



5.0 INTEGRATION WORKGROUP

Ten-Year Perspective

During 2005, the GLBTS prepared a summary of overall program reviews of the Level 1 substances and two non-substance-specific GLBTS goals. This summary is presented in Appendix C. In February 2006, the GLBTS presented the summary assessment to the Binational Executive Committee (BEC) along with proposed paths forward for the GLBTS, which included finishing the job of virtually eliminating existing GLBTS Level 1 substances and promoting P2 actions for Level 2 substances; hosting a 10th anniversary workshop in 2007; and exploring a number of roles that the GLBTS could play in the future. The BEC supported a GLBTS 10th anniversary workshop in 2007 and expressed general support for exploring the proposed paths forward for the GLBTS.

Integration Workgroup Meetings

Brief summaries of the Integration Workgroup meetings held over the past year are presented below.

Integration Workgroup Meeting – February 16, 2006, Windsor

The first Integration Workgroup meeting discussed the concept of Green Chemistry and its application. Updates provided at this meeting included: a State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) Chemical Integrity Workshop; Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) near-term projects; and outcomes of a February 8-9, 2006, Binational Executive Committee (BEC) meeting. The meeting included presentations on GLWQA chemical articles and annexes that relate to persistent toxic substances, an overview of the general process for the GLWQA review, and perspectives on the GLWQA public consultation process. The Integration Workgroup also continued a discussion of the future focus of the GLBTS begun in December 2005.

Presentations at this meeting included:

- Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Toxic Pollutant Strategy Near-Team Projects – Ted Smith, US EPA
- Green Chemistry and the Great Lakes BTS - Exploring Alternatives to Managing Toxic Contamination of the Great Lakes – Lin Kaatz Chary, representing Great Lakes United
- SOLEC Chemical Integrity Workshop – Dale Phenicie, Council of Great Lakes Industries
- Report out on Binational Executive Committee Meeting Presentation – Danny Epstein, EC
- Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Articles and Annexes Related to Persistent Toxic Substances – Tricia Mitchell, EC
- General Process of Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Review – Mark Elster, US EPA
 - Public Perspectives – John Gannon and Karen Vigmostad, IJC
- Follow-through on the Discussion Paper on Future Role of GLBTS – Ted Smith, US EPA.

Integration Workgroup Meeting – May 18, 2006, Toronto

The focus of second Integration Workgroup meeting was on the human health impacts of toxic substances in the Great Lakes. EC presented information on their review of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) Domestic Substances List. EC also shared information on the GLWQA Review process. The meeting also included a discussion of Green Chemistry and how the principles of Green Chemistry can be applied to reduce releases of toxic substances to the Great Lakes.

Presentations at this meeting included:

- Canadian Environmental Protection Act Review of Domestic Substances List – Nicole Davidson, EC



- Summary Report of Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA) Workshop on New Chemicals – Julie Schroeder, Ontario Ministry of Environment
- Great Lakes Human Health Panel
 - Dr. Heraline Hicks, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
 - Dr. Bruce Newbold, Director of the McMaster Institute of Environment and Health at McMaster University
- Green Chemistry Panel
 - Introduction to Green Chemistry – Dr. John Warner, Director of the Center for Green Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell
 - Green Chemistry: Systematically Dealing with Toxics – Dr. Terry Collins, Carnegie Mellon Institute for Green Oxidation Chemistry
 - Green Chemistry: Our Future Challenges in Chemical Synthesis – Dr. C.J. Li, McGill University
 - Tools of Green Chemistry – Mr. Robert Giraud, DuPont
- GLWQA Review Update – Monica Lim, EC.

Integration Workgroup Meeting – September 19, 2006, Chicago

A number of Great Lakes initiatives were discussed at the third Integration Workgroup meeting, including a Mercury Phase-Down Strategy being developed as a result of the GLRC, Great Lakes Cities initiatives, and the GLWQA Review process. A presentation summarizing a Federal Advisory Committee on chemical screening tools was made. The meeting also featured a Traditional Ecological Knowledge panel to share the perspectives and experiences of Indian Tribes.

Presentations at this meeting included:

- Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Mercury Phase-Down Strategy – Alexis Cain, US EPA
- Great Lakes Cities Burn Barrels, Pharmaceuticals, E-Waste Initiatives – Elizabeth Hinchey Malloy, Illinois/Indiana Sea Grant program
- Federal Advisory Committee on Screening Chemicals – Michael Murray, National Wildlife Federation
- GLWQA Review Update – Ted Smith, US EPA
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge Panel
 - Dr. Dean Jacobs, Chiefs of Ontario
 - Chief Zane Bell, Chief of the Algonquin Woodland Métis Aboriginal Tribe
 - Alesia Maltz, Antioch College.

Integration Workgroup Meeting – December 7, 2006, Chicago

The final meeting of the year for the Integration Workgroup included updates from the co-chairs of the active substance workgroups (mercury, dioxin, PCBs, and HCB/B(a)P) on the previous day's workgroup meetings. The Integration Workgroup heard summary presentations on the Lake Superior Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) 2005 Chemical Milestones Report, a Michigan Dioxin Exposure Study that analyzed dioxin levels in the residents and environment of the Midland/Saginaw area of Michigan, a PCB software tool for conducting financial analyses of PCB transformer phaseouts, the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) Domestic Substances List (DSL) post-categorization, and workshops held at the 2006 SOLEC on Chemical Integrity. The Integration Workgroup also discussed the potential role of the GLBTS in establishing a Great Lakes Green Chemistry network.

Presentations at this meeting included:

- Substance Workgroup Reports
 - PCBs – Tony Martig, US EPA
 - Mercury – Alexis Cain, US EPA
 - HCB & B(a)P – Steve Rosenthal, US EPA
 - Dioxin & Furans – Anita Wong, EC
- Lake Superior 2005 Chemical Milestones Report – Carrie Lohse-Hanson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Michigan Dioxin Exposure Study – David Garabrant, University of Michigan
- SOLEC Conference Summary



- Lin Kaatz Chary, Northwest Indiana Toxics Action Project
- Melissa Hulting, US EPA
- Ted Smith, US EPA
- PCB Software - Financial Analysis of PCB Transformer Phaseouts – Deborah E. Savage, EMA Research & Information Center
- Canadian Environmental Protection Act – Domestic Substances List Post-Categorization and Relevance to the GLBTS – Nicole Davidson, EC.

The workgroup leaders also reported on progress toward the Strategy challenges for mercury, dioxins and furans, PCBs, and HCB/B(a)P. The forum was followed by substance workgroup break-out sessions for mercury, PCBs, dioxins and furans, and HCB/B(a)P.

Stakeholder Forum Highlights 2006

A GLBTS Stakeholder Forum is convened biannually with the purpose of highlighting issues and initiatives of relevance to the Strategy, and to allow the workgroups to meet. Brief summaries of these Stakeholder Forum meetings are presented below.

Stakeholder Forum – May 17, 2006, Toronto

At the first Stakeholder Forum meeting, Cam Davreux, Vice President, CropLife Canada, provided the keynote address. Mr. Davreux described CropLife Canada's stewardship initiatives, including programs for the management of obsolete products and pesticide container recycling. Following Mr. Davreux's presentation, Art Dungan, Chlorine Institute, described mercury reduction accomplishments in the chlor-alkali sector. In May 2006, the chlor-alkali industry submitted its Ninth Annual Progress Report to U.S EPA. The chlor-alkali industry exceeded its commitment to the GLBTS, reducing mercury use by greater than 50 percent since 1990, and the use of mercury per pound of chlorine capacity declined by approximately 90 percent since 1990. The workgroup leaders also reported on progress toward the Strategy challenge goals for mercury, dioxins and furans, PCBs, and HCB/B(a)P.

Stakeholder Forum – December 6, 2006, Chicago

The second Stakeholder Forum meeting of 2006 featured a keynote address by Marta Panero of the New York Academy of Sciences. Ms. Panero, Project Director, described "Industrial Ecology, Pollution Prevention, and the New York/New Jersey Harbor" (the Harbor Project). The Harbor Project seeks to develop pollution prevention strategies for contaminants in the New York/New Jersey Harbor that are similar to the contaminants addressed by the GLBTS.



**Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
Lake Michigan, Indiana
Photo by National Park Service
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**