trade Associations
Barb Butler – Waste & Materials Management
Gayla Benefield – Environmental Advocacy (via Lync)
David Galt – Major Facilities
Annette Satterly – School Organizations
Harold Blattie- City & County Public Works & Permitting
Jennene Lyda- Worker Protection (via Lync)

Committee Members not in Attendance:

Nick Van Tighem - General Construction Contractors
Brad Evanger – Minor Facilities

Others in Attendance:

Marc Ingraham – Ingraham Environmental
Judy Kirby – Kirby Environmental
Jessica Smith – DEQ REM State Superfund
Jim Whaley, Montana Dept. of Administration
John Podolinsky, DEQ Small Business Ombudsman
Mark Smith, DEQ SRF Program
Anne Crites, Libby, MT (via Lync)

AAG Support Staff in Attendance:

Ed Thamke – DEQ WUTM Bureau Chief
Deb Grimm – DEQ Asbestos Control Program
Emily Ewart – DEQ Rule Writer
Kerri Blanton – DEQ Minutes
Mark Hall – DEQ Hazardous Materials Section
Lisa Peterson – DEQ Public Information Officer
Bob Habeck – DEQ Facilitator

Optional Training Session – 10:00 a – 12:00 p

- Bruce Kirby facilitated an asbestos awareness course for public and group members.

General Session was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Bob Habeck

Welcome & Opening Remarks:

- Bob Habeck provided the Welcome and Opening Remarks and review of the November meeting. Bob asked for those on the phone to identify themselves.

Action Item:

- November Minutes. Motion to approve was moved by Peggy Trenk and second by Jim Devlin. No further discussion. There was unanimous approval.
- Bob reviewed the December agenda items.

Old Business:

- Lisa Peterson reviewed Basecamp and showed AAG members the tools that can be used to exchange information within each focus group. Lisa is always available for help. She encouraged everyone to keep using it as it is very intuitive.
- Emily Ewart showed the updated information added to the document Asbestos 201.
- Bob Habeck reviewed discussion topics currently in the 'Parking Garage' and 'Possible Recommendations' staging areas. The topic of recommending city/county building departments use an asbestos checkbox shed light on the complexities of local government. He recommended the AAG present all of its recommendations as a bundle for ease of stakeholder comment and for DEQ prioritization and response.

Peggy Trenk agreed with the concept of bundling recommendations to fully see the inter-relationships and for sharing with her constituents. She also suggested the title of this staging area be changed to reduce the possibility that others may think these are fully formed recommendations. It was agreed to change this staging area from 'Possible Recommendations' to 'Possible Discussion Items'.

Ed Thamke suggested an additional strategy to further categorized fully-formed recommendations as relating to either guidance, rule, or legislative in order to better prioritize implementation.

- No public comment on old business.

New Business:

- Summary of Focus Group Priorities: Top Priorities were identified as follows:

State & Federal Regulations

1. Regulatory definitions. Examine federal definitions with comparison to state definitions, interpretations, etc. Examples include: facilities, asbestos containing materials, etc.
2. Examine the state-federal asbestos program equivalency and stringency.
3. Examine relationship between inspection, sampling, and analysis.

Permitting

1. Examine further permit automation strategies.
2. Examine regulatory thresholds for asbestos.
3. Examine potential for on-line permit notifications.

Funding

1. Draft Fee Rule. Examine proposed asbestos fee rule, review and comment.
2. Asbestos fees, source and expenditure. Examine who pays fees and how it is spent.

Enforcement and Cleanup

1. Examine the enforcement / compliance process.
 2. Examine the remediation of asbestos in soil caused by human activities.
- These priorities will be summarized and formatted for further discussion.
 - Some redundant issue bullets were struck-out or moved between focus groups.
 - Public Comment on New Business: Jim Whaley encouraged the AAG to keep a focus on significant health exposure to asbestos when discussing issues.

Public Comment:

- No public comment on any matter not contained on the agenda but is within the scope of the AAG.

Action and Discussion Items for January's Meeting:

- Review of December minutes for approval.
- Further review of Basecamp.
- Further discussion on Focus Group priorities.
- DEQ staff will add the proposed fee rules to the Fee Focus Group in Basecamp.
- DEQ staff will add current graphs detailing funding sources and expenditures.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.