Meeting Minutes
WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee

Wednesday, April 2, 2008
7:00 – 8:30 am
Philadelphia Convention Center
Philadelphia, PA

Peter Brady, Chair
Todd Williams, Vice-Chair

INTRODUCTION & WELCOME: Chairman **Peter Brady** welcomed the Committee members and guests. A copy of the attendance list is attached. Mr. Brady pointed out the two WEF web sites as sources of Committee information. He also identified Bob Dominak and John Donovan as leaders of a work group assigned to review RBC activities and prepare a report that would assess the mission and goals of the Committee based on the stakeholder interests and comments presented in the December 2007 survey.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Brady moved acceptance of the San Diego Meeting Minutes as presented. There was no dissention.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mr. **Layne Baroldi** asked that time be allotted for a presentation by Mr. James Slaughter. The agenda was accepted with this addition.

EPA OFFICE OF WATER UPDATE – Bob Bastian

Mr. Bastian asked EPA's **Jim Smith** to provide an update on the revision of the EPA solids manual. Dr. Smith noted that Mike Moore and Tim Shea were leading the effort along with guidance from EPA, a project advisory board (PAB) and the efforts of contractor Jon Dyer. The revised manual will contain 27 chapters and will include coverage of greenhouse gases green gas utilization. The PAB met March 30; authors met April 1.

MANUALS OF PRACTICE UPDATES - Jim Welp and Todd Williams

The Committee is currently working on three manuals (including the joint EPA/WEF solids manual). Mr. Welp stated that the Operations Manual 11 has been completed, the Design Manual 8 has reached the chapter outline stage with a first draft due August 2008 and completion/availability target of WEFTEC 2009. The next Committee manual will be on thermal treatment.

NBP UPDATE –Sam Hadeed

Mr. Hadeed referred the Committee to the background information submitted with the meeting agenda. Tim Williams reviewed NBP funding history, noting that EPA support ended March 31, with WEF assuming support through August 31, 2008. The WEF Board will consider future NBP support during its budget deliberations in June 2008.

Gene DeMichele covered NBP Steering Committee issues and said that the plan was to broaden the program to attract more participants. **Peter Machno** added details and noted that 15 additional organizations had been added to the list of NBP participants. Western Carolina (employer of WEF Vice President **Rebecca West**) and Chicago (employer of NBP Chair **Richard Lanyon**) also are part of the NBP EMS verification program. The NBP program plans for 2009 are being reviewed and will be part of the WEF budget review.

TECHNICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE ACTIVITES – Todd Williams

Mr. Williams explained the technical practice update (TPU) process and the first product (reactivation and regrowth). He noted that the issuance of the WERF report will lead to an update of the first TPU and that the goal is to get the TPU out to membership by mid-May.

PUBLIC OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE – Rhonda Bowen

Ms. Bowen said that WERF is considering a Phase 4 Regrowth project. The Public Outreach subcommittee recommended that the RBC take the position that this project be brought to closure. Ms. Bowen referred to other areas of subcommittee activity including fact sheets, the interface with the Public Education subcommittee on disposal of pharmaceuticals, the interface with NACWA on dioxins, collaborative work with EPA (**Rick Stevens** and **Bob Bastian**) on mercury, dioxins and other issues, and discussion on how to respond to issues of public interest, e.g., the AP articles.

AGRICULTURAL SUBCOMMITTEE – Kari Fitzmorris

Ms. Fitzmorris reviewed subcommittee activities including the CAFO Farm Bill, the planned WEF Center of Excellence and the listing on the Committee web page of WEF members with certification in the agricultural area. Ms. Fitzmorris asked staff to provide information on the Center of Excellence to the Committee.

CONFERENCE SUBCOMMITTEE – Greg Woodward and Jeff LeBlanc

Mr. LeBlanc stated that the Philadelphia Conference broke all past attendance records for the Residuals Specialty Conference with 424 full registrations, 70 one-day, and an attendance of 880. Mr. Woodward provided future Conference schedules, with information on Portland in May 2009. **Steve Wilson** will be Conference Chair in 2009. Abstracts are due July 28, 2008. The 2010 conference will be held in Savannah, GA with John Willis as Chair and **Steve Dentel** to provide assistance and coordination for co-sponsorship with IWA. A work plan will be prepared and distributed to facilitate co-sponsorship and will include working with the local member association. WEF President **Adam Zabinski** addressed the Committee and acknowledged with thanks the work of the Committee in general and specifically the effort put forth by Mr. LaBlanc and his local committee members for a job well done.

The Committee expressed their thanks to Lara Hughes and staff for support for a conference well done.

Bob Dominak noted that the 2009 Conference in Portland overlapped the dates of the WEF/NACWA Spring Clean Water Forum.

CARBON CREDIT AND SUSTAINABILITY – Jim Welp

Mr. Welp described the Committee efforts to promote the value of a Carbon Credit program-- a web cast on typical bioenergy projects to increase public agency involvement; another conference to promote bioenergy projects; and, mapping carbon footprints of projects as a tool for decision-making. Chairman Brady mentioned his meeting with a representative from the City of Philadelphia as a fact finding and planning meeting for the development of a municipal posture for sustainability.

WERF – Alan Hais and Amit Pramanik

Dr. Hais referred the Committee to the summary of WERF projects that had been sent as part of the background material for the meeting. He said that there were other topics of interest to WERF, including groundwater management and SI (???). Dr. Pramanik reviewed the December meeting in Tampa, mentioned the Incineration Project and also plans for a workshop on the Chesapeake Bay issues.

NACWA – Bob Dominak

Mr. Dominak provided an update on the EPA initiative to regulate incineration under Section 129 and noted that it was, again, on table. He mentioned the NACWA project dealing with PCBs from sewer cleaning and two current cases in which NACWA was taking an active interest—the Georgia biosolids case and Kern County. On questioning about WEF interest in the Kern County case, **Tim Williams** noted that the WEF Board would be informed of the level of interest and would be the decision maker on the level of participation.

AMICUS LETTER FROM WEF

Mr. **Steve Frank** moved that WEF file an Amicus Letter on the Kern County case. Mr. Woodward seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bowen's moved that WEF file an Amicus Letter on the Georgia case. Mr. Frank seconded. Chairman Brady suggested that WEF work through CASA. Mr. Eschborn so moved on the amendment, Ned Beecher seconded the amendment. The original motion passed as amended.

CARBON CREDIT EXCHANGE –Peter Brady

Chairman Brady asked for volunteers to work on the Carbon Credit project.

WORK GROUP FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR RBC – Bob Dominak and John Donovan

Mr. Dominak described the process of soliciting comments from over 100 Committee members and other stakeholders for suggestions on improving the Committee mission and focus. He referred the Committee to the results of the survey and the work of the Leadership team to assess the results and to develop a strategic plan.. Mr. Donovan listed the action items developed from the Leadership meeting:

- Rewrite mission and goals
- Evaluate subcommittee roles – now ones only if work will be done
- Information dissemination – annual RBC report is not distributed to MAs and elsewhere, so asking for a part-time external coordinator to increase communications in all directions.
- Younger members that we need are in MAs, so are seeking $30,000 for a part0time position.
- NBP – no action item because there is an advisory committee handling this.
- Younger member issue – Todd Williams surveying what is happening with MAs to improve YM participation.
- Operator outreach – Bob Bates is leading a survey to ascertain how to communicate to the North American operator community.
- Public Outreach and Communication – Rhonda Bowen working this front.

- Research – not getting good peer reviews. Bob Kelly and Bob Bates to consider an RBC role for tracking research at university level.
- Regular participation – how to go out to them.
- Brady to lead outreach to regulators' annual meeting; seeking others interested in helping.
- Seeking other organizations to reach out to.

WEBSITES – Peter Brady

Chairman Brady again referred the Committee to the two WEF committee website locations. Relevant information and meeting minutes will be available to all, with special attention to members who cannot attend the meetings.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

RBC Attendee List
Philadelphia
March/April 2008

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