

# Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers Newsletter

July 1998

Issue 98-3

## **ACHMM NATIONAL CONFERENCE** **August 25-6, 1998**

The EWC vice-president, Chris Brevick, is representing our chapter at this year's national conference in St. Paul, Minnesota. Brian Dixon and Delores Lutter, also of our chapter, are attending and receiving awards for special achievements. Their names and accomplishments were submitted by Mark Hoffmann (our Awards Committee chairperson) and were chosen from among nationwide applications.

## **ATTENTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP!!!!**

The remaining general membership meetings for 1998 are as follows:

September 17  
November 19

## **NEW CHAIRPERSON OF MEMBERSHIP** **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

John Y. Young recently joined the Executive Board as the chairperson for the membership development committee. His education and experience are in industrial hygiene. He worked for the U.S. Army in sanitation, environmental health, preventive medicine, and biomedical research in the Philippines, Japan, California, and Maryland. He is now the ES&H officer for Battelle's Preclinical Drug Development Northwest Operations.

## **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS REVIEW** by Roni Swan (376-0967)

### **EPA Amends TSCA, Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs); Final Rule**

EPA has amended its rules under 40 CFR Parts 750 and 761, the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), which address the manufacture, use, processing, distribution in commerce, cleanup, storage, and disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). This rule (alias the PCB-Megarule) provides flexibility in selecting disposal technologies for PCB wastes and expands the list of available decontamination procedures; provides less burdensome mechanisms for obtaining EPA approval for a variety of activities; clarifies and/or modifies certain provisions where implementation questions have arisen; modifies the requirements regarding the use and disposal of PCB equipment; focuses on self-implementing requirements; and addresses outstanding issues associated with the notification and manifesting of PCB wastes and changes in the operation of commercial storage facilities. This rule also codifies policies that EPA has developed and implemented over the past 19 years. The rule will streamline procedures and eliminate duplication. Some activities will no longer require PCB disposal approval. EPA believes that this rule will reduce costs to the regulated community while protecting against unreasonable risk of injury to health and the environment from exposure to PCBs. The rule becomes effective August 28, 1998.

## **EPA Intends to Adopt a Performance Based Measurement System for RCRA Monitoring and Amend Publication SW-846**

On May 8, 1998, EPA published a notice of intent in the Federal Register (63 FR 25430) to reform implementing RCRA-related monitoring and to amend EPA publication SW-846, "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/ Chemical Methods." Changes to these programs include:

- Adopting a performance-based measurement system for environmental monitoring;
- Removing the requirement to use SW-846 methods exclusively, except those used to determine method-defined parameters;
- Amending SW-846 to allow alternative approaches to releasing updates;
- Improving availability of SW-846 to the public;
- Improving public outreach and communication on SW-846.

EPA is requesting public comment on these changes and has a number of questions for the public to consider in the Federal Register. Also, EPA is announcing the availability of "Draft Update IVA" to the Third Edition of SW-846 and is requesting public comment. Comments on this notice must have been received in EPA by June 22, 1998.

## **EPA Publishes Guidelines on Ecological Risk Assessment**

On May 14, EPA published "Guidelines for Ecological Risk Assessment" in the Federal Register (63 FR 26846). These final guidelines include revisions from comments received on the proposed guidelines published in the Federal Register on September 9, 1996. They also expand upon and replace the previous guidance entitled "Framework for Ecological Risk Assessment" published in February 1992. The guidelines describe the three primary phases of ecological risk assessment which are:

- Problem formulation phase where the risk

assessor evaluates the goals, selects the assessment endpoints, prepares the conceptual model and develops an analysis plan;

- Analysis phase where the risk assessor evaluates exposure to stressors and the relationship between stressor levels and ecological effects; and
- Risk characterization phase where the assessor estimates risk and prepares a report.

The guidelines were developed to improve the quality and consistency of ecological risk assessments. They are to be used primarily by risk assessors and risk managers at EPA, but will also be useful to persons outside the agency. They became effective on April 30, 1998.

## **EPA Issues Final Rule for Hazardous Soils Treatment Standards**

On May 26, 1998, EPA published its final Land Disposal Restrictions Phase IV rule (63 FR 28556) establishing treatment standards for metal wastes, mineral processing wastes, and hazardous soils as well as establishing requirements for mineral processing secondary materials, Bevill Amendment exclusions, and exclusions for recycled wood preserving wastewaters. The provisions of the final rule that potentially impact Hanford are:

- Revisions to the universal treatment standards for 12 metal constituents for nonwastewater listed or characteristic hazardous waste;
- Revisions to treatment standards for TC metal waste;
- Revisions to the treatment standards for radioactive wastes that are mixed with metal characteristic wastes and do not currently have a method of treatment; and
- Establishment of a new treatability group (contaminated soils) and its land disposal restriction treatment standards.

EPA determined that the LDR treatment standards for TC metals and newly identified mineral processing wastes do not apply to soils contaminated with these hazardous wastes. These

contaminated soils will be subject to the treatment standards for soil proposed in the Hazardous Waste Identification Rule for Contaminated Media. The final rule becomes effective August 24, 1998.

## **FEDERAL REGISTER**

### **63 FR 24596**

On May 4, EPA published its final rule adding two new hazardous waste codes to the list of hazardous wastes in 40 CFR Part 261. The codes to be added are K140 for floor seepings, off-specification product, and spent filter media from the production of 2,4,6-tribromophenol and U408 for 2,4,6-tribromophenol. EPA is also adding these wastes to the land disposal treatment standards for hazardous waste in 40 CFR Part 268. The final rule becomes effective November 4, 1998.

### **63 FR 24782**

On May 5, EPA published the schedule for responding to the remand of the final decision on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for sulfur dioxide published on May 22, 1996; the interim action EPA is taking on the 5-minute peak SO<sub>2</sub> levels; and requesting comments on information and analysis of the 5-minute peak SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in ambient air. Comments must be received in EPA by November 1, 1998.

### **63 FR 24784**

On May 5, EPA announced the signing of the Joint EPA/State Agreement to Pursue Regulatory Innovation. The intent of the agreement is to ensure joint decisions by EPA and the states, timely review, broad public involvement and continued progress in implementing ideas that are good for the environment and the public. The agreement was effective April 29, 1998.

### **63 FR 24963**

On May 6, EPA published its direct final rule amending the used oil management standards. The final rule eliminates certain errors and

clarifies ambiguities. Particularly, the rule clarifies that when used oil is contaminated with PCBs, it is regulated under the used oil management standards, and when it is not that the requirements are applicable in states that are not RCRA-authorized. EPA is also publishing a proposed rule elsewhere in the Federal Register. If no adverse comments were received, then the direct final rule became effective July 6, 1998.

### **63 FR 26078**

On May 12, EPA published its final amendments to the National Emissions for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories; Organic Hazardous Air Pollutants from the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry to add crotonaldehyde and tetrahydrobenzaldehyde to the list of chemical production processes. The final rule became effective May 12, 1998.

### **63 FR 26926**

On May 14, EPA announced the availability of a document entitled "Guidelines for Neurotoxicity Risk Assessment." The announcement discusses the scientific basis for concern about exposure to agents that cause neurotoxicity; the general process for assessing potential risks to humans; and addresses public comments on the proposed guidelines published in the Federal Register in 1995 (60 FR 52032-52056). The guidelines became effective on April 30, 1998.

## **WASHINGTON STATE REGISTER**

### **WSR 98-09-117**

On May 6, the Department of Health published its final rule amending Chapters 246-249 WAC, Radioactive Waste - Use of the Commercial Disposal Site, and Chapter 246-250 WAC, Radioactive Waste - Licensing Land Disposal. The amendments made the definitions of low-level radioactive waste consistent with federal rule, and require using the uniform low-level radioactive waste disposal manifest. The final rule became effective May 20, 1998.

WSR 98-10-034

On May 20, Ecology published an expedited adoption to amend Chapter 173-400 WAC, General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources, and Chapter 173-460 WAC, Controls for New Sources of Toxic Air Pollutants. The rules are being amended to be consistent with federal requirements. Objections to Ecology using the expedited adoption process must be received in Ecology by July 4, 1998.

WSR 98-10-091

On May 20, Ecology published an expedited adoption to amend Chapter 173-360 WAC, Underground Storage Tanks. The amendment increases the annual tank fee to \$100 starting July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999. Also, it will allow Ecology to use the fiscal growth factor to calculate the fee for the next year. Objections to the use of the expedited adoption process must be received in Ecology by July 4, 1998.

WSR 98-10-033

On May 20, Ecology published an emergency rule to amend Chapter 173-160 WAC, Minimum Standards for Construction and Maintenance of Water Wells. The rule is being amended to revise the well casing thickness of 6 inch and 8 inch diameter pipe. The emergency rule is effective immediately.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

by Robert Newell (376-0509)

By the time that you read this newsletter, the ACHMM National Conference should be underway in St. Paul, Minnesota. Your chapter will be well represented. Your vice president, Chris Brevick, will be representing all of you. In addition, two chapter members, Delores Lutter and Brian Dixon, will be there to accept Special Achievement awards. We are proud of both of them.

As chapter members, the executive committee is looking for input from you on a variety of issues. For several years we have offered scholarships. We are soliciting ideas on various ways to make

these scholarships more visible and to what audience should we offer the funds. Also, we are planning to design some posters to advertise the ACHMM and our local chapter. We want response on creating a logo for our local chapter (i.e., do you like the idea of having our own logo and ideas on its appearance). Please send any ideas for the posters to Chris Brevick, and any ideas on the logo to me. Send your ideas on scholarships to Tom Ambalam.

Have a pleasant and safe summer.

R. Newell

P.S. Please send me nominations for next year's officers.

## 1998 EWC-ACHMM Officers, Board Members, and Committee Chairs

Chapter Officers	Executive Board Members (standing committees)	Committee Chairs (ad hoc committees)
<p><b>President:</b>     <b>Robert L. Newell</b> Fluor Daniel Northwest (509) 376-0509</p> <p><b>Vice President:</b> <b>Chris H. Brevick</b> Fluor Daniel Northwest (509) 372-0833</p> <p><b>Secretary:</b>     <b>Sheryl D. Consort</b> Fluor Daniel Northwest (509) 376-9360</p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b>     <b>Rhonda J. Swan</b> Fluor Daniel Hanford Co. (509) 376-0967</p> <p><b>Past President:</b> <b>Delores K. Lutter</b> Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (509) 376-5631</p>	<p><b>Public Relations:</b>     <b>Open</b></p> <p><b>Government Liaison:</b>             <b>Rhonda J. Swan</b> Fluor Daniel Hanford Co. (509) 376-0967</p> <p><b>Professional Development:</b>     <b>Stanley L. Jones</b> Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (509) 376-7449</p> <p><b>Membership Development:</b>     <b>John Y. Young</b> Battelle (509) 375-2600</p>	<p><b>Awards:</b>           <b>Mark W. Hoffmann</b> Fluor Daniel Northwest (509) 376-1341</p> <p><b>Newsletter:</b>     <b>Open</b></p> <p><b>Scholarships:</b>   <b>Tom Ambalam</b> Fluor Daniel Northwest (509) 376-6049</p> <p><b>Webmaster:</b>     <b>Sebastian Tindall</b> Bechtel Hanford (509) 372-9195</p>