Dear Dr. Ashizawa,

I apologize, but I will not be able to review the ATSDR AOC report as I feel the information might have some serious errors in site locations and therefore, your databases might need to be tweaked.

The map of the Black River AOC is wrong in two ways:

1) The AOC does not include the Lake Erie tributaries east of the Black River mouth, only the actual Black River watershed.

2) It appears the map was generated using two different GIS projections as the map on the disk shows that the Cities of Lorain and Elyria are no longer in the Black River AOC and in fact, shows these Cities to be in Cuyahoga County. Both Cities are indeed within Lorain County and Elyria is the county seat. It appears that the cities and roadways layers used to generate the map are in a different projection from the projection used for the layers of streams, counties and Lake Erie coastline.

If you can get this corrected, I will be better able to review the report.
Ashizawa, Annette (ATSDR/DTEM/ATB)

From: Kelvin Rogers [kelvin.rogers@epa.state.oh.us]
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 2:58 PM
To: Ashizawa, Annette (ATSDR/DTEM/ATB)
Cc: Mark Moloney; Julie Letterhos; Steve Tuckerman
Subject: Public Health Implications in AOCs report

Annette Ashizawa-

I have reviewed the Cuyahoga River AOC section in the draft "Public Health Implications of Hazardous Waste Sites in the 26 U.S. Great Lakes Areas of Concern" and have found it to be incorrect and somewhat misleading.

First, the map of the Cuyahoga AOC is incorrect. Corrected GIS maps were given to USEPA over a year ago and should be utilized in your analyses, as the AOC covers more area than shown on your maps; it includes the Little Cuyahoga River watershed and several Lake Erie tributaries to the east of the mouth of the Cuyahoga, including Doan Brook and Euclid Creek. This enlarged area also incorporates additional TRI, NPDES and CERCLIS sites that should be included in your study.

Second, the 3 hazardous waste sites identified in the report are not of major concern by the RAP. There are additional hazardous sites that are located WITHIN the AOC boundaries that should be considered or at least addressed in your review.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this document before it becomes final. Please let me know how my comments will be addressed, as the current information appears misleading. Since the actual hazardous waste sites are not addressed it is very difficult for me to make any correlation as to the real public health implications within the Cuyahoga River AOC.

Kelvin F. Rogers
Cuyahoga River RAP Coordinator
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"Cuyahoga will hereafter be a place of great importance."  
  John Heckwelder, missionary, late 1700's
Ashizawa, Annette (ATSDR/DTEM/ATB)

From: Cherie Blair [Cherie.Blair@epa.state.oh.us]
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2006 11:45 AM
To: Ashizawa, Annette (ATSDR/DTEM/ATB)
Cc: Elizabeth Wick; Julie Letterhos; Kelvin Rogers; Natalie Farber; Steve Tuckerman; Ted Conlin; Barna.David@epamail.epa.gov; Matt Horvat
Subject: Re: Public Health Implications in AOCs report

Annette Ashizawa-

I have reviewed the Maumee River AOC section in the draft "Public Health Implications of Hazardous Waste Sites in the 26 U.S. Great Lakes Areas of Concern". I have found several errors.

1) In several locations throughout the section 3.6 "Lorain County" is mistakenly used instead of Lucas County. (i.e. section 3.6.3 and 3.6.5.2) And in section 3.6.4 there is a reference to "Cuyahoga River AOC" which should be Maumee AOC.
2) In section 3.6.5.4, it is stated that "Of the three health-related BUls, restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption and drinking water and beach closings were all listed as impaired at this AOC site." This is not true. The drinking water BVI is considered not applicable or not impaired in all watersheds of the Maumee AOC.
3) In table 3.6-B facilities in the community of Gypsum are listed as "TRI Facilities Releasing IJC Critical Pollutants Onsite for the Maumee River AOC" in Ottawa County. This community is not in the Maumee AOC.
4) In table 3.6-D facilities in the communities of Bradner and Haskins are listed as "NPDES Facilities Permitted to Discharge IJC Critical Pollutants Maumee River AOC" in Wood County. Neither of these communities are in the Maumee AOC.
5) I assume the list of TRI releases will be modified based upon the removal of facilities mentioned in #3 and #4.
6) The boundaries are correct on the map of the AOC, however you have labeled sites outside of the AOC. This implies that these are sources that effect the AOC or that are of concern to the RAP, which is not true.
7) Brush Wellman is labeled on the map in Ottawa County, but is not "attached" to a site and is not within the AOC boundaries.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope you find this information helpful.

Cherie

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website: www.maumeerap.org

1/15/2008
Annette,

I have been out of the office so just received the AOC report this week. I appreciate the opportunity to review however I will not be able to review the report at this time.

Pat

>>> "Ashizawa, Annette (ATSDR/DEM/ATB)" <ada8@cdc.gov> 11/3/2006 10:50:09 AM >>>
Pat,
ATSDR is FedExing the AOC report to you for your review. Could you give me your correct address (not P.O. Box) and phone number (as soon as possible)?

The phone number that I called is no longer in use. I'll contact you when I receive the phone number.
Thanks so much.
Annette Ashizawa, ATSDR
FYI... I have a comment on the draft Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry report and GIS maps for selected Areas of Concern: the maps need to be reviewed with those developed by EPA for use with AOCs.
The four maps for New York AOCs (Buffalo, 18 Mile Ck, Rochester, and Oswego) appear to be inconsistent with EPA maps. (For example, the Buffalo River AOC is identified as a watershed area and has always been mapped as just the river segment.)

As noted, the narrative reports provide an overview of pollution at sites and are to be viewed as an information source for possible study. No causal inferences are made regarding contaminants. The narrative reports and maps are on separate CD discs. This draft information is soon to go through a public comment period...
Thanks for the opportunity to comment...Bob T. (518)402-8284