

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Advisory Body Name: Hazardous Materials Commission

Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location: Fourth Thursday of every months, 4-6 pm, 2477 Arnold Industrial Way, Concord

Chair: George Smith, Environmental Engineer Seat

Staff: Michael Kent, Contra Costa Health Services

Reporting Period: January-December, 2012

ACTIVITIES

- Gave a presentation to the Contra Costa Pharmaceutical Association on unused pharmaceutical collection education.
- Collaborated with the Environmental Health Department and the Contra Costa Pharmaceutical Association to develop educational materials about the proper disposal of unused pharmaceuticals.
- Received a presentation on the PG&E clean-up of Shell Pond in Bay Point.
- Received a presentation from Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory on the environmental and health impacts of nanotechnology.
- Provided input to the Department of Toxic Substances Control about possible ways to summarize and present data on contaminated site 5-year reviews.
- Provided input on the County's Hazardous Waste Notification Policy.
- Tracked adoption of Alameda County's Unused Pharmaceutical Disposal Ordinance.
- Provided input into the development of satellite Household Hazardous Waste collection centers.
- Received a presentation on the State's Green Chemistry Program.
- Reviewed the draft Environmental Impact Report for the WesPac Pittsburg Energy Infrastructure project for Environmental Justice considerations.
- Received a presentation on ways to address Environmental Justice Considerations in the California Environmental Quality Act.
- Received a presentation on the follow-up investigation of the August 6 Chevron fire.
- Provided feedback to the Office of the Sheriff on the use of the Community Warning System during the August 6 Chevron fire.
- Provided three representatives to the Ad-Hoc Board of Supervisors committee selecting a new vendor for the Telephone Emergency Notification System.
- Met individually with four County Supervisors.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Commission followed-up their brownfield report recommendation, accepted by the Board of Supervisors, that the Board write a letter to DTSC requesting changes to the Envirostor Database. They

provided input into the design of information that DTSC developed to summarize the dates of the 5-year reviews of contaminated sites occurring within the County during the year. The Commission followed up the HHW report by giving a presentation to the Contra Costa Pharmaceutical Association, and getting them to agree to work with the Commission to develop educational materials for the customers about the proper disposal of unused pharmaceuticals. The Commission is having a substantial impact of the selection of the County's TENS vendor by having three of its members be selected to be on the Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc committee that is reviewing the applications. The Commission continued to meet with each Supervisor one-on-one this year by meeting with four of the Supervisors. Finally, the Commission continued to educate themselves on a range of emerging issues related to Hazardous Materials by receiving in-depth presentations by outside experts on four topics.

ATTENDANCE/REPRESENTATION

The 13-member Commission has members from organized labor, environmental groups, industry, cities, environmental engineering firms, and the public at large. The Commission has membership from all regions of the County. All seats on the Commission were occupied this year, however one seat was vacant for the first 5 months of the year. The Commission held 8 meetings this year, as well as 9 meetings of the Operations subcommittee and 6 meetings of the Planning and Policy Development subcommittee. However, one meeting had to be cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. The Commission meetings averaged of 9 of the 13 members or their alternates being present.

TRAINING/CERTIFICATION

No training or certification was provided or conducted.

PROPOSED WORK PLAN/OBJECTIVES FOR THIS YEAR

This year the Commission intends to continue to develop recommendations concerning unused pharmaceutical collection education and work to implement these recommendations; continue to investigate possible policy recommendations concerning addressing Environmental Justice considerations in CEQA; continue to investigate possible policy recommendations concerning nanotechnology; and continue to provide input into the selection of the County's TENS vendor.