

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TASK FORCE ON RECYCLING
OCTOBER 17, 2006
MEETING MINUTES**

Attending Members

Renee Howell	Joel Yelverton
Kathy Avis	Russell Bennett
Ron Aldridge	Bob Lord
Butch Meredith	Vernon Hartley

Guests

Walter Ward – Community Recycling

MDEQ Staff

Mark Williams

The meeting was called to order and Mark Williams presented the agenda and briefly discussed the primary goals of the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting held on September 26, 2006 were reviewed and adopted by the Task Force with no changes proposed. Mark asked if there were any items of old business that needed to be discussed and after none were brought up, he led into the discussion of new business. Mark mentioned that the National Recycling Coalition would be meeting in Atlanta next week. Mark also informed the Task Force that ISRI is working to get the Superfund Recycling Equity Act passed. The Task Force decided that they were interested in hearing more information about this proposed act to determine if the report should include a recommendation on the matter. Mark will pursue collecting information or a possible speaker to present to the Task Force on the proposed Act.

Mark informed the Task Force that recycling surveys to be sent to local governments and state agencies were in development. Although these surveys were not directly related to the Task Force report, he asked for volunteers to help assist and advise the MDEQ on the contents and layout of the survey before it was finalized for mailing.

Joel Yelverton asked Mark if he knew how much of the MDEQ recycling grant funds for local governments had been diverted over the past few years from the local government grant programs to assist with other state budget needs. The funds that have been mainly affected were the Corrective Action Trust Fund, derived from landfill fees. Mark stated that the Corrective Action Trust Fund had fallen below the required monetary levels and some recycling funds had been lost while that fund was being replenished. It was noted in the meeting that the previous report from the Task Force in 2004 had also supported the preservation of these grant funds for local government recycling programs.

The Task Force reviewed the list of companies that had received the recycling survey. The list was marked with companies that responded by the deadline and also those whose survey was returned due to incorrect or expired addresses. The Task Force spent time going through the list and assigning different members to call many of the companies who had not responded to encourage them to complete the survey and return it by the end of October.

The Task Force then began to discuss the proposed layout of the report that is to be developed and submitted to the state Legislature. It was decided that the group needed to form workgroups to handle the different report topics. The Task Force was divided as follows:

Metals: Kathy Avis, Russell Bennett, and Phil Morris

Paper & Cardboard: Butch Meredith, Richard Harrell, Walter Ward (guest) and Nick Wilson

Plastics & Glass: Ron Aldridge, Vernon Hartley, Renee Howell, and Richard Brown
Auto/Electronics/Other – John David Burns, Barbara Dorr, Joel Yelverton and Stuart Dean

Other members would be assigned to work groups based on the dispersal of the members and on the interest of that particular Task Force member. Mark Williams of MDEQ, and Kenneth Calvin and Bob Neal of MDA will also work with all groups in a supporting manner.

The Task Force asked Bob Lord with MDA if his agency could provide a list of all recycling incentives already in place so they could be included in the report. It was decided that the next meeting would be a working meeting where the groups will begin discussing and developing the draft sections of the report. Mark Williams agreed to supply each group with a list of the surveys with the names and addresses blocked out to preserve the confidentiality of the survey participant. The Task Force scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, November 1 at 10:00 am with the site to be determined later. Mark indicated that he would check at MDEQ to determine if the Commission Room was available for meeting. If not he would notify the Task Force of the next meeting place.

After agreeing to the meeting date and time, the meeting was then adjourned.