

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

PCB Challenge PCB Management Assessment Outcomes: Progress to Date

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GLBTS Integration Meeting

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PCB Management Assessment Outcomes

- Continue existing Level I programs:
 - to decommission PCB in use
 - to control releases from storage and disposal facilities.
- Compliance promotion activities for mandatory phase-out under New Canadian PCB Regulations.
- Data gathering and assessment to determine additional PCB sources and to plan for future resource commitments.
- Prioritize PCB Inventory update and Source Emission studies

PCB Management Assessment Outcomes - Status

- The management assessment outcomes have been accepted by the Workgroup.
- The assessment document has been finalized.
- The Workgroup has begun to address each outcome as shown in the following slides.

PCB Challenge

Data Gathering and Assessment

Battelle and Headwater (contractors) will review the literature annually for new information on PCB sources and new or updated data on PCB levels and trends in the Great Lakes.

- ◆ They will prepare summary reports on their reviews in 2007 – more information is being published but some types of sources are poorly documented (e.g. contaminated sites, dispersive PCB sources).

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Data Gathering and Assessment

The PCB Workgroup has focused on sources and data in the last two meetings:

- ◆ Presentations were given on PCB emissions from transformers (December 2006) and the Lake Michigan Mass Balance study (May 2006).
- ◆ The PCB Workgroup will continue to consult with scientists and invite key individuals to meetings.

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Data Gathering and Assessment

The PCB Workgroup will undertake a more in-depth study of existing Great Lakes PCB data, focusing on source data.

The potential PCB source categories of interest from the Dec. 6 workgroup meeting) include small PCB capacitors/ballasts, PCB-containing paints/caulk, reservoir sites, and inadvertent generation.

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

US Progress

- There is no new information since the Dec. 6, 2006 Stakeholder and PCB Workgroup meetings on the inventory of PCB equipment in the U.S. or related progress towards the PCB challenge.

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

US & Workgroup Progress

- EPA and USWAG discussed PCB equipment phase-out efforts, the Stockholm Convention challenges, and measuring future progress, and are currently considering issues from the discussions.
- Consultant who studied PCB emissions from in-service PCB transformers indicated they will conduct further studies, but additional resources may be needed.

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

US & Workgroup Progress

- The PCB Software tool for financial analysis of PCB transformer phase-outs underwent beta testing. Minor comments were received on clarifying the case study and adding costs for replacing equipment. Currently seeking and approaching organizations for formal external review (to check for bugs, ease of use, Help functions, etc.).

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

Canadian Progress

- Likely to meet the 90% reduction goal for High-level PCBs in storage.
- High-level PCBs in service in the Great Lakes basin have been reduced approximately 70%.
- Major Industry sectors with most high level PCBs have been identified for targets

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

Canadian Progress

- PCB Phase-out Awards have been given to 8 companies/agencies.
- 3 additional companies/agencies are interested in receiving awards in May 2007.
- Case studies for all 8 awards are available and an article has been published in a popular Canadian trade journal.
- Contact ken.de@ec.gc.ca

PCB Challenge

PCB Equipment Phase-Out

Canadian Progress

- Outreach to PCB owners continues through:
 - ◆ direct mailings and telephone contact;
 - ◆ presentations at seminars and conferences (e.g. AWMA seminar Dec. 2006);
 - ◆ compliance promotion related to amended PCB regulations;
 - ◆ Award Program inquiries and contacts.

PCB Challenge

Periodic Review of Programs

- Environment Canada is reviewing its PCB phase-out efforts and PCB Award Program in light of amended PCB Regulations that require mandatory phase-out of high-level PCBs by 2009.
- The PCB Workgroup will review and reassess its activities yearly.