

Minutes
Health Profiles Workgroup Meeting
May 22, 2008

Elm Street Attendees

John Perrin	Gale Carlson
Margaret Tyler	Jessica Blome
Darleen Groner	Richard Nussbaum
Eric Giroir	Terry Hawkins
Carrie Yonley	Derrick Standley
Dennis Hansen	Roger Walker
Cherri Baysinger	Lynn Hartman

Phone Attendees

Leonard Rosenkrans
Paul Detterline
Jerry Epperson
Dan Melancon

Welcome and Introductions

- Darleen Groner welcomed Elm Street attendees and phone attendees.

Health Profile Matrix of Options

- Darleen went through the matrix and led discussions on the pros and cons of the various options.
- Carrie Yonley suggested using the process that is already in place to show facilities are addressing the requirements.
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- John Perrin said BASF would support a combination of options 3 and 4 in the matrix. BASF has already talked to their state representative and state senator about the health profile requirements in the law.
- When variances were discussed, John Perrin indicated BASF would not request a variance without assurance that the law would be rescinded.
- Darleen led a discussion about changing the regulations under the current law vs. changing the law itself. She estimated that changing the regulations under the current law could take 12-18 months.

Preferred DHSS/DNR Alternatives

- Cherri Baysinger suggested health consultations as an option and led a discussion of the pros and cons of health consultations vs. risk assessments. Most of the attendees appeared more familiar with risk assessments than health consultations. So, Cherri explained what was included in a health consultation.
 - Health consultations ask a specific question, and then answer that question.
 - Health consultations use data facilities currently have. They may recommend further monitoring later, depending on what is available initially.

Group Discussion/Questions

- John Perrin wanted support from DNR and DHSS to go forward with changing the law. DNR indicated that it does not intend to take the lead on any legislative proposals/changes but recognizes others may take this approach. The department cautioned the workgroup members that opening up the law could have unintended and perhaps adverse consequences, so this option should be carefully considered before anyone decided to proceed.
- Derrick Standley suggested it might be better for DNR and DHSS to initially stay neutral on any proposed legislative changes and then be supportive in the testimony phase.
- Everyone wants to avoid doing duplicative processes.

Next Steps and Closing

- The group will look at short term, medium and long term approaches to resolve the problems with the health profile requirements.
- Darleen asked for two volunteers from outside DNR or DHSS to help with writing proposed changes to the regulations. Carrie will get back to Darleen regarding volunteering.
- It was suggested, and approved by the attendees, that the workgroup try to write the proposed changes to cover either option (Risk Assessments or Health Consultations).
 - Risk Assessments vs. Health Consultations
 - Put information on the web to give everyone in the workgroup time to review it. Comments from the workgroup members are requested within two weeks.
 - Check with legal for their input.
 - Get information from facilities on what data they currently have that might support the processes.
 - DHSS will provide a cost estimate range to do health consultations.
 - DHSS will provide a range of DHSS hours required to do a health consultation.