

Update on OEHHA's Hazard Trait Research

Presentation to
Green Ribbon Science Panel Meeting
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Background on Clearinghouse

Toxics Information Clearinghouse established by SB 509:

- “Decentralized Web-based system for the collection, maintenance, and distribution of specific chemical hazard trait and environmental and toxicological end-point data”
- “Accessible to the public through a single Internet Web portal”
- DTSC shall “operate the clearinghouse at the least possible cost to the state”

OEHHA SB 509 Mandate

- On or before January 1, 2011, OEHHA shall:
 - “...evaluate and specify the hazard traits and environmental and toxicological end-points and any other relevant data that are to be included in the clearinghouse.”

OEHHA terminology

- The term “hazard trait” incorporates a range of data and information relevant to human health and environmental hazards and exposure potential, such as:
 - Traditional toxicological and environmental endpoints
 - Emerging and “upstream” endpoints
 - Physical chemical characteristics
 - Structural features
 - Other indicators of hazard or exposure potential

Approach to meeting mandate

- Develop prioritized, interrelated framework of hazard traits for Clearinghouse
- Include recommendations on using hazard indicators in the absence of full data

Overview of OEHHA's Activities

- Jan 29, 2009 workshop report
- Initial research on hazard trait information sources
- Ongoing consultations with outside groups
- Scientist survey
- Workshop series with UCLA and UCB, funded by UC TS RTP
- Development of hazard trait framework for Clearinghouse

Jan 29, 2009 Workshop

- Report available at:
<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/multimedia/green/gc072309.html>
- Key workshop highlights related to hazard traits:
 - Cast broad net for hazard traits and endpoints, but also prioritize them
 - Include traditional endpoints, early/upstream indicators, structural features, physical chemical characteristics, exposure traits, broad set of environmental endpoints, etc.
 - Incorporate emerging science on sensitive subpopulations
 - Seek approaches to address data gaps; evaluate “gaps”
 - Conduct case studies to assist with hazard trait research

Initial research on hazard trait sources

- Focused on traits/endpoints identified by regulatory agencies and stakeholders as being of serious concern
- California specific sources included
- Results similar to other groups (*e.g.*, UCB COEH, GoodGuide, Clean Production Action, State of Maine etc.)
- Summary of initial research provided to DTSC
- Review and update of hazard trait information sources ongoing

Ongoing consultations

- UC Berkeley and UCLA Centers for Occupational & Environmental Health
- GoodGuide and other groups with hazard trait databases (e.g., US EPA, Healthy Building Network)
- Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse – Maine, Washington
- European Commission
- Green Ribbon Science Panel – meeting in early 2010
- Other stakeholders

Survey of scientists

- Survey scientists in government, industry, and nongovernmental organizations
- Specific questions will be developed to elicit opinions on:
 - Highest priority hazard traits, toxicological/environmental endpoints and other relevant data
 - Relationships among traits, endpoints, other relevant data
 - Scientifically valid indicators of hazard
- Input used to help shape recommendations on hazard traits and use of hazard indicators

Workshop series with UCLA and UCB

- Workshop 1: March 15-16, 2010 in Sacramento
 - State of the science for toxicity testing and hazard screening methods
 - Human health hazard indicators for selected endpoints:
Cancer, developmental toxicity, endocrine disruption
 - Moving forward with human health hazard indicators
- Workshop 2: late May, 2010 in Berkeley
 - Indicators for environmental endpoints, exposure potential
- Findings will help shape recommendations on hazard traits and use of hazard indicators

Development of Hazard Trait Framework for Clearinghouse

- Goals:
 - Prioritized, interrelated framework of hazard traits for Clearinghouse
 - Include recommendations on use of hazard indicators
- Draft framework and recommendations to be based on research, UC TS RTP workshops, ongoing consultations, scientist survey and other input
- Public workshops to seek comment
- Framework and recommendations by late 2010

Contact information

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