

**Region 6 Pollution Prevention Roundtable
Monday October 24, 2005, Houston, Texas**

- Action Items and Consensus Decisions
 - Thomas Vinson to email Allen Gilliam to request times and dates for Arkansas August meeting.
 - The group agreed that the strategic direction of the roundtable was the highest priority, followed by improving the “quality of our discussion”. Thus, strategic direction will be a key component of our next meeting.
 - Chris Campbell will follow up on actions around a regional proposal to the Atlanta NPPR meeting. Paper proposals are due Friday November 18th and the Web Site is www.environmentalsummit.org/CallBackground.cfm
 - Thomas will be collecting regional measurement data as part of the national efforts to aggregate P2 information through the P2RX network working under the NEIEN grant. All results are required (as a grant condition) to be sent to Javier. Grant recipients are asked to also cc Thomas at: tvinson@zerowastenetwork.org on these e-mails/reports.

- Introductions – Javier Balli completed welcomes and introduced Annette Smith who will be working on grants for USEPA. Everyone around the table completed introductions.

- In attendance –
 - Javier Balli, USEPA;
 - Annette Smith, USEPA;
 - Audree Miller, ADEQ;
 - Chris Campbell, WERC/NM;
 - Michelle Vattano, NMED;
 - Jeff Voorhis, TCEQ;
 - Kurt Middelkoop, TMAC;
 - Brian Christian, TCEQ;
 - Grace Hsieh, TCEQ;
 - Jim Phillips, NW;
 - Thomas Vinson, Zero Waste Network;
 - Bob Gifford, TCEQ;
 - Adiq Sediqi, TCEQ,
 - Susan Roothaan, Nurtured World;
 - Elizabeth Frisch, Nurtured World (minute taker)

- Results of Survey of P2 Roundtable Group (presentation can be requested from Susan Roothaan).
What works? What can be improved? What conferences should we partner with?
 - AR, NM, OK, TX, WERC, Zero Waste Center responded.
 - Survey conducted six months ago.
 - Coordination, support, networking, new ideas are positive aspects.
 - Like the feedback from EPA and all measure on a similar basis.
 - Long term visioning is helpful.
 - Mixed feedback on state-by-state summaries.
 - Improvements could include how projects are accomplished instead of just achievements. Quality of interaction could be improved. Give ideas versus reporting from states.
 - Spring meeting is a hard meeting for regional personnel. Host organization should coordinate logistics. Format idea each year. Use one meeting to plan.
 - Better coordination between national and regional roundtables. Should stay consensus driven as opposed to a ‘leader’ but need leadership.

- Region VI position representative is elected by NPPR members. Position is a three-year position. Mark Johnson currently holds the position on the board.
- Thomas Vinson is in an “at-large” position.
- Purpose of the roundtable – more results oriented, better use of time, and improve quality of interchange. Enhance the P2RX center.
- Monthly calls – Funded organizations should participate, P2RX should call core participants monthly. Every call should have updates, events, follow-up and be kept to 1.5 hours.
- NW has scholarships for airfare to attend P2 roundtable meeting. Does not cover hotel or rental car.
- EPA can possibly pay for lunch if there is a guest speaker or working lunch. Javier will pursue clarification of this. Chris Campbell asked if NW should be invoiced for flight. Susan says ‘yes’ and she will reimburse.
- Partnering for conferences – Pretreatment, International Conference on Human Health and the Environment, Annual NM Environmental Health Conference, WERC Environmental Design Contest.
- New Mexico and Louisiana have not been hosts for some time on the roundtable.
- Groups to partner with – state energy office, railroad commission, agricultural groups, Louisiana personnel, more non-P2 people.
- Update from Javier Balli, USEPA on P2 and other programs (presentation can be requested from Javier Balli). A summary of what each program was funded for was handed out – “Region 6 FY2005 PPG and Source Reduction Selection”. Javier also handed out copies of the Region 6 Administrative Checklist, which is completed upon receipt of the final applications so that grantees will know what was missing and include them in next year’s grant. (Joseph Franklin of TCEQ needs to review their handout. He was not in attendance.)
 - No P2 border grants were awarded this year. One was submitted by UT Pan Am Brownsville, but was not selected. RFP came out from Region 6, but was not received by P2 roundtable members. Javier will make certain the 2006 announcement gets to the coordinators this Spring. Next one will be out in early spring 2006. It’s border work, not P2 grant monies. Work completed within 100 kilometer border of the Rio Grande River. Funding is about \$300,000 for all the projects. Usually run about six projects at \$50,000 per project on average. Sue Bumpous at TCEQ was a former recipient.
 - SSC – Small scale chemistry grant. Program that EPA participates in. They are not the originators of the concept. Teach chemistry in a small area with different instruments and tools to reduce generation of waste and make it more affordable to a community. Javier was the project officer for grant. One time funding and fast-track. Work is being done in Oklahoma. Texas Education Resource Center is doing SSC training to teachers in OK targeted at tribes as well as SSC audits. WERC has an SSC grant as well. Chris will provide Javier with contact information.
 - Ken Zarker – Element 13 – keep an eye on this the next year. States are being approached by EPA to review their regulations and voluntary programs. Elements 1-12 are required programs. Element 13 is voluntary programs. Target RCRA, water and air in these program reviews. Will give credit to states for assistance activities as well as inspections/audits. Region I is leading the way on this initiative. EPA is making it rigorous to get credit. Participate if you can in the development process. Dianne – ODEQ helped get them to performance-based EMS.
 - Reasons for a big change in processing applications – OMB review drove the changes. Grants were the sloppiest from program control in getting money out and getting spent by the grantees. Extensions will get more rare. More record keeping and notification. No additional requirements expected in ’06.
 - Area Source Program OAQPS and OPPT to get air toxic regulations promulgated and have been sued by Sierra Club to meet their deadlines. Grouping their resources to come up with a

different way of doing business including workgroups and pulling people from regional offices to get it done.

- What it looks like? More voluntary programs that are still backstopped by regulations that mandate limits. More flexibility in meeting the guidelines and reduced reporting. Combine sites into one multi-site permit for ease of management. Javier's office has been invited to participate in it before they are drafted.
- Where it is? Second phase of the four phase project. Project ID has been completed and they are now in the project development phase. Not yet at the implementation. On a very accelerated track. Pushing measurement very strongly so they can track it and do it again.
- Benefits for State P2 – Leverage existing programs. Develop 'common sense' rules including best management practices, outreach, industry participation and state participation and trying to identify what provides the quickest results.
- Five selected categories – autobody, industrial boilers, plating and polishing, paint and allied products, and steel/iron foundries. Twenty more sources may be added to this group over time.
- Toxic Chemicals of National Concern – Pharmaceutical and personal care products will be worked on. EPA's toxic sections have been involved. Lee Bohme – pretreatment Group Region VI, Gerald Carney, and David Eppler are the contacts in Region VI. Targeting pretreatment efforts. Multimedia and voluntary programs. These categories are coming out of the OAQPS and working with OPPT.
- 2006 and Beyond – Annette and Javier getting everything cleaned up and more efficient. Looking out for additional grant money for the P2 roundtable members. Competition for resources at HQ and Region VI from the Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC) and CARE – Community Assistance for a Responsible Environment. \$100,000 grant given to a COG in Farmington, New Mexico. Level funding will be maintained for a while with no increase/decrease anticipated. More integration of P2 into other programs coming. Focus on measurement – outcome versus outputs.
- Javier brought calendars put together by P2RX group.
- Chris/Michelle tried to partner with RCC. Did not happen due to Hurricane Katrina. Is this an un-funded program? What is our relationship with the program? It's like H2E. It's in the air program and then will move to OPPT. If you want to do RCC work, submit it in your work plan. RCC does not have any in-kind to give. The concept is a competition for funds. Give some of the P2 or source reduction funds to do RCC projects. EPA regions asking for money to complete. Susan commented your grant proposal may already cover RCC and just needs to be detailed how. Check in with our state air folks to address area source issues. Use PPG money to do workshops.
- Ken Zarker: May 8 – 11 National Conference in Georgia (was in Louisiana). Call for paper is out until November 18. Collaborate among all the assistance providers and have less national conferences. Program cut by \$1MM. Was supposed to be added back and was not. Trying to establish dialogue on the program to decide how and where money is spent on discretionary funds and what are the priorities. How can we better leverage the resources we have in the states. Are states using P2RX funds? Take regional P2 results and roll them up into a national picture. Build relationships with tribal folks.
- Schedule conference call next week and Chris Campbell will coordinate and get with the rest of roundtable personnel.
- What has each state been funded to do? See EPA handout titled: "Region 6 FY2005 PPG and Source Reduction Selection" for basic project information (will be posted to Zero Waste Web Site).
 - ADEQ (presentation can be requested from Audree Miller) – Hybrid vehicles includes \$2,000 rebate from Arkansas Energy Office for each state agency that purchases a hybrid vehicle. Act 2322 mandates a state-wide hybrid vehicle contract and to reduce fuel consumption by 10% by 2009. ADEQ strategic plan that 25% of fleet will be best technology by 2014 (20%

- hybrid vehicles by then). Material exchange (ARMAX) managed by ADEQ on their website. Supply P2 data every six months from businesses. Promoting H2E booth at conference and hosted H2E seminar with 43 people attending. Offered CEUs. Two more seminars on the way. 12 speakers at the first seminar. Also had training for ADEQ staff and the public from A Nurtured World (EPA grant-funded) and Alcoa presented on their EMS and showed a “Suzuki Speaks” Documentary Film to staff during a lunch hour. EMS has 18 months to get it done and get it in place. Divided it into 6 month time periods. Time commitment is biggest problem. Everyone already has full-time jobs. Complete a management briefing and add to performance evaluations. Recycling program, commute solutions, and ‘green’ cleaning are being developed. AR environmental stewardship program is “the ENVY” award. Silver and possibly gold level on the new building including a constructed wetlands, educational center and link to jogging and bike trail along the Arkansas River.
- NMED – (Presentation can be requested from Michelle Vattano). NM continues to recruit small businesses and large business mentors into Green Zia program. One page application possible for small businesses to get them in the program and on mailing list and a free waste assessment. Potential on-line application for small businesses. One-on-one interface with small businesses has been successful. Do a couple P2 workshops this year in partnership with local governments. Then do strong follow-up with participants. Continue NMED program integration with P2 program. Train inspectors to ID P2 in enforcement. P2 video for industry and small business presentations.
 - TCEQ – With change of management, additional focus on the P2 program by the Executive Management. Management is aware and in support of program and recognizes its value. Program will be changed to align with the priorities of the agency and assigned to Matt Baker to carry out. Greater focus of resources on where the rest of the agency is focusing their resources. Office of Compliance and Enforcement is doing a risk-based inspection strategy and P2 could be doing a similar focus on prioritizing assistance to regulated entities based on their compliance histories (high, average, and poor) and risk of the entity. Program will be better integrated with the rest of the agency if it takes that focus. Do not know if they can fulfill the current commitments made to USEPA if they do not fall under the current agency focus. There may be additional dialogue with USEPA to revise these focus items. They are looking at streamlining the EMS program to determine if we are implementing it appropriately. Looking at the architecture of the Clean Texas / Cleaner World program to expand the program. More concrete information in a few months. The agency will be focused on outcomes versus outputs on any existing programs.
 - LDEQ (Javier gave update) - Javier talked to John Rogers and submitted a proposal for a source reduction grant for mercury reduction using the H2E program. Approximately \$40,000 proposal. He will get started in another 6-8 months due to Hurricane Katrina. Running into issues with solid waste that has termites in it.
 - Green Project (Javier gave update) - Barbara Caldwell with the Green Project, New Orleans, LA for e-waste recycling for individuals and small-businesses whereby sort out for re-use/re-sale. Off to a slow start getting back into their offices in the 9th Ward (1st flooded / last drained). Request for donations made and Javier gave a six-month extension to the project.
 - TMAC – (Presentation can be requested from Kurt Middelkoop) MEP – Manufacturing Extension Partnership funded through NIST. Kurt represents the DFW area. Now have four personnel trained in implementing performance-based EMS in Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and El Paso. 95% of all manufacturers are 500 employees or less. TMAC gets attention from manufacturers promoting productivity, quality, waste reduction, and cost reduction. The environmental piece is a cost savings for them so they are open to discussing it. Five-day course of materials. Train one-day at a time and then assign homework. Personally called people who attended workshops and contacted over 500 organizations to find out why they won’t show up. TMAC now training suppliers by getting large OEMs mandating their

- suppliers to come. Using lots of hands-on training exercises. Measuring success in pollution reduction using EPA's standard metrics.
- WERC – (Presentation can be requested from Chris Campbell) - Consortium for Environmental Education and Technology Development located in New Mexico established in 1989-90 with DOE funding to spread the word on environmental education. Chris manages WERC resource center which provides outreach and P2 technical assistance from Albuquerque. Goal of WERC is onsite assistance – assessments and process evaluations including environmental education. WERC has border projects and partners. Continued onsite assistance for this grant year. Scale up healthcare and dental work projects. Promote development of P2 tracks in existing conferences.
 - Nurtured World – (Presentation can be requested from Susan Roothaan) – Consumer and Organizational Conservation training in all states of Region 6 except Texas and do two train-the-trainer audits. 1st Audit with TPC and second audit to be determined. Originally was to be completed in LA. Need to decide if will still happen. Funded also to do Roundtable Coordination and get to National Level. New grant for FY05/06 under Greening Government. Fort Hood family housing project, Little Rock, AR school districts, and University of Texas Student Center to get people to equate financial savings and satisfaction with positive environmental benefit. EPA HQ EE grant to develop curricula to help secondary school teachers meet the TEKS standards and use it in their classroom.
 - Zero-Waste Network – Thomas Vinson. Last year worked on putting the tools in place to aggregate the results. Measurement system to aggregate the results or split them out program by program. The hardest thing for P2 Programs with one FTE is to get the numbers from industry. To meet this need, zero waste revised the case study database so it will help these programs collect data and aggregate it (www.zerowastenetwork.org/success/index.cfm). Tool will also allow users to look at your their programs (Clean Texas, Green Zia), and can also be used to demonstrate to industry the value of the program. Looking at analysis of how people are using the site not just how many people visit the site. For example, the site is getting a lot of hits because people are looking for information on specific processes. RENEW is fully functional so that it takes application on line and sends an email to the program admin. Next step is to publish the database and expand the project regionally. There is a lot of opportunity along the LA/TX and NM/TX and AR/TX borders instead of just within the state for exchanges. Issue that Kurt and Thomas are watching is the electronic manufacturers are increasingly being pressured by European (ROHS/WEEE) standards that restrict hazardous substances in their products. Sony was shipping Play Stations and non-compliance for one part of one wire caused them to turn the whole shipment around (worth \$1-2MM). Thomas gave an update on the P2 Planner project. The planner has pollution prevention options for industry. They began with about 100 options that had been reviewed. Industry has added over 600! These options are available to all; it is not just a tool for facilities doing a P2 Plan. The idea is that industry develops their options, and makes them available to others who are wondering what they can do to reduce waste. These options will be presented in other formats. Thomas is committed to deepening the partnership with pretreatment programs. Under the Source Reduction grant he will be using the options from the P2 Planner to generate fact sheets that coordinators can hand to anyone with a pipe to the sewer.
 - Region 6 Roundtable Award – Ken Zarker was awarded the Region 6 P2 Roundtable award this year for twenty years of contributions to the Pollution Prevention Roundtable. This handcrafted award was made from all recycled / reused materials by a Santa Fe Artist www.zerowastenetwork.org/images/zarkerregion6award.jpg
 - Scheduling – Allen Gilliam wants to know what days the roundtable wants during the August 7-10 Pretreatment Conference (2006). He will provide a paid-for room for the meeting. Hold our meeting concurrent with Pre-treatment 101. Decision to go forward with this.

- Measurement – Thomas will be collecting our regional measurement data as part of the national efforts to aggregate P2 information through the P2Rx network working under the NEIEN grant. All results data is required (as a grant condition) to be sent to Javier. Cc: tvinson@zerowastenetwork.org on these e-mails/reports. Thomas will put them into the system.
- Grace Hsieh – Would like to see the roundtable focus on what we are struggling with and what can be improved upon.
- Discussion on Direction for Roundtable: Why are we here? Visioning? Formally challenge the Region VI delegate to make a commitment to the group and show up for meetings so this group interacts with the Region VI delegate. The regional person has not historically been seen as the liaison. Person does not have a job description. Make sure that person represents the group for the future. Group voted on the priorities:
 - Choices: Quality, Logistics, National vs. Regional relationship, Strategic Planning/Goals, Partnering – Which is the most important of these topics?
 - Priorities: Strategic plan is most important, quality is second (e.g., more real discussion how we can help each other and discuss struggles).

Notes taken by Elizabeth Frisch, edited by Susan Roothaan, Javier Balli and Thomas Vinson.