

Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers Newsletter

February 1999

Issue 99-1

The next meeting of the Eastern Washington of ACHMM will be held:
Thursday, February 18 at 6:00pm
WSU/ Tri Cities Campus
Auditorium

The speaker, S. Kamakshi Sundaram, has worked at Pacific National Northwest Laboratory since 1994. He has published many articles and co-authored two books. He has managed many vitrification projects, among others.

He will discuss vitrification of hazardous waste. Vitrification is the process that transforms waste materials into chemically durable, environmentally safe products. The vitrification system which he works with has been adapted to radioactive sludges containing heavy metals and organics, combustible radioactive wastes, municipal incinerator ash, municipal solid waste, medical wastes, contaminated soils and several hazardous wastes.

The basic glass science involved in vitrification and what a typical vitrification system looks like will be discussed.

President's Report From Chris Brevick EWC-ACHMM's New President

I wish to thank all of the EWC-ACHMM officers, committee chairs and members for their efforts and loyalty during the past year. We won three national awards for individual members and also a chapter award. We also had six members attend the National Convention in St. Paul, so we can be proud of our accomplishments.

We are beginning the year with some experienced members taking new offices and with new members volunteering to hold committee chairs or to help where they can. All of this activity is much appreciated and is the key to keeping this information organization going.

This is starting out to be an exciting year for we have an opportunity to participate with the Portland Chapter in the planning for the Year 2000 National Convention. This may include some travel to Portland to coordinate with the Portland Chapter planning committee. Also, there will be a call for papers where we can participate, as well.

Thank you all again for your support and active participation in EWC-ACHMM. I am looking forward to working with each one of you in this exciting new year.

If you have questions, suggestions or comments, please contact Chris H. Brevick, at (509) 372-0833 or chris_h_brevick@rl.gov.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The general 1999 membership meetings are as follows:

- ☛ February 18
- ☛ April 15
- ☛ June 17
- ☛ September 17
- ☛ October 21
- ☛ February 17

EWC-ACHMM Announces that the 1999 elected officers are:

President	Chris Brevick
Vice President	Roni Swan
Secretary	Raja Ranade
Treasurer	Tom Ambalam

And, the 1999 Executive Committee

Chairpersons are:

Public Relations

Jeannie Wallace

Government Relations

Melinda Brown

Professional Development

Stan Jones

Membership

John Young

Awards

Scot Adams

Scholarships

Jack Pierce

Newsletter

Roni Swan

Webmaster

Sebastian Tindall

**REGULATORY
LIAISON
REPORT**

For December/January

EPA MODIFIES RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

On January 6, the EPA modified the chemical accident prevention rule codified in 40 CFR Part 68 which requires owners and operators of stationary sources subject to the rule to submit a risk management plan (RMP) by June 21, 1999. EPA is amending the rule to add four mandatory and five optional RMP data elements, establish specific procedures for protecting confidential business information when submitting RMPs, adopt the government's use of a new industry classification system, and make technical corrections and clarifications to Part 68.

**EPA ISSUES NATIONAL RECOMMENDED
WATER QUALITY CRITERIA**

On December 10, EPA published in the Federal Register (63 FR 68354) a list of its national recommended water quality

criteria for 157 pollutants under section 304(a) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Section 304(a) requires EPA to develop, publish or revise their water quality criteria in order to reflect the latest scientific knowledge. These criteria are used by States and Tribes as guidance when they adopt water quality standards used for controlling discharges or releases of pollutants to waters of the United States. EPA also used the criteria as guidance in promulgating water quality standards regulations under section 303© of the CWA. These standards are used in implementing a number of environmental programs including establishing discharge limits in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. Once the new or revised criteria are published, EPA expects States and Tribes to adopt new or revised numeric water quality criteria into their standards within five years.

Also in this federal register, EPA describes changes it is making to the process it uses to derive new or revise existing 304(a) criteria. The purpose of making changes to the process is to provide the public with more opportunity for input and to make the process more efficient. Comments on this publication may be sent to EPA now or anytime while the process is being implemented.

**EPA ISSUES PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL OF
PROPOSED HWIR REQUIREMENTS**

On December 1, EPA published a partial withdrawal of its proposed Hazardous Remediation Waste Management Requirements (HWIR-media) published in the federal register on November 30, 1998 and the Phase IV Land Disposal Restrictions final rule published on May 26, 1998. The action withdraws all portions of the HWIR-media proposed rule except those that were finalized in the May 26, and November 30, 1998 federal register publications or actions which were expressly deferred in these rules.

**ECOLOGY RELEASES DRAFT MODEL TOXICS
CONTROL ACT (MTCA) RULE AMENDMENTS**

On December 16, Ecology released its draft amendments to the MTCA rule to give the public an opportunity to review and comment on them prior to publishing the proposed rule in the Washington State Register. This draft rule is intended to address recommendations of the Policy Advisory Committee that was created by the legislature to look at amending MTCA and the Governor's executive order on regulatory reform. The rule also reflects concerns that were raised during the course of two years of meetings with Ecology's External Advisory Committee. This External Advisory Committee is composed of representatives from the business, environmental, local government and other interested organizations and was convened to assist Ecology in revising MTCA. Some of the changes Ecology is proposing include:

- Flexibility in changing assumptions in a risk assessment to determine cleanup standards where the change can be justified based on site-specific information;
- Using proposed models and methods to update how to derive soil concentrations that are protective of ground water;
- Allowing the use of formulas and other methods, along with site-specific information and type of petroleum compounds at the site, to develop site specific cleanup standards under Method B and C;
- New requirements that a public notice be issued for cleanup plans that use a site-specific risk assessment or would restrict future site or resource use;
- A new position known as the Citizen's Technical Advisor that will provide technical assistance to citizens on issues arising from MTCA;
- A simplified public-participation grant-application process;
- Allowing the use of quantitative risk assessments as part of evaluating cleanup alternative for a site;
- Clarifying the process for evaluating less complete cleanup alternatives, including how cost, risk assessment and other factors are used in deciding how much cleanup needs to be done at these sites;
- Allowing the development of model remedies to streamline the remedy selection process by appropriately limiting the alternatives that are evaluated in detail;
- Addition of ecological risk assessment provisions; and
- Strengthening the criterion for using institutional controls and financial assurance.

Ecology anticipates filing the rule amendments with the Code Reviser in March, 1999.

EPA PUBLISHES NEW PM10 AMBIENT CONCENTRATION REFERENCE METHODS

On December 17, EPA published a notice (63 FR 69624) announcing that it has designated four new reference methods for the determination of ambient concentrations of particulate matter measured as PM10. The notice also announces that EPA has received three new applications for reference method determinations for PM2.5 and PM10.

EPA ISSUES NEW PLACARDING AND MARKING REQUIREMENTS

On October 1, 1998, EPA issued new rules affecting placarding and marking of non-bulk shipments of hazardous materials. Non-bulk containers have a capacity of 119 gallons or less for liquids, and 882 pounds or less for solids.

Identification numbers may be required for large quantities of a single hazardous material in non-bulk packages. If a transport vehicle or freight container is loaded at one facility with 8,820 pounds or more gross weight of a single proper shipping name and identification (UN or NA) number, the identification number must be displayed on the outside of the vehicle or freight container. This requirement applies only if no other materials, hazardous or not, are shipped in the vehicle or freight container.

Further information can be found in 49 CFR, Part 172.301(a)(3).

ACHMM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EWC-ACHMM WEBSITE INFORMATION

Remember to visit us at our own Website: ewcachmm@owt.com

The ACHMM National Conference, "Environmental Strategies for the New Millennium" is scheduled for October 4-6, 1999, in Kansas City, MO.

A call for papers is now being requested. Access the Website at www..sound.net/~hcachmm for more information.