

Consumer Products Working Group
Third Meeting Summary - April 16, 1996

Introduction

On April 16, 1996, the third meeting of the Consumer Products Working Group (CPWG) was held at the Sacramento Convention Center in Sacramento, California. There were approximately 90 participants. The following items were presented at the meeting:

1. Status Reports

Antiperspirant/Deodorant - Julie Billington, Air Resources Board (ARB)
VOC Definition - Julie Billington, ARB
Special Recognition Labeling for Aerosol Coatings - Brett Furnas, ARB
Reactivity Program - Floyd Vergara, ARB and Randy Pasek, ARB
Mid-Term Measures Subgroup - Lisa Kasper, ARB
Long-Term Measures - Sue Kaiser, ARB
Technology Assessment - Ed Wong, ARB
Test Methods - Michael Spears, ARB

2. Mid-Term Measures Workshop Presentation - Paul Milkey, ARB

Summary

- ARB staff from the Research Division was asked to give an overview of Dr. Carter's reactivity related research proposal. The following is a brief summary of the research.

A better understanding of the ozone forming potentials, or atmospheric reactivities, of different VOCs is fundamental to developing scientifically sound control strategies. Typically a VOC is considered either reactive or non-reactive, effectively treating all reactive compounds equally, regardless of their ozone forming potential. A more sophisticated control strategy based on individual compound reactivity would more accurately quantify a compound's ozone forming potential and--because improvements from emissions of less reactive VOCs would thus be recognized--more flexibility to industry. Acknowledging these benefits, the ARB committed to evaluating the reactivity of the different hydrocarbon compounds in consumer products as part of the mid-term and long-term control measures and this is the motivation for this research.

To consider reactivity in developing control measures, the ozone-forming potential must be determined for all the important VOCs from the sources that are under consideration. The ozone-forming potential is determined using environmental chamber studies where the atmospheric chemistry processes are duplicated under a controlled situation. The results of these studies are used to generate a ranking of the reactivities of the relevant VOCs. The goal of this project is to study at least 14 compounds that represent several important classes of compounds used in consumer products and that may be important

contributors to ozone formation from within the consumer products source category. Environmental chamber experiments would be performed and reactivity rankings would be assigned to these compounds.

- A question was asked about the status of ARB's review of perchloroethylene and whether ARB would be exempting the compound, since the United States Environmental Protection Agency has listed it as an exempt volatile organic compound (VOC). ARB staff explained that we expect to have a Board Hearing in November 1996 to look at the consumer product regulation, hair spray standards, and the need to modify the VOC definition to possibly exempt perchloroethylene.
- During ARB staff's report on the consumer products test methods, a member of the group asked if the upcoming round robin test results would be available to the industry. ARB staff said that yes, the test results would be made available once the data is collected and reviewed. ARB staff also noted that the results of previous tests are currently available.

The consumer products testing round robin has been organized, the participants have been identified and understand the protocol, and samples have been procured. The round robin schedule, however, has been put off until June, 1996 at the request of the consumer products lab staff. This is a result of on-going lab personnel training and certification in the analyses being performed.

Future Meetings

- The next Monitoring and Laboratory Division test method workshop will be held on June 19, 1996, followed by a Reactivity Subgroup meeting. The workshop and subgroup meeting will be held at the State Personnel Board, Room 150, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.
- The next meeting of the CPWG is tentatively scheduled for October 1996.