

Advisory Council Minutes
May 26, 2011
Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency

Members Present:

Tom Brattebo, Board of Directors, Chair
Jana McDonald, Air Pollution Control
Ray Kelleher, Business Community
Bernard Leber (Bud), Industry
Doug Pottratz, Citizen
Adriane Borgias, Environmental

Staff Present:

Bill Dameworth, Director
Ron Edgar, Chief of Technical Services
Matt Holmquist, Compliance Administrator
Lisa Woodard, Public Information Officer
April Westby, AQ Engineer II
Debbie Riley, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Bud Leber moved to approve the April 28, 2011 minutes and Ray Kelleher seconded it. Minutes approved.

Matt Holmquist gave an overview of the Asbestos Program. Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral. Common types of asbestos are chrysotile, amosite and the least used, crocidolite. There is some commercial mining of asbestos in the United States, but not as much as in other countries. The properties of asbestos are why it so popular: good tensile strength, flexibility, heat resistance electrical resistance good insulation and chemical resistance. The use of asbestos containing materials has been noted throughout history, but not used extensively until after World War II. Asbestos is a human carcinogen, there are no known safe levels of exposure and it has a long latency period. Exposure to asbestos causes diseases to the pulmonary and digestive system. Some of the affects are lung cancer, mesothelioma, stomach cancer and cancer of the larynx. EPA did try to put a ban on asbestos in 1989 but it was overturned in 1991. There are some misconceptions that asbestos was banned in the United States, in fact, it hasn't been banned, and it's still imported largely from Canada. 72% percent of the asbestos used is in roofing products. Asbestos is found in spray-on "popcorn" ceilings, suspended ceiling tiles; cement board siding, sheet vinyl flooring, roofing, vinyl floor tile & mastic, wallboard joint compound and heating systems. Fibers can be released when asbestos-containing products are damaged or disturbed. Microscopic fibers stay in the air for long periods. Damaged or deteriorated ACM increases the risk of exposure. Asbestos is most hazardous when it is friable or rendered friable.

The regulations between different agencies are basically the same. They require a survey prior to renovation or demolition; submission of a notification prior to asbestos removal and demolition activities; following certain abatement work practices and proper disposal requirements. Matt handed out some charts that show comparisons between other agencies in regards to non-friable ACM, Notification fees, NOI'S Inspections and Notice of Violations. Lisa Woodard gave a brief overview of the Asbestos Education and Outreach program. There was some discussion between staff and the Advisory Council members.

April Westby gave an update on the Indirect Source Rule. The Board of Directors gave Spokane Clean Air the go ahead to proceed with the formal rule making. Spokane Clean Air is presently holding the 30 day public comment period and the notice is posted on our website. The extended comment period runs through July 21, 2011. The notice was mailed to 35 stake holders and 188 people who have requested to be notified of any regulation updates that the agency has. A Notice will also be published in the Spokesman Review, in the legal notices. After the public comment period, a public hearing on the proposal will be held August 4, 2011, during the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency's Board of Directors meeting. At the public hearing, after comments are considered, Spokane Clean Air's Board of Directors will decide whether or not to adopt the regulation. There was some discussion between staff and the Advisory Council.

Ray Kelleher moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting and Bud Leber seconded it. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be scheduled for June 23, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., in Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency's office located at 3104 E. Augusta Avenue.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, DIRECTOR