

**NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND CHEMICAL EXPOSURES
MONITORING WORK GROUP**

**Meeting No. 10 Summary
October 22, 2010**

Call Objectives:

- Review the *National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures* Monitoring work group report to ensure it appropriately addresses comments received from the public and the *National Conversation* Leadership Council
- Determine the final steps to complete and submit the work group report

I. Action Items

Member Tasks	By Whom	By When
1. Draft and submit proposed edits for recommendations 4 and 5	Martha Stanbury, Michigan Department of Community Health	Monday, October 25, 2010:
2. Determine whether data quality is sufficiently covered in the report. If not, send proposed text for addition	Dean Lillquist, U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration	Monday, October 25, 2010
3. Respond to leadership team with final approval of report	All members	Friday, November 5, 2010

Leadership Team Tasks	Who	By
4. Determine how to proceed to resolve issues related to representation, for federal employees and others	John Balbus, NIEHS	Week of November 1, 2010
5. Make final edits to report	Work group leadership team	Week of November 1, 2010
6. Distribute final report to members	Kathy Grant, RESOLVE	Week of November 1, 2010

II. Meeting Summary

Welcome, Meeting Objectives, and Agenda Review

Monitoring work group chair Dr. John Balbus, NIEHS, welcomed members to the final work group call. Kathy Grant, RESOLVE, took roll and reviewed the call objectives.

Balbus noted that the current version of the work group report reflects the leadership team's efforts to address the pertinent feedback received during the comment period (i.e., feedback from [the public](#), the *National Conversation* Leadership Council, and NIOSH), and any additional changes to the report will have to meet a high threshold to warrant consideration at this late stage.

Balbus said that the work group report has been generally well received by the public and the *National Conversation* Leadership Council. Balbus then raised the issue of federal participation in the process, noting that he and other federal employees will need to resolve the tension

between the process' call for specific, actionable recommendations and the role of one federal employee participating in a project that ultimately calls on another agency to implement recommendations. Grant reminded Balbus and the work group that the process is structured so that RESOLVE is the convening organization. She confirmed that the project is not a Federal Advisory Committee under FACA. Balbus said that federal agency representatives will need to determine whether the process works for them, and whether language will need to be qualified so as to be less directive.

Discussion of Proposed Changes to Sections I-III

Balbus led the work group through a page-by-page discussion of the edits and outstanding issues in the report. Members accepted the leadership team's proposed edits to address children's environmental health and occupational health. In addition, the following additional decisions were made on the call:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Decision approved by members present</u>
3	Edited "Exposure Levels Subgroup" description to clarify that the subgroup focused on markers of exposure in fluids or tissues of human beings
3	Edited description of health surveillance to be more comprehensive
6	Replaced "food additives" with "substances in food"
7	Spelled out "STORET" as Storage and Retrieval Data Warehouse
9	Removed "Thus" from first paragraph of "Strengths and Limitations of Environmental Monitoring" section (to suggest that the supporting information follows and does not come before this sentence)
11	Replaced <i>Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act §108</i> with <i>Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act §108</i>
12	Added soil surrounding the home as a source of lead paint exposure in the "Strengths and Limitations of Biomonitoring" section
15	Added paragraph on national poison data system
16	The term "important" will not be defined in the report
17	Replaced references to a "dataset" with "data compilation"
18	Added parenthetical information about potential routes of exposure specific to early stages of human development
18	Added sentence on increasing importance of electronic medical records

Discussion of Proposed Changes to Section IV (Recommendations)

Members discussed and agreed upon changes to the work group's recommendations, as follows:

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Decision</u>
1	REACH is the appropriate model to mention
2	Additional focus on occupational health accepted
3	No change
4	4(c) added to address state-based occupational health surveillance
5	Edited to identify relevant NGOs as strong supporters of Environmental Public Health Tracking, and not to propose that such NGOs lobby Congress
6	Added a sentence noting that national data collection efforts should be relevant to state and tribal governments
7	No change

8 May edit language related to the specificity of potential actor

Balbus noted that additional changes to the language of recommendations may be necessary before the final version is submitted to the *National Conversation* Leadership Council.

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

The work group leadership team will keep members abreast of any additional changes to report language and will distribute the final version of the report for member sign-on.

III. Participation

Members Present:

Alison Edwards, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Daniel Goldstein, Monsanto
Dean Lillquist, U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration
David Marker, Westat
Martha Stanbury, Michigan Department of Community Health
Richard Van Frank, Improving Kids' Environment
Steve Whittaker, Public Health - Seattle & King County

Regrets:

Henry Anderson, Wisconsin Division of Public Health
Herb Buxton, U.S. Geological Survey
Jay Feldman, Beyond Pesticides
Roy Fortmann, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Nancy John, Cherokee Nation
Charlotte L. Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution
Megan Latshaw, Association of Public Health Laboratories
Sam LeFevre, Utah Department of Health
John Osterloh, U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Environmental Health
Jennifer Parker, U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics
Sharyle Patton, Commonweal
Karen Pierce, Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates
Ruthann Rudel, Silent Spring Institute
Trey Thomas, Consumer Product Safety Commission
Alan Woolf, Children's Hospital, Boston
Rosemary Zaleski, ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc.

Leadership Team Members Present:

John Balbus, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, *chair*
Michael McGeehin, NCEH/ATSDR *senior liaison*
Kathy Grant, RESOLVE *facilitator*
Jenny Van Skiver, NCEH/ATSDR *staff*