Petroleum Remediation Program Consultants’ Day Agenda
May 24, 2017

8:00-8:45: Sign-In, Breakfast

8:45-8:55: Welcome and Introduction (Sarah Larsen)

8:55-9:10: Petroleum Remediation Program Goals, Measures, and History (Michael Kanner)
A discussion about how the Petroleum Remediation Program is a part of the MPCA’s overall strategic plan.

9:10-9:20: Guidance Documents Changes (Sarah Larsen)
An overview of recent changes made to Petroleum Remediation Program guidance.

9:20-10:10: Groundwater Policy Updates (Adam Sekely)
A discussion of groundwater policy updates affecting site investigations. Changes include guidance document restructuring and updating, new and clarified high-risk conditions, defining and investigating sensitive groundwater conditions, aquifer determination, plume stability, and travel time.

10:10-10:25: Changes to Forms/Reports (Adam Sekely)
An overview of Investigation and Monitoring Report changes due to recent policy updates.

10:25-10:55: Break

10:55-11:15: Soil Excavation and Surface Soil Guidance Updates (Mark Toso)
Topics include changes to approved soil volumes, updates on characterization of contaminated surface soil, plus sampling and documenting a completed excavation.

11:15-11:45: CAD Panel Discussion (Paul Stock, John Houck, Ross Haugen, Brett Staeden)
Topics for discussion include current CAD processes, Petrofund reimbursement, and potential updates to CAD guidance documents.

11:45-1:00: Lunch Break

1:00-1:15: EQUIS Update (David Vaaler, Jim Pennino)
Completing the MPCA Chain of Custody for EQuIS data, and changes to Table 9 in the Investigation Report Form to capture data for EQuIS.
1:15-1:45: Vapor Policy Update and PRP Vapor Project Findings (Rose Tusa, Kathryn Serier)
An overview of the recently released Best Management Practice for Vapor Investigation and Building Mitigation Decisions document and Interim ISV Short Guidance Document and discussing how these documents will affect petroleum investigations.

Update and findings on PRP’s assessment of approximately 750 potential high-risk leak sites closed prior to 2006 to determine the risk of vapor intrusion to nearby residential and commercial buildings.

1:45-2:05: Brownfields Update (Stacey VanPatten)
An update on vapor intrusion and mitigation at Petroleum Brownfield sites, and new assurance letters for Petroleum Brownfield site closures.

2:05-2:15: Public Works (Amy Miller)
A review of the MPCA’s Public Works program including information on who is eligible, how to apply, and reporting requirements.

2:15-2:45: Break

2:45-3:05: e-Services and Data Driven Webpages (Stephen Frye)
The MPCA recently completed a database upgrade project that made changes to two e-Services (Voluntary Remediation Enrollment Application, Field Work Notification) and three data driven webpages (What’s in My Neighborhood, PRP Maps Online, Tank/Leak Site Application). Updates on these services will be presented.

3:05-3:15: Field Audits (Andy Eddy)
Topics include audit numbers from the Field Audit Program, findings from recent audits, and a few reminders.

3:15-3:45: Petrofund Updates (Joel Fischer)
Updates from the Petrofund program, including Petrofund rule revisions, legislation updates, and eligible applicants.

3:45-4:00: Q&A
Today’s Speakers

Sarah Larsen
Sarah Larsen is the Petroleum Remediation Program Administrator with the MPCA in St. Paul. She has been with the MPCA since 2002. She serves as the Contract Manager for the Petroleum/Superfund Multi-Site Master Contract, manages EPA grant activities for the program, and is a member of the groundwater guidance team. Sarah has a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from the College of St. Benedict and a Master of Science in Environmental Chemistry with a minor in Rhetoric and Scientific and Technical Communication from the University of Minnesota.

Michael Kanner
Michael Kanner is the manager of the MPCA’s Petroleum Remediation Program in St. Paul. Michael’s duties include overseeing the operations of the program. Michael also serves as a MPCA representative on the Minnesota Department of Commerce’s Petrofund Board.

Adam Sekely
Adam Sekely is a hydrologist with the MPCA in Brainerd, and has been with the MPCA since 2002 working in site investigation and remediation within the Petroleum Remediation Program. He serves as the technical analyst for the public water supply contamination project and technical policy coordinator. Adam has a Bachelor’s of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Science in Soil Science with a minor in Water Resources Science from the University of Minnesota.

Mark Toso
Mark Toso is a hydrologist with the MPCA in St. Paul, and has worked in the Remediation Division since 1992. His responsibilities include technical oversight of investigation and remediation at petroleum and chemical tank storage facilities, biofuel production facilities, RCRA and Superfund sites, pipeline releases, and he provides technical assistance for the Emergency Response program. He is a registered professional geologist in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Paul Stock
Paul Stock is a hydrologist with the MPCA in Detroit Lakes. He has been with the MPCA since 1998, throughout the years serving mostly as Petroleum Remediation Program’s Remediation Coordinator. Paul is a licensed Professional Geologist with the State of Minnesota, is a Certified Professional Geologist with the American Institute of Professional Geologists, and is a member of the National Groundwater Association and Minnesota Groundwater Association. He has a Bachelor of Arts with Distinction from the University of Minnesota where he majored in Geology, and completed graduate studies at Louisiana State University and Wright State University.

John Houck
John Houck is an engineer specialist with the Minnesota Department of Commerce Petrofund program. He has been with the Petrofund since 1994. Since 2004, he has been reviewing and preapproving cost proposals for Petrofund reimbursable active remediation work. John has a Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota.
Ross Haugen has been working on petroleum remediation projects for 16 years, initially as a field technician during summer internships, and later as an engineer upon graduating from the University of Minnesota in 2004. His experience has primarily been with petroleum remediation projects in Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Montana. He is employed by West Central Environmental Consultants in Morris, MN.

Brett Staeden is a Project Manager and Environmental Engineer at Terracon Consultants, Inc. He has a Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Environmental Engineering, and over 15 years of experience in site assessment and remediation for public and private clients. His project experience includes work managing a variety of contaminants including petroleum, chlorinated solvents, organochlorine pesticides, metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and asbestos. His corrective action design experience has included a variety of remedial technologies including bioremediation, soil vapor extraction, air sparging, groundwater control, in-situ chemical oxidation, multiphase extraction, vapor mitigation, soil stabilization, and numerous excavations. He has designed treatment systems including air strippers, activated carbon units, and mechanical components for fluid conveyance and vapor mitigation systems. His experience related to assessment activities include laser induced fluorescence, membrane interface probes, electrical conductivity, and traditional borings/monitoring wells. Brett has experience with include groundwater plume modeling, natural attenuation evaluations, fate and transport models, bioremediation efficacy, and air emission modeling.

David Vaaler is the EQuIS™ project manager with the MPCA in St. Paul. He works with various MPCA programs and other state entities to get environmental monitoring data submitted to the MPCA and stored in the EQuIS™ database. He worked at the MPCA for six years in the 1990s, and then with MDH for 14 years before returning to the MPCA at the end of 2014. He has a Bachelor’s Degree in Biology from Saint John’s University and a Master’s Degree in Environmental Science from Minnesota State-Mankato.

Jim Pennino is a hydrologist with the MPCA in St. Paul. Since 1998, he has worked as a hydrologist in the Petroleum Remediation Program. Prior to that, he worked as a hydrologist in the state Superfund program for nine years.

Rose Tusa is a hydrologist with the MPCA in St. Paul. She has been with the MPCA since 2012, reviewing leak site projects. Since 2016, she has been on a team reviewing sites closed prior to implementing vapor intrusion guidance in 2005. Rose has a Bachelor of Science in Geology, with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.
Kathryn Serier
Kathryn Serier is a project manager at the MPCA in St. Paul and has worked in the Petroleum Remediation Program since 1991. Her responsibilities include managing the petroleum vapor intrusion project, which includes reviewing 750 sites that were closed prior to implementing vapor intrusion guidance in 2005. She has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Public Health from University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Her previous work experience includes working for the MPCA Landfill Program and the US Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Services.

Stacey VanPatten
Stacey Van Patten is MPCA’s Petroleum Brownfield Program coordinator in St. Paul, and has been with the MPCA since 1996. Her role as an administrator is to serve as the program’s enrollment coordinator, liaison, policy, and grants coordinator. Stacey has environmental consulting experience prior to working at the MPCA and attended the University of Minnesota.

Amy Miller
Amy Miller is a project manager in the Petroleum Remediation and Redevelopment section of the MPCA in St. Paul. She has been with the MPCA for the past 20 years, originally working as a project manager in Site Assessment and Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup programs until her transition into Petroleum Remediation Program in 2006. She has a Bachelor degree in Geology from the University of Minnesota.

Stephen Frye
Stephen Frye is a project manager with the MPCA in St. Paul. He has been with the Petroleum Remediation Program since 2009, managing leak site projects. Since 2013, he has worked on MPCA’s agency wide database upgrade project. Prior to working in the Petroleum Remediation Program, Stephen was a watershed specialist with the MPCA in Marshall. Stephen has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, with minors in Computer Science, Hydrogeology, and Conservation from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Andrew Eddy
Andrew Eddy is a project manager with the MPCA in St. Paul. He has been with the MPCA since 2006 working in the Petroleum Remediation Program. He oversees the field audit program. Prior to working at the MPCA, Andy worked in the environmental consulting field and attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Joel Fischer
Joel Fischer has served as Director of the Petrofund Program at the Minnesota Department of Commerce for the past ten years in St. Paul. Prior to that, he was an analyst for the Petrofund program for eleven years and spent one year at the MPCA as a planner in the Environmental Review program.