

Final Charter: Contaminated Sediments External Advisory Group

ISSUE:

The Department of Natural Resources (Department) has identified working together in a collaborative manner as one of the core values of the agency. In an effort to develop a unified approach to address issues associated with the investigation, management and remediation of contaminated sediments in waters of the state the Department will be working with the Contaminated Sediments Advisory Group (Group) to solicit feedback on improving how we collectively work together on these types of projects. This was an issue identified in the recent Brownfields Study Group (BSG) report, entitled "Investing in Wisconsin."

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Group is to provide input to the Department's Water and AWaRe Divisions in identifying issues, concerns and opportunities associated with sediment. The Department is looking to the Group members to provide constructive feedback on topics associated with the management of contaminated sediments from dredging projects, environmental cleanups, redevelopments and other construction projects.

The Department has also appointed a Contaminated Materials Management Advisory Group to provide feedback on soil and other solid waste management topics associated with environmental cleanups, redevelopments and other construction projects. It is anticipated that there will be significant collaboration between the two advisory groups on issues relating to dredging, soil management and disposal.

DELIVERABLES:

The Group will provide the Department with input on issues relating to the assessment, management and cleanup of contaminated sediments. Members are expected to identify issues, concerns and opportunities to develop a consistent approach to addressing these issues.

DNR FACILITATORS:

The Group will be facilitated by representatives from the Department's Water and Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) programs. The facilitators will be responsible for setting the meeting agenda, preparing issue papers for discussion and capturing the feedback from members.

- Steve Galarneau, the Office of the Great Lakes Director in the Water Division and John Robinson, Northern Region Supervisor in the RR Program in the AWaRe Division will be the co-facilitators. They will be assisted by Marcia Burzynski in the Water program and Kristin DuFresne in the RR program.
- The facilitators' roles are to: 1) provide general administrative and technical support to the Group, 2) answer questions the Group may have, 3) record feedback and 4) assist with the communications to the Programs and the Department.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Group will be comprised of members representing local governments, attorneys, consultants, utilities, environmental groups and other parties with an interest in sediment and waterfront issues. This Group will work with the BSG as well as providing feedback to the Department.

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- Members selected to serve on this Group will come to meetings prepared to constructively discuss items on the agenda.
- Each member will be expected to collect information from the organization or group that they represent to provide constructive input into Group discussions.
- Working sub-groups may be appointed to work on specific issues and report their feedback to the entire Group.
- Group facilitators are expected to provide members with an agenda and issue papers at least one week before each meeting.

Representatives from other Department programs, as well as other state and federal agencies will participate in the Group meetings.

TIMELINE:

The Group's initial meeting will be on May 1, 2015. The Department anticipates that the Group will meet every other month, on a regular basis over the next year. Meetings may be in person or over the phone. A Group member should let the Department know in advance if they cannot attend a meeting.