

**Minutes: January 3, 2005**  
**Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council**  
**Maryland Department of Environment (MDE), 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD**

**Members Present:** Cecilia T. Davoli, Maureen Edwards, Douglas D. Bradham, Judy S. Lakind, Christopher A. Loffredo, Vicki Taliaferro, Susan Russell Walters, Lorne Garrettson. **Staff:** Mary Johnson, Debra Schwab, Preventive Medicine Resident, DHMH. **Guest:** Deborah Rabin, MDE.

**Review & Approval of Minutes: November 1, 2004:**

The minutes were reviewed and corrected with one change.

**Presentation:**

*Proposed Amendments to Maryland's Air Quality Regulations. (Notices of Proposed Actions, published in Maryland Register on 12/10/04)*, Deborah Rabins, Air and Radiation Management Administration, MDE. Ms. Rabins gave an overview of the amendments to COMAR 26.11.04 as it relates to four proposed actions on the ozone, particulate matter, administrative standards.

During Ms. Rabins presentation she explained how the ambient air quality standards in Maryland would adopt a new 8 hour national ambient standard for ozone and standards for fine particulates (PM2.5). She explained how each state was required to set a standard of rules. It was included in the presentation that Maryland has a moderate level of ozone problems, as compared to other states. The presentation addressed two types of fine particulate matters and sources, one primary particles and the other secondly. Ms. Rabin explained how the PM2.5 had effects on the human health, plants, national parks and buildings with stone damage. She included with the timeline set by the EPA for implementing the standards, and potential measures to control PM2.5.

The other COMAR amendment(s) Ms. Rabin reviewed were COMAR 26.11.20 Mobile Sources; it explained the amendments to regulation .06, not to exceed (NTE) and Heavy-Duty Diesel Engine Emission Standards. Last, she discussed the amendments to Maryland's Stage II Vapor Recovery Regulations under COMAR 26.11.24; it describes control of gasoline vapors when dispensing into the air.

The Council concluded their discussions about the amendments to Architectural and Industrial Coatings and the new Air Quality Regulations. (See Attached Handout)

**Regulation Update/Review:**

Dr. Edwards and the Council discussed how regulations sent to the Council should be reviewed and its processes of handling them for review. It was concluded to have experts of the topic areas, present to the Council and give background and overviews of the regulations in question.

**2005 Legislative Session:**

The Council discussed potential bills in areas affecting Children's health. It was concluded that the following topics would be raised in Annapolis: Clean Air and Environmental Tobacco Smoke.

**Updates:**

**Report to Public Health Subcommittee, House Health & Government Operations-**

Delegate James Hubbard is the Chairperson of this Subcommittee.

Deputy Secretary Van Mitchell, Dr. Russell Moy and Dr. Edwards briefed the Subcommittee on DHMH activities related to lead testing and asthma in November 2004. It was an important opportunity to brief the new DHMH leadership as well as the House Subcommittee on activities related to children's environmental health.

**Annual Report 2004-**

The Annual Report is completed. Once DHMH officials have reviewed it, it will be generated to the Council.

**Indictor Report-**

Dr. Edwards said that work on the report is continuing. Dr. Edwards also stated that the EPA contractor would help with the narrative and the environmental pollutant indicators. It is planned that the study will be complete in the Fall 2005.

Judy Lakind stated that the study had some unresolved issues, as it relates to neurological indicators. These gaps will be addressed before completion. An outline of the updates was given to Council members for more details. Another issue that was raised was to address data sets for children in private schools as well as public schools. Vicki Taliaferro stated that the school nurses could be helpful in getting data sets for the study, based on their previous surveys.

**Children's Environmental Health Conference:**

Dr. Edwards talked about the plans for this year's children's environmental health conference. DHMH and the Council will work with the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment in putting on the conference. In addition to funding from MACCHE, there will be funding from DHMH-Title V and EPA Region 3. Among the areas discussed were:

- (1) The conference to take place Saturday, October 1, 2004,
- (2) The audience to include primarily, health professionals,
- (3) Suggested places to have the event included the Maritime Institute or the University of Maryland-College Park. It was suggested to take in consideration public transportation in deciding on a place,
- (4) CME credits to offered.

The Council had discussions on the various topic areas for the conference.

**Announcements:**

**Upcoming Conferences-**

Baltimore Fish Consumption Advisory Workshop- January 19, 2005, MDE.

**Guests Comments:** None.

**ADJOURN**

