

**Collaborative on Health and the Environment-Washington (CHE-WA)
Precautionary Principle (PP) Working Group**

Conference Call Notes

Call Date and Time: Wednesday, February 1, 2006, 11:00-12:00 pst

Introductions

- Emilie Clemmens, concerned mother with Mothers & More and scientist
- Marian Condon, American Nurses Association
- Kate Davies, Antioch University
- Steve Gilbert, Institute for Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders (Chair for PP Working Group)
- Elise Miller, Institute for Children's Environmental Health
- Kate Plant, People for Puget Sound
- Margaret Shields, Toxics-Free Legacy Coalition

Updates on activities undertaken since last meeting

Steve will be meeting next week with Dave Galvin to explore introducing the precautionary principle to King County.

Other follow-up will include 1) developing a document that describes tangible examples of the potential impact of the PP on City of Seattle issues or policies as well as statewide examples/opportunities (Steve Gilbert to draft document), and 2) meeting with Don Sloma (Steve, Kate and Marianne will request meeting).

National update

Steve provided a brief update on planning for the First National Conference on Precaution June 9th - 11th, 2006, Baltimore, MD. Elise, Steve, and Kate are planning to attend. For more information or to get involved, please contact Anne Rabe, CHEJ, at annerabe@msn.com or 518-732-4538 or go to www.besafenet.com for updates.

Precaution Academy in Seattle and Precautionary Principle Workshop

The majority of the time was spent discussing plans for debriefing from the National PP meeting and the Seattle Precautionary Academy June 23-25, 2006, to be led by members of the Science and Environmental Health Network and cosponsored by CHE-WA. The group decided that a short PP workshop (90 minutes to two hours) to debrief the national meeting would be held on Friday afternoon prior to the start of the Academy that evening, rather than on Thursday, June 22. Part of this meeting would be devoted to highlighting opportunities for local action to integrate the PP into policy.

Action: Kate will check for space at Antioch.

Various options were then considered for providing information from the national meeting and discussing local/state concrete examples of where the PP has already been implemented to local and state agencies and legislators. The group felt that once additional people in Washington deepened

their understanding of the PP through the Precaution Academy, we would be able to provide a wider array of leadership from different sectors to articulate the need for the PP.

The group concluded that we would arrange a briefing for Washington Departments of Health and Ecology officials in early July. Additional efforts would be placed on meeting with Seattle and King County officials. We would then determine the best opportunity to brief legislators about the PP later in the fall.

The group also decided that instead of organizing a major PP conference this year, we would work to get 'buy in' from agencies, legislators and other important stakeholders before having a larger meeting.

Other actions

The group agreed that a high priority this year should be to renew efforts to encourage the Washington State Public Health Association pass a resolution in support of the PP at their annual meeting in October. This is viewed as critical to gain broader state acceptance of the PP.

Toxic-Free Legacy Coalition (TFL) is working on a broader Chemical Policy reform policy. We discussed how the PP effort could support the Chemical Policy reform. Margaret will present the PP Working Group plans to the TFL steering committee and we can determine how we can jointly reinforce each other's efforts.

Short Training – Steve briefly reviewed the “Precautionary Principle: Reasonable, Rational, and Responsible” paper and PowerPoint presentation available at www.asmalldoseof.org. A suggestion was made to include specific examples.

Next call: Wednesday, March 1, 2006, 11:00-12:00 Pacific