

**RIDEM Environment Justice
Community Involvement Sub-Committee Meeting**

Meeting Minutes from Thursday 11-5-09 @ 2:30 pm
RI DEM, Conference Room A

Attendees:

Sandra Brownell, Terry Gray, Elizabeth Stone, Susan Forcier, Steve Fischbach, Chris Hannifan, and Amelia Rose.

Began at approximately 2:40 pm.

Welcome & Review of Meeting Minutes

- Terry Gray welcomes everyone back to the table for continued discussion.
- Reviewed meeting minutes from 9-30-09 subcommittee meeting. No changes recommended – minutes adopted by consensus.
- Next full EJ stakeholder meeting tentatively set for 12-9-09 at 2:30. Please stay away from 12-10 due to the fact that it does not work for numerous people.

Discussion of Recommendations to Present to Full Stakeholders in December

- **Legislative**
 - **School siting legislation.** Reached consensus on major principles for legislation; actual draft language needs to be developed.
 - **14-day notice on remedial agreements.** Agreement on actual language reached.
 - **Presumptive jurisdiction.** Sub-committee agreed in principle that this was worth pursuing, however, no language developed. It was asked how DEM will handle sites that were previously under DEM's jurisdiction (e.g. former dump sites). Gray explained this is more of a file/database/programmatic issue than a legislative or regulatory issue. See below.

- **Regulatory**
 - **Requirement for signs at EJ sites.** Follow language in policy, but require that they stay up longer than 30 days.
 - **Public involvement plans.** Insert into regulations so this can be invoked at any time (e.g. when investigation occurring, at time of notification, or during cleanup. 10 individuals needed to invoke.
 - **Addressing public notice loophole in statute/regulations.** How do we address the problem whereby initial notification and SIR submitted at same time, and first public notice didn't happen (because site not jurisdictional yet). Estimated that it happens this way between 30% and 40% of the time. The challenge is finding a balance between those interested in streamlining the approval process & the right of the public to comment on

sites. No consensus reached on this issue today – will be looking to full stakeholder group for additional feedback. Discussion of the benefits of increasing the use of Phase 1's.

- **Requirements for information repositories.** Use language in final EJ policy in regulations.
- **Submitting documents both electronically & in hard copy.** Yes, require it. Will require minor regulatory amendment.
- **Requiring signs at sites being proposed for redevelopment as a school, child-care facility or recreational facility for public use.**

Programmatic

- **Review of old solid waste files** – review, map, field checks. DEM is committing to this.
 - **Create a generic SEP.** DEM will develop a form for use by communities and organizations. Must comply with terms and conditions of DEM's SEP policy.
 - **See if RISEP can coordinate to provide pro-bono work.** DEM will follow through and meet with RISEP on this issue.
- General discussion on green cleaning in schools. It was suggested that anyone interested in this topic may want to contact Peter McClareon at the Dept. of Ed to discuss this particular issue.
 - DEM will prepare a PowerPoint Presentation that addresses these specific recommendations. If anyone has any additional suggestions within the next 1 to 2 weeks, please email Terry Gray. Otherwise, this will constitute this group's recommendations to the full EJ stakeholder group in December.

(Approved 1-21-10. Notes taken by Elizabeth Stone, RIDEM)