

Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) - Flin Flon / Creighton Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

June 5, 2008
Teleconference

Attendance

MB Conservation: Dave Bezak, Geoff Jones, Dean Kasur
 MB Health & Healthy Living: Marcia Anderson
 MB STEM: None
 MB Water Stewardship: Dave Green
 SERM: George Bihun
 SK Health: James Irvine, David Sampson
 Health Canada: None
 HBMS: Ian Cooper, Alan Hair, Shirley Neault
 Intrinsic Environmental: Adam Safruk, Elliot Sigal
 Facilitator: Sheldon McLeod
 Observers: Tom Lindsey, Tom Therien

Introduction

- The agenda was reviewed. One standing item was added to the draft agenda; Community Advisory Committee feedback and one standing item was deferred; TAC Terms of Reference.
- The notes from the previous meetings were reviewed and approved.
- A review of action items from the previous meeting was conducted as noted in the action tables.

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
017	Final comments on the HHRA TOR to be submitted.	Susan Roberecki	2007-12-14 By next meeting	2007-12-06, updated 2008-02-04, ongoing 2008-02-27, ongoing 2008-04-07, ongoing 2008-05-12, ongoing 2008-06-05, Cancelled (see #059)
024	Provide references for adjustment factors to TAC.	Elliot Sigal	As factors arise	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing 2008-02-27, ongoing 2008-04-07, ongoing 2008-05-12, ongoing 2008-06-05, ongoing
049	Clarify HBMS' role as co-ordinator of the HHRA in the TOR.	Sheldon McLeod	2008-04-18	2007-04-07, new 2008-05-12, ongoing 2008-06-05, ongoing 2008-06-05, Cancelled (action merged with #032)
055	Provide feedback on the format / structure of the example toxic profile provided by Intrinsic	TAC Members	2008-05-26	2008-05-12, new 2008-06-05, Complete
059	Remove "provisional" from the HHRA Terms of Reference on the website (with the understanding that it is a living document)	Alan Hair	2008-06-13	2008-06-05, new

Update on Human Health Risk Assessment

General

- Overall, the project is on track – Intrinsic will continue pushing the labs to remain on schedule. There is a lot happening in the background and several reports are expected over the next 1-2 months. These will be distributed for TAC review as they are completed to prevent one big, previously unseen, report from being released for review at the end of August.

Question: Does our plan include a public review opportunity?

Response: The last item on the schedule currently reads “open house – public consultation”. Further discussion may be required (see action #060).

- The HHRA report will be a technical document. The toxic profiles will be appendices in the report. A lay-person summary will also be written, so that the report will be useful to all who read it.
- The comments provided regarding the toxic profiles are being incorporated. Thanks to the TAC members who commented on the format and structure.

Indoor Dust

- Homeowners will be called soon to make appointments for collection of indoor dust samples. If all goes well, the samples will be collected by the end of June.
- The large industrial vacuum being used is not conducive to furniture sampling. The dust samples collected from the carpets should be worst-case anyway, so significant differences should not be there.

Food Survey

- Database queries have been made. A work plan for fish and berries (wild game still needs to be determined) based on the queries will be circulated within the next two weeks (see action #061).

Bioaccessibility

- The soil samples are at the lab and are being worked on.

Drinking Water

- Jacques Whitford personnel are working on splitting the drinking water results from the snow ones and compiling two separate reports. Although no firm date for completion was available for this meeting, the report should not take long to finalize.

Snow

- A good analysis comparing the MB Conservation study with the Jacques Whitford results has been completed. Further conversations with Jacques Whitford are required to incorporate the comments received to date, including interpretation of results (see action #062).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
032(a)	Revise TAC TOR to reflect latest discussions; Clarify HBMS' role as co-ordinator of the HHRA in the TOR.	Sheldon McLeod	2008-01-15 2008-04-21	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing 2008-04-07, ongoing 2008-05-12, ongoing 2008-06-05, ongoing

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
032(b)	Provide wording for the TAC TOR stressing that co-ordination of the HHRA is a HBMS responsibility rather than government	Dave Bezak / Susan Roberecki	2008-04-21	2008-04-07, new 2008-05-12, ongoing 2008-06-05, Complete
056	Check other available information on snow to try to understand reason for differing results and validate data.	Geoff Jones/ Alan Hair	2008-05-30	2008-05-12, new 2008-06-05, ongoing
057	Review unusual drinking water result and determine if risk communication from Health Dept. personnel is required	Susan, Marcia, James, Office of Drinking Water rep	2008-05-23	2008-05-12, new 2008-06-05, Cancelled; transferred to Health Departments
058	Distribute proposed dust sampling method for TAC review & comment	Alan Hair	2008-05-13	2008-05-12, new 2008-06-05, Complete
060	Add review of public consultation to agenda of future TAC meeting	Sheldon McLeod	2008-09-01	2008-06-05, new
061	Circulate work plan for food survey to TAC members	Elliot Sigal	2008-06-13	2008-06-05, new
062	Investigate a way to provide interpretation of snow sample results in the snow report	Alan Hair	2008-06-30	2008-06-05, new

Joint Mapping – MB Conservation and HHRA Soil Results

- Two things were done:
 - The data from the 2.5 cm samples collected in the Flin Flon / Creighton area by Jacques Whitford were mapped for metals of concern and compared visually with MB Conservation maps. Comparable data sets were noted. It was also noted that the MB Conservation values were an average of three samples collected from one area, while Jacques Whitford collected one sample per area. Therefore, the highest level of the three Conservation samples may be closer to the JW results.
 - The data was then combined, new maps for each metal of concern were created and notations were made denoting which are above existing guidelines.
- The data set consistency is good. Isolated, raised-level data points, if proven to be an anomaly, will result in data revisions to better reflect the overall results (see action #063).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
063	Follow up on arsenic / lead level result from South Main soil sample	Alan Hair	2008-06-30	2008-06-05, new

Activities of the Communications Working Group

- There are no recent activities from this group to report. The members were polled to determine if any action was required following the most recent media attention; the answer was “no”.

CAC Feedback

- There has not been a meeting of the CAC since the last TAC meeting.

Other Business

- Follow-up activities are continuing with the Creighton homeowner with the elevated lead level in the garden. Although this follow-up is mostly a separate activity at this point, the HHRA process will remain apprised until the situation is resolved.
- A short discussion about how to post formal public comments and HHRA responses was held (see action #064).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
064	Seek advice from the webmaster for posting public comments / responses	Alan Hair	2008-06-30	2008-06-05, new

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, July 17th, 10:00 am
Teleconference / Boardroom A**