

Waste Prevention Full Steering Committee Minutes January 22, 2008

Attendees:

Erich Kruger, ReNew Materials and Salvage; Chris Beling, EPA Region I; Peter Crawford, VT SBDC; Tracy Tsugawa, VOCAL; Renny Perry, City Manager of Vergennes, Jen Holliday, CSWD; Donna Barlow Casey, CVSWMD; Jessica Edgarly, Toxics Action Center; Cathy Jamieson, DEC Solid Waste Program Manager; Todd Lyons, Doug Robie, DEW Construction; Bill Hochstin, Dartmouth College; Tom Abbiati, VT Food Bank; Will Colgan, NECI; James O’Gorman, RSWD.

Facilitator: Jeff Edelstein

DEC Support Staff:

Dave DiDomenico, Tom Benoit, Carolyn Grodinsky, Buzz Surwilo, Julie Hackbarth, Vicky Viens

Timeline:

January 28	Deadline to get all comments and sections discussed at January 22 Steering Committee meeting to Carolyn
January 30	EWaste Subcommittee meeting
February 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next version of the report to go out to Steering Committee with all comments from the January 22nd meeting on the report incorporated • Subcommittee Chair meeting at SBDC Enterprise Center
Feb. 6 by 9 am	2 day turnaround for Steering Committee Comments
February 10	Sent to ANR editor for editing
February 22	send back to Steering Committee with 2 business day review and turnaround
Feb. 27 9 a.m.	comments due
March 7	report completed!

Next Steps

1. Complete report and distribute
2. Decide on title for the report (list of titles at bottom)
3. Steering Committee to send a letter to Solid Waste Study Group -- Jessica to draft letter, first send to Jeff E and CG to review, then send out to group to review
4. Subcommittee chairs to develop a “dog and pony show” to use in talking to others critical to moving forward with the Plan

5. General discussion and suggestions about how to continue to next phase of planning.
 - Dartmouth College has a Resource Working Group - meets once a month
 - Stakeholders could talk to legislature about specific testimony (ie about composting). Stakeholders could be “ready, on-call resources”
 - Subcommittees continue to meet, steering committee less frequently
 - Wait for legislated subcommittee recommendations
 - Subcommittees should continue to move forward
 - June 2008 -- Steering Committee reconvenes to see where legislated study committee is at in their review process
 - Form another Executive Committee made up of chairs of subcommittees
 - Focus on getting ANR to embrace recommendations

Updates:

ANR -has released its Solid Waste report with recommendations to the legislature about the future of solid waste management in Vermont. It dovetails well with this group’s WP Plan. Legislative group has one year to submit a report to the legislature.

WP report -- use and distribution. To be:

- integrated into Governor’s Climate Change Implementation Steps
- Sent to all stakeholders, including the SW Districts
- Appropriate parts to be incorporated into update into the State Solid Waste Plan
- Provided as review and consideration for the Legislated Solid Waste Working Group

DEC Update on Committee reviewing Vermont’s Bottle Bill

Current redemption center system involves 90+ sorts for containers. Before Group moves towards expansion, it first needs to reduce the number of sorts needed.

Group is working on a Commingling agreement - involves distributors agreeing on reducing the number of sorts. Those participating pay current handling fee of 3.5 cent (versus 4 cent fee for those distributors not participating). Commingled system will include a third party pickup and use market share sales for payment.

Ewaste subcommittee

Still agreeing on Action Steps. Need to finalize recommendations using “drill down” process (how, what, who, how much, etc...)

HHW

- Where do pharmaceuticals and smoke detectors fit in?
- More education is needed

- Need a list of what types of materials fall in this category. Jen, CSWD said new chemicals come on the market all the time, not all are properly tested. HHW recommendations will include the “precautionary principle”

Comments on Table Matrix

- Overarching themes are similar in various priority materials
- Table matrix doesn’t reflect the subcommittee prioritization exercise
- Could include pages for each subgroups and their priorities
- Need to prioritize priorities

Jeff E to review Table Matrix and make recommendations about whether to include it in final report, and if so, how to revise.

Comments on report:

1. Add to Appendixes section: section on current working concepts of things we are promoting local, other states (Erich)
2. Needs professional editing and formatting
3. Needs a name
4. Need to include repairability and upgrades throughout the report (Donna)
5. Waste prevention saves money - Donna not the case unless people change behaviors, Waste prevention and waste reduction saves money and redistributes it to a better use
6. Report needs to focus on whole range of who the priorities are targeting, not just a consumer focus (Donna)
7. EPA can include how these priorities tie in with the national goals (Chris)
8. Page 6 - how did we get to the priorities. Need to have a smoother transition (Chris)
9. Change Action step to another word - strategies? (Tracey)
10. page 4-5 add health benefits (Jessica)
11. bottom of page (Tracey) goals should be integrated to guiding principles
12. Guiding principles should be better defined (eg definition of product stewardship) Jessica, Tracey suggested check out WA report
13. Add notes from first funding meeting and add to the report - Jessica
14. Report needs a problem statement (Jen) compelling case on why it’s a problem. Haven’t done enough re WP and amount disposed continues to increase while recycling rate has plateaued - problems from taking up landfill space, toxic, GHG
15. Add a Master Goal/vision - Jessica
 - a. Who is going to do this (Vicky said info in original Act 78)
16. Tracey to provide suggestions on flow/structure of report
17. DEC staff to insure all subcommittees have the same hi, med, low cost information in subcommittee reports
18. Steps to committee decision making processes need to be drafted into one section, individual subcommittees can add extras, such as the mind map exercise (DEC staff)

19. Need to make sure all chapters include the same cost information (DEC Staff) Low <\$50,000; Med \$50,000 - \$250,000; High > \$250,000

20. Add the Executive Summary to include - the problem, the process, the overarching themes, strategies for each material, how it relates to other planning processes, next steps and implementations

POSSIBLE REPORT TITLES

Integrated Waste Reduction & Prevention

Resource Protection & Waste Prevention in Vermont

Create Reduction & Prevention

Waste Reduction in Vermont & Planning for the future.

Waste Management in Vermont, by prevention, reduction & reuse.

Sustainable materials management plan to reduce the volume and toxicity of waste.

Strategies for achieving waste prevention.

Moving towards Zero Waste- Strategies from the waste reduction initiative.

Solid Waste Reduction & Prevention strategies.

Waste reduction plan- Strategies for Waste Prevention, and Diversion in Vermont.

Strategies for Waste Prevention & Resource Conservation in VT.

Waste less in Vermont.

Waste Diversion in Vermont.

Vermont Waste Reduction Strategy.

Beyond Waste.

Waste not, Waste less.

Life beyond garbage.

Clean up, Green up Vermont.

Quit buying so much crap people, we're killing the planet!