

**WEPSI Policy and Regulatory Subgroup: Meeting Summary**  
**1/7/02, 12:30 – 1:30**

**Attendees:**

Lori Stole, WEPSI  
Jennifer Allen, OECDD  
Shirli Axelrod, City of Seattle  
Craig Lorch, Total Reclaim  
Jim Sheire, Philips Electronics  
Heather Bowman, EIA

Previous meetings: There were no comments on the 12/3 or 12/12 meeting summaries. We've received some good comments from others about the content of our 12/12 presentation.

Focus Topics: We reviewed our 5 focus topics and future plans for each.

- As already discussed, it was agreed to drop EPP.
- We received no comments on the posted sheet at the last ms meeting about regulatory barriers so we plan to drop that topic also.
- NEPSI will be summarizing the regulatory picture for each state. Lori reminded the group that in the past we suggested looking at the elements of a forward-looking regulatory structure for management of e-waste. However with limited time and resources we decided to stick with the original plan of leaving this topic, now that we presented background information at the last ms meeting.

That brings us to the 2 topics that we have planned to go forward with. As discussed already at the 12/12 meeting, each of these will be examined by work groups, and discussed by all at our regular subgroup meetings. There will be a separate page describing the work groups. It was agreed just to look to the subgroup and targeted others for work group participation rather than extending an invitation to all WEPSI participants. Others had a chance to express interest when we presented these topics on 12/12, and if the group gets too big it will lose efficiency.

Economic Development: Jennifer Allen will head up this topic. Others interested include Shirli, Jan, Cate, Lori and again it was suggested that Susan St. Germain be invited. This work group will meet within the next 2 weeks, perhaps via e-mail communication.

Jennifer mentioned that the group needs to define its goals, whether it would actually be doing research or just identifying issues. Shirli suggested that the group look at where the west coast markets for recovered material are. This information doesn't seem to exist yet. Jennifer agreed that would be a good project. Jennifer and Shirli both suggested their respective organizations might be able to fund some extra work in this area.

Lori asked whether the group thought a look at landfill bans would fit in, particularly since this topic had come up within the Recycling Subgroup. For now there was not interest to treat this as a specific topic of its own.

Heather suggested someone in DC, who we might want to contact on this topic; Margaret Walls, Resources for the Future.

Jennifer reported on a conversation with and memo from Cate Gable. Jennifer sent the memo out via the subgroup listserve, and it is attached here again.

Environmentally-sound recycling (ESR) is the focus of the other work group. Led by Shirli and Lori, this group will develop a set of criteria for ESR. The group also includes Craig, Bill Bree, and Heather asked that Holly Evans be included, as she is working in this area for EIA. This group will communicate via e-mail, and will try to meet in person at the NRC conference.

We discussed what resources are available to get the list started. Shirli has some things from her work to date. Craig and Shirli both have ads from major recyclers, listing how to choose an e-waste recycler. These push eliminating the broker and going straight to the recycler with your business. Look at the IAER certification info. Shirli knows of another certification group as well. Check whether there's anything from NERC, NY Roundtable, etc.

Shirli asked Jim and Heather whether companies receive suggestions about how to find a vendor. Heather answered that IAER is sometime suggested, and that many companies have their own criteria and auditing process. Jim might be able to get more information on this. As it turns out, much of the industry information is confidential, and we might best get industry feedback by starting our list of criteria, and Heather could distribute it to the EIA end-of-life group for their comments.

It was pointed out that some ESR criteria might be essential and therefore be listed as pass/fail issues, while other points might be desirable but not imperative for a satisfactory system. Craig pointed out that recycling industry leaders promote highest end use, while others just comply with fed, state and local regulations and that someone like WEPSI or the public sector needs to look at what these criteria should be. One person asked: To what extent is e-waste different from other materials that get recycled, and does this necessitate special documentation?

Next subgroup meeting: Jan 28, 12:30