

# Region 6 Pollution Prevention Roundtable Teleconference

*September 22, 2005*

## Participants

Audree Miller - ADEQ  
Chuck Handrich - LaDEQ  
Rhonda Feppers LaDEQ  
Michelle Vattano, NMED  
Maureen Rene, NMED  
Javier Ballí – EPA (moderator)  
Annette Smith – EPA region 6  
Pierre Lichaa - TCEQ  
David Greer - TCEQ  
Chris Campbell - WERC  
Elizabeth Frisch – Culture Technologies  
Susan Roothaan – Nurtured World  
Thomas Vinson – Zero Waste Network

## Featured Events

See [www.zerowastenetwork.org/Events/index.cfm](http://www.zerowastenetwork.org/Events/index.cfm) for more events

- October 5-9 Sustainability as Security - Austin
- October 27-28 P2 Workshop, Houston
- Oct. 30 – Nov. 3 New Mexico Environmental Health Conference, Albuquerque
- November 17-18 P2 Workshop, Austin
- May 8-11 NPPR (NEP) Conference, Atlanta

## New Participants

Javier introduced Annette Smith who will be working with Javier on pollution prevention issues. Annette will be handling many grant issues.

Michelle introduced Maureen Rene who will be working on the Green Zia program. Maureen has IT and communications background. She will be producing materials for

the P2 program. They are evaluating their current literature, also skilled in developing websites and content for websites.

### ***EPA - Javier***

**Grant Update** - Four awards went out, seven others should be out within the next two weeks. Javier will give grantees a courtesy call to let people know the award is coming.

They are already working on the FY 2006 notice to submit pre-proposals. Two new differences

1. Added term “sensitive populations” to regional priorities. This is for the P2 programs to establish a bridge to toxics section. It may result in new source reduction proposals. In region 6 sensitive populations refer to schools (K-12), and the elderly.
2. Going to allow submittals of preproposals to come in electronically. Optional in FY06 and required in FY07. They will have 06 to make sure the system works smoothly.

The NPPR conference will be held in Atlanta Ga., May 8-11 at the Sheraton, Atlanta Hotel <http://www.environmentalsummit.org/>.

The City of Dallas had a regulatory and price agreement vendors fair focusing on P2. Participants were primarily city staff. Made a lot of contacts with city and local programs. Javier wondered if the roundtable should expand it’s efforts to include local governments.

Susan said that much of Nurtured world’s work was with local governments.

TCEQ has an initiative to do city and local governments, which David James knew a lot about (David J. was not on the call for details).

Thomas thought the cities were eager to do P2 and needed some specific direction and goals. Pierre said that city resources were strained and the universities were also challenged. It is something that needs more driving force from state and federal to push need for EMS. Pierre discussed how to get things moving involved getting top leadership present. In the past, he had success on the border by talking directly to top management to get their buy in.

Thomas added that about a third of the pretreatment coordinators at the conference wanted more information. Chuck wanted to know if cost savings and company examples were used. A discussion of the role of case studies and business buy in ensued.

### ***ADEQ – Audree Miller***

ADEQ had 43 attendees at H2E conference. It was a day long event. They have all powerpoint presentations and the order they were presented.

ADEQ.state.tx.us (column to right under announcements)

Just finished a two day nurtured world training with over 30 people. Had good feedback.

ADEQ has begun an environmental excellence award, they have five categories for the award. Green Government, Environmental Education, environmental quality, sustainability. The award is called the ENVY Award. The first award is Nov. 7-8 in Hot Springs Arkansas

They plan to have their secondary exchange materials website operating in October.

### ***EMS Audit – Elizabeth***

The plant we will be visiting will be on skeleton crew. The impending hurricane could affect the audit schedule. We will have to wait and see.

### ***Nurtured World - Susan***

Susan wanted to have a meeting to draft the agenda for roundtable meeting. She will send out a draft agenda, we can discuss by e-mail then have a teleconference in a couple of weeks.

### ***TCEQ –***

Pierre will be presenting at the Engineers for a Sustainable World conference on border issues at the University of Texas. He will also be speaking on Oct. 19-21 at a conference that deals with emerging technologies, drought, water issues and a track on storm water.

The Maquiladoras sent results on savings from border activities, and also some savings on the US side of the border. Saved 13 million Kwhr, 419 tons, and saved 17 million dollars and approximately 22 thousand tons of waste reduced. The full report will be sent to EPA and Mexico City.

The border governors and commissioners signed a Nuevo Leon strategic plan. TCEQ committed to training EMS.

They are finishing enhancements to the Border EMS website. New management is seeing if these types of websites fall in line with agency mission.

Pierre stressed that there is a need to train entities on the border so that the work he is doing will continue. He is planning to retire soon, and is looking for people to pick up the mission. He expressed disappointment that UT Brownsville was declined their grant to train the trainer because it was an important step in addressing this need.

David G. mentioned that he had finished roll up of Clean Texas and other data for EPA.

### ***Louisiana – Chuck***

Chuck Handrich gave information on Hurricane activities in Louisiana.

The hurricane has caused a lot of disruption, so not much has happened on the P2. They are attempting to work on a recovery that will bring people back to New Orleans.

Chuck is working out of the HQ in Baton Rouge. After the hurricane they had surveillance vehicles and had a group of EPA. He mentioned that Kathleen Aisling is working in Baton Rouge, camping on a cot on the ground floor.

Javier added that there are 60 staff from Region 6. Other regions are sending others. (225-603-5710)

LaDEQ has had to make some decisions to deal with the hurricane clean-up and get the city of New Orleans viable. They are authorized burning of air shielding on burning pits. Working on foaming agents that may be able to disinfect surfaces, and

Chuck is on a committee to evaluate technology for recovering from Katrina. Because of the water damage mold and mildew is everywhere and causing allergic reactions. Even if you decontaminate a surface you will see the mildew return.

Someone asked about the long term effects of pumping the water to the lake. They are unable to know the total impact of the pumping and may not know for years. Chuck acknowledged pumping the water out of the city and into the lake had some consequences, but emphasized that there was a life threatening situation, so some decisions had to be made.

Thomas wanted to know if there was some place to get up to date information. Chuck suggested contacting Chuck Brown, and/or Perci Harris to see if he could get information from them on some of the committee meetings.

### ***WERC- Chris***

Chris represented WERC ant a UNM tribal summit. Representatives from tribal environmental departments came to discuss needs for higher education.

They are having a planning meeting next week for the Border conference. They may have it after March.

New Mexico is having environmental health conference (<http://www.nmehc.net>) last week in October. Chris is on the steering committee. Has a P2 and sustainability conference. He also worked with Green Zia.

## **NMED – Michelle, Maureen**

NMED is wrapping up Green Zia awards. Have five new dairies. Maureen is looking at outreach materials. Michelle had just came back from a Santa Anna Pueblo Children's Conference. Michelle has a new supervisor from environmental justice area. They will be looking more at EJ and P2.

## ***Zero Waste Network***

Thomas was elected to the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable board. He has been working to collect information on hurricane Katrina including a pre and post hurricane activity checklist EPA published.

He is preparing for the Engineers for a Sustainable World conference at UT Austin which will feature Sustainability as Security. In addition to helping students who are organizing the event, Thomas will be discussing the ways P2 can be used to deter or eliminate the possibility of a terrorist attack on vulnerable areas.