The Hazardous Materials Manager

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS NEWSLETTER

Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers
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President's Corner

By Roni Swan, PMP, CHMM, CM

Greetings Members, Prospective Members and Friends

Thank you for your support! Your interest in the EWC is appreciated. Since 1984, the IHMM, a not-for-profit organization, has been protecting the environment and the public's health, safety, and security through the administration of credentials recognizing professionals who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge, expertise, and excellence in the management of hazardous materials. The Eastern Washington Chapter (EWC) is dedicated to upholding those high standards. We understand that becoming a CHMM is not easy; it takes effort to become proficient and skilled at what you do at your job. Becoming competent and proficient is worth the time and effort it takes to get there.

While summer vacations are on most people's minds this time of year, the EWC has been hard at work putting together interesting programs for you. In February, Adriane Borgias presented on PCBs in Eastern Washington rivers, in May, Tom Brouns provided insights into the future of reducing greenhouse gas with carbon sequestration projects, and coming up in July, Wade Winters will present on Department of Transportation Requirements that Apply to All Businesses.

Also, EWC has been working to set up a three-day program in the Fall that will be a pre-cursor to passing the CHMM

exam. This year's Overview course is being revamped and will cover many laws and regulations taught by local experts and is an opportunity to become more proficient in other EHS&S areas. The subjects to be covered are needed by many organizations in Eastern Washington, including Hanford. Training helps organizations be more profitable by raising standards, reducing incidents, and improving job satisfaction. Although budgets and schedules have been tight this year, it is important to find the time invest in yourself, your company, and your employees.

Carbon Capture and Storage: Challenges and Advances toward Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

EWC's presentation on May 23rd provided insights into the future of political, economic, environmental and engineering teamwork. Carbon sequestration is a key component of a global strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions around the world. Reducing carbon in the environment and keeping it from harming the ozone layer is slowly gaining wide-scale support.

Tom Brouns, Market Sector Manager at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) provided insights into this important program. He manages the Clean Fossil Energy (CFE) market sector within PNNL's Energy and Environment Directorate, where he is responsible for the Laboratory's R&D portfolio supporting government and commercial clients in areas of advanced coal, oil, and natural gas resource recovery, conversion, and emissions management, including carbon capture and geologic sequestration. With more than two decades of experience in chemical processing and subsurface research and simulation, Mr. Brouns has successfully brought together universities, industry, international institutions, and national laboratories in collaborative efforts to develop, demonstrate, and deploy advanced technologies.

Although global temperatures and atmospheric CO_2 concentrations continue to increase, significant progress has been made in the scientific arena with practical field-scale demonstrations. From 2005 through 2050, global energy use is expected to approximately double. Gas will grow more rapidly, primarily at the expense of coal, with more abundant and inexpensive gas. To limit temperature rise, tons of CO_2 needs to be safely stored by 2050. The carbon sequestration process involves separation and capture of CO_2 from atmospheric emissions, transporting the CO_2 to a deep geologic formation, and placement of CO_2 into a subsurface formation so that it will remain safely and permanently stored.

PNNL is a key partner in carbon sequestration partnerships and projects nationally, including one locally -- at the Wallula (Big Sky) project in Eastern Washington, near Boise, Inc. The Big Sky project involves site characterization and preparation for the world's first supercritical CO_2 injection into basalts.

Mistakes of the Past

(And How Not to Repeat Them!) - Part 10

"What Is Being Recycled?"

Harold Tilden, CHMM

[Author's Note: This article is intended to take a look at past activities in the light of how to learn from them. No accusations of impropriety on anyone's part are intended; usually the actions taken were "state of the art" at the time.]

In the days before hazardous waste laws ruled the land, an enterprising landowner established a drum recycling business on his land. Several nearby manufacturing companies were pleased to have a local recycler that would accept surplus full or empty drums. Unfortunately for the manufacturers, the neighbors of the enterprising landowner, and the environment, the method of recycling used by the landowner was to dump the contents of the containers into pits on the ground. In order to contain the amount of waste in the pits, the landowner would periodically burn the waste in the pits. He would then recycle the empty drums for a profit. Drums that could not be recycled were crushed and buried onsite. Many drums were simply placed on the soil in the later stages of operation. A large number (17,000 by one count) of drums were accumulated.

The state environmental agency forced the landowner to stop open burning, which was illegal even under sanitary landfill regulations. As the landowner refused to obtain a permit for a landfill, the state determined that the site was releasing oil and hazardous substances to the environment, including a nearby creek. EPA then used its Clean Water Act authority (pre-CERCLA) to intervene by building structures to prevent further releases to the creek. After CERCLA took effect in 1980, EPA took additional measures and added the farm to the Superfund list.

Five parties have been paying most of the cost of the cleanup at the site, which has now been in post-cleanup monitoring for over 20 years. Contamination at the site still remains both in the soil and groundwater. Maintenance of the site has been required due to subsidence and spotty performance of post-closure maintenance by the state, which has staffing issues.

Lessons Learned:

- Make sure that the recycler you are using actually recycles the hazardous materials you send them, or at least is authorized to manage them appropriately.
- If you send a lot of waste to one facility, inspect it and make sure your waste is not piling up at that facility. This is particularly advisable for facilities close to yours.
- Don't let a recycler burn or landfill your residues.
- Make sure you are getting the post-closure care you pay for if you are paying for it.

AHMP NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013
September 15-18, Orlando, FL

The AHMP National Conference will be held at the Peabody Orlando this year from **September 15-18, 2013**. Over 70 technical sessions will be held that apply directly to you as environmental, health, safety and security professionals that manage hazardous materials. Hope to see you there! **Early Bird Deadline - June 30, 2013**.

Nine Hazardous Waste Sites Added to Superfund's National Priorities List by EPA/Additional Sites Proposed

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding nine hazardous waste sites to the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites. It is also proposing to add another nine sites to the list.

According to EPA, to provide policymakers and the public with a list of high priority sites, serving to identify the size and nature of the nation's cleanup challenges.

Since 1983, EPA has listed 1,685 sites on the NPL. At 68 percent of these sites, all cleanup remedies are in place. Approximately 610 or 36 percent of NPL sites have all necessary long-term protections in place, which means EPA considers the sites protective for redevelopment or reuse.

The locations of the next nine sites added to the NPL are:

- Former ordnance manufacturer in Macon, Georgia;
- Former dry cleaner in Martinsville, Indiana;
- Former zinc smelter in Iola, Kansas;
- Former tannery and finishing facility in Danvers, Massachusetts;
- Former chrome plating operation in Attelboro, Massachusetts;
- Former chemical transportation business in Woolwich Township, New Jersey;
- Former paint manufacturer in Newark, New Jersey;
- Former pulp and paper mill in Harriman, Tennessee; and
- Ground water plume in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The following nine sites have been proposed for addition to the NPL:

- Former automotive and hazardous waste dump in South Bend, Indiana;
- Ground water plume in Garden City, Indiana;
- Ground water plume in Indianapolis, Indiana;
- Former pulp and paper mill in Missoula, Montana;
- Former fabric mill in Oxford, North Carolina;
- Former chemical drum recycling in Gastonia, North Carolina;
- Former automotive rubber manufacturer in Farmington, New Hampshire;
- Former oil refinery in Bristow, Oklahoma; and
- Municipal and hazardous waste dump in Neah Bay, Washington.

Federal Register notices and supporting documents for the final and proposed sites:
http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/current.htm

Lamp recycler settles with EPA for PCB-related violations

June 7, 2013

EPA announced that it has settled with a lamp recycling company for violations relating to its handling of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) at its Phoenix, Ariz. recycling facility. The company will pay a $71,500 in penalties to EPA.

"Exposure to PCBs is a concern whenever facilities are handling materials containing these toxic chemicals," said Jared Blumenfeld, EPA's Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. "Our goal is to safeguard worker health and nearby communities by ensuring that [the company] takes the necessary steps to improve the safety of their recycling and disposal practices."

The facility is permitted under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to manage and store PCB wastes. Separate permits allow the facility to recycle fluorescent lamps and ballasts, batteries, electronic wastes, and mercury devices. The facility also manages non-PCB ballasts, phosphorous powders, aerosol cans, and mercury containing wastes. The company operates facilities in five states and is one of the nation's largest ballast processors.

EPA inspections in 2008 and 2012 found that the facility had not effectively decontaminated its PCB handling area, documented the transport and disposal of PCB-contaminated materials, or properly labeled PCB and hazardous waste containers.

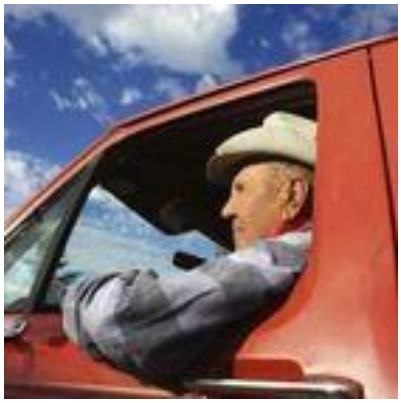
PCBs are man-made organic chemicals used in paints, industrial equipment, plastics, and cooling oil for electrical transformers. More than 1.5 billion pounds of PCBs were manufactured in the U.S. before EPA banned the production of this chemical class in 1978, and many PCB-containing materials are still in use today.

When released into the environment, PCBs remain for decades. Tests have shown that PCBs cause cancer in animals and are suspected carcinogens in humans. Acute PCB exposure can also adversely affect the nervous, immune, and endocrine systems as well as liver function. Concerns about human health and the extensive presence and lengthy persistence of PCBs in the environment led Congress to enact TSCA in 1976.

For more information on PCB regulation and enforcement, as well as TSCA enforcement in general, visit www.epa.gov/region09/toxic/pcb/.

Mark your Calendars for Thursday, July 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Wade Winters, President of *Regulatory Resources, Inc.* will be providing a presentation on Department of Transportation (DOT) Requirements that Apply to All Businesses. The presentation will be held at the Richland Library in Conference Room B. **The meeting is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.**



The DOT Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) located in 49 CFR 100-180 applies to any person who offers for transport, or transports, any quantity of a hazardous material. A DOT hazardous material includes gases (oxygen, acetylene, propane), flammable liquids (gasoline, solvents, paints), corrosives (hydrochloric acid, lye, batteries, drain cleaner), oxidizers (fertilizers, bleaching compounds), poisons (pesticides, herbicides), explosives (ammunition), flammable solids (flares, ready-light charcoal, sterno), infectious substances (diagnostic specimens, sharps containers), and any type of aerosol (paint, flat repair, lubricant, cleaner).

Mr. Wade Winters, President of Regulatory Resources, Inc. will be discussing the scope of the Law as it applies to you and how you can meet the Materials of Trade (MOT) exception to avoid unwanted potential federal and state enforcement. The size of the business doesn't matter. If you transport any quantity of a material deemed hazardous by DOT (remember, an aerosol can) you are subject to the Federal Law.

Some years back the US Congress mandated all hazardous materials be regulated anytime in inter- or intrastate commerce. Based on Congress, every welder, farmer, lawn care provider, pool care service, maintenance worker, builder, tow truck, on-road service vehicle – any vehicle used for business with so much as one aerosol can – is subject to the Federal Hazardous Materials Transportation Law and a target for federal enforcement and penalties.

Fortunately, the US DOT adopted the MOT exception. The MOT exception grants almost total regulatory relief if you know what the exception covers and if you can qualify. Now the catch…if you mess up you mess up big and become subject to the HMR the same as any other hazardous materials shipper and carrier.

EWC Calendar - 2013

- Tuesdays (alternating) 5:15 p.m. – EWC Overview Course Subcommittee Meetings at the Red Lion, Richland
- 7/11/13 (Thursday – 6 p.m.) – Presentation on the Department of Transportation Requirements that Apply to All Businesses – To be held in the Richland Library Conference Room B (Wade Winters, President of Regulatory Resources, Inc.)
- 7/11/13 (Thursday –7:30 p.m.) – EWC Executive Committee Meeting
- 8/14/13 (Wednesday, 7:00 a.m.) – EWC Hosted Breakfast for Executive Sponsors and Company Training Representatives (Location – TBD)
- 9/26/13 (Thursday) – Presentation or Tour (Location – TBD)
- 10/8 through 10/10/13 (Tuesday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.) CHMM Overview Course To be held at WSU-CIC (multiple regulatory experts will be presenting)
- 12/5/13 (Thursday 5:30 p.m.) – EWC Annual Awards Banquet and Christmas Dinner (Location – TBD)

EWC Selects Award Winner - 2013 Science Fair

EWC provided Sarah Berumen $100 this year, as the winner of an EWC-sponsored science award. Sarah, from Sunnyside High School, presented a project titled "*Bacterialcidal Behavior and the Effects of Nanoparticles in the Environment.*"

Scot Adams, EWC's Public & Community Relations and Awards Chairperson, and Chuck Mulkey, Past President/Treasurer, have coordinated EWC's providing this award to deserving students for many years now. Scot presented the award to Sarah at the awards ceremony at Chief Joseph Middle School in Richland.

"Change is inevitable. Growth is optional."

— John C. Maxwell