

Interagency Pollution Prevention Advisory Team (IPPAT)

Meeting Summary

October 25, 2007

Member Updates

Members share what's new and especially what is happening in their agencies regarding waste reduction and pollution prevention.

Update highlights:

- John Bryan of Metro Transit is attending his last IPPAT meeting, and introduced their new representative, Ed Birkholz. He announced the new hybrid buses are painted green and white
- Also, Kari McDonald [now Page] is a new PCA staff and member of IPPAT, working on the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing project.
- Then new UM football stadium will be silver or gold-LEED certified, with parking lots designed for geo-retention to collect stormwater
- Some agencies are working hard on the MN Climate Change Advisory Group task forces to report reduction of greenhouse gases. (See <http://www.mnclimatechange.us> for ongoing progress)
- ReTAP is increasing its staff of retired engineers and added a climate change core to meet the public demand for this kind of assistance
- Members from Dept. of Corrections, Administration and the Metro Airports Commission are involved in increasing use of E-85 fuel in their fleets, including airport maintenance vehicles and new emphasis on police pursuit and state patrol vehicles
- Camp Ripley is recycling a significant number of mattresses that date back to the 1950's through Goodwill; retrofitting light fixtures in many buildings and sorting through items returned by returning troops for reuse or recycling.
- Real Estate and Construction Services (REX) relies on the Minnesota Sustainable Guidelines and LEED for the design and construction of its projects. They are doing electronic bidding in an effort to reduce paper, too.

Diesel Emissions – Reduction Issues in Minnesota – Bill Droessler, Clean Air MN Project

(Copy of slide show was emailed in November of go to link: [IPPAT.pptm](#))

Bill stressed the importance that the 2008 report by the MN Climate Change Advisory Group will have on state agencies and members of IPPAT. New, more stringent diesel engine standards will have to be met by using ultra-low sulfur diesel. In the next two years the new standards for low-level particulates will mean that MN will be closer to non-attainment for the first time, and there will no longer be a voluntary way to decrease pollution. He reviewed slides of progress made toward emission reductions in the first two years. Beginning with retrofitting school buses under "Project Green Fleet", CAM fitted 300 buses, 6 UM Transit buses and 25 heavy-duty buses in 37 districts using D.O.C. & Crankcase kits that reduce emissions dramatically. Their work included working with fleet operators, and agreements included compliance with idle reduction and air quality education elements.

He explained the new CAM initiatives and the challenge he faced to get funding for them because MN is not in a non-attainment area of the country. They will work on port, rail and targeted sectors by getting funds and then sharing media coverage with partners like Mayo and The Twins. For example, the new Twins stadium will be constructed using clean diesel equipment.

Fran Kurk reported here that a 2008 major implementation activity will be a federal grant project called "Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant." It will demonstrate retrofitting 200 public on-road vehicles used in St. Paul, Minneapolis and by MnDOT to prove retrofitting is viable in other applications as well.

CAM is looking into the California example of “Hospital Clean Diesel Zones” where idling vehicles and other sources of emissions near facilities are reduced or removed to protect sensitive populations. One study states: For every dollar invested into emissions reduction, \$13 is saved in health care costs, especially when looking at the affects on asthma.

Green Print Pilot Test – Madalyn Cioci

(Copy of slide show was emailed in November of go to link: [GreenPrint Pilot Results 10 07.pptm](#))

Green Print is a software program for eliminating some of the print paper waste. For example, it prompts one to preview a print job beforehand to eliminate a blank last page. It also reports number of pages saved and the equivalent number of saved trees. The program includes PDF capability and offers immediate reporting.

The MPCA pilot tested the program for four weeks on six printers, with two as software installed. The paper reduction in two weeks was 6% of what would normally have been printed. The average amount saved in the pilot test at PCA is 14 sheets/user. This would translate to an agency-wide savings of 1.72 tons and \$2500 per year [updated November 2007]. The range of paper savings by those testing this program is from 6-24%.

Emissions reductions were calculated at both 30% and 100% recycled content paper. A survey of users was also conducted.

Ms. Cioci will give tips on how to pilot this program at your agency, and the program itself also provides this information.

Angie Bourdaughs announced that all agencies could purchase 100% chlorine-free paper at a much reduced rate of \$3.41/ream to the end of the calendar year at the Office Supply Connection.

She participated in a pilot in April of 100% recycled content paper conducted at eight state agencies. The paper had 92 brightness. Overall the results were good, with the only complaint occurring with a high-speed copier. To learn more about the environmental benefits, contact Scott Stathas, Department of Administration at 651-201-2570.

All of this information will be included in a new electronic newsletter, “Buying Green”, [now found at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/oea/epp/newsletter.cfm>.] The new contact for information on environmentally preferable purchasing is Kari Page, 296-8322.

We discussed next steps about determining the IPPAT mission. Brainstormed ideas will be compiled and categorized, emailed to members to select their top three preferences. Staff will compile all results and discussion will continue at the January meeting. **Next meeting: Thur., Jan. 24, 9am-noon.**

Attending:

Birkholz, Ed
Bryan, John
Bourdaghs, Angie
Christenson, Gene
Cioci, Madalyn
Countryman, Linda
Droessler, Bill

Gilchrist, Chris
Jordahl Larson, Marilyn
Koetke, Mark
Kurk, Fran
LaForce, Joe
McDonald, Kari
Myers, Heidi

Nevala, Mike
Schwartz, Jim
Strong, Phyllis
Thompson, John
Vennewitz, Mike
Wacek, Mark
Wirkkunen, Roger