

## Overview

On February 17, 2022, the Washington Departments of Ecology and Health hosted the first of four advisory committee meetings for the Phthalates Action Plan (AP) project.<sup>1</sup> This first meeting focused on an overview of the AP scoping process by agency staff and a facilitated discussion on phthalates in industry and manufacturing. Public comments on the scope of the AP were also taken. We will compile advisory committee and public input collected during this meeting in a separate, publicly available document and we therefore only summarize it in this document.

See below for the following information:

1. [Presentation materials](#)
2. [Presentation outline](#)
3. [Meeting attendees](#)

## Presentation materials—industry and manufacturing meeting

The [presentation slides](#)<sup>2</sup> are available on the [Phthalates Action Plan project webpage](#).<sup>3</sup>

## Presentation outline

The presentation covered the following items:

- Introductions
  - Project staff from the Departments of Ecology, Health, and Natural Resources ([see Table 1](#)) introduced themselves and described their role on the project.
  - Advisory committee members ([see Table 2](#)) introduced themselves and the organizations they represent.
- Part one: Project overview
  - In this part of the presentation, Irina Makarow reviewed the project origination and provided an overview of the process that will be followed.
  - Puget Sound Partnership Near Term Action Grant 2018-0465
    - Ecology received a grant from the Puget Sound Partnership to prepare the plan.
    - Ecology is collaborating with Department of Health to complete the plan.
    - The grant requires the project to be completed by the end of 2023.
  - Action Plan process: WAC 173-333-340
    - Ecology will use the process described in Washington Administrative Code 173-333-340 to complete the plan.

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<sup>1</sup> This project has been funded wholly or in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under assistance agreement PC-01J18101 to the Washington Department of Ecology. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/\\_1962/Documents/Phthalates/2-17-2022\\_ACMeeting\\_Presentation.pdf](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/Phthalates/2-17-2022_ACMeeting_Presentation.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://bit.ly/phthalates-AP>

- This process includes a scoping phase, forming an advisory committee, and collecting information for use in drafting an action plan. The draft action plan will be issued for public comment and then a final action plan completed.
- Action plan: Advisory committee
  - The purpose of the advisory committee is to provide input and expertise. A wide range of participants are invited, and meetings are conducted in public.
- Actions plans: A successful process
  - Action plans are not a new process for our agencies—our stakeholders have provided feedback that they appreciate the opportunity to participate and inform the development of these plans. This allows for transparency in how our agencies identify and address exposures to toxic chemicals.
  - Irina provided a reminder that these plans are advisory in nature—they do not create any new laws or statutes, rather they recommend a variety of actions to reduce chemical exposures.
- What is different with this action plan
  - This action plan process is seeking to develop recommendations early in the process because our agencies already know a lot about these chemicals.
  - We are also seeking better ways to integrate public participation throughout the planning process; we'll write a more accessible plan and expand our public outreach.
- Plan development timeline
  - Irina reviewed the overall plan development timeline: Scoping conducted in the first half of 2022, followed by drafting the plan through the end of 2022, and then publishing the plan for comment in early 2023.
- Action plan scoping
  - Near term schedule objectives include conducting the scoping meetings through March of 2022.
  - The advisory committee will review a draft of the scope in late spring, and drafting of the plan can begin in the summer, once the scope is adopted by Ecology and Health.
- Advisory committee invitees
  - Irina reviewed the organizations participating in the advisory committee.
- Questions
  - Laurie Valeriano asked whether Ecology should consider conflict of interest statements from organizations participating on the advisory committee. Ecology staff responded that this was not a consideration, and we will look into what may have been done in previous processes.

- Part two: Action plan scoping process
  - This part of the meeting focused on the scoping process and how scope input could be focused and submitted.
  - Our focus
    - Staff reiterated the focus of the plan—to develop recommendations to reduce exposures early and to pay attention to the sensitive species and populations that could be adversely affected by phthalates.
  - Action plan parameters
    - Staff identified topic areas that would be limited in the plan development process.
      - Ecology and Health will avoid the extensive collection and documentation of the properties and effects of phthalates.
      - The plan does not intend to conduct risk assessments, as other governmental and healthcare related agencies are already conducting those.
      - The plan will consider phthalates as a class, given the current definition of phthalates under existing state statutes and our interest in looking at their lifecycle in the environment.
      - The plan will not consider input that applies to current phthalate activity, as part of the Safer Products for Washington program.
  - What is the most helpful input?
    - Staff reviewed the type of input and information most helpful for the scoping process.
    - Data that can be shared with us and information that applies to conditions in Washington state is appreciated.
  - How to provide input
    - Staff reviewed the various methods of providing scoping input, including participating in meetings and submitting comments using the online form.
  - How will input be documented?
    - Staff described how oral and written scope input received will be compiled and posted on the [Phthalates Action Plan project webpage](https://bit.ly/phthalates-AP)<sup>4</sup> throughout the scoping process.
  - Meetings by topic area
    - Each of the four scheduled meetings will be focused on discussion areas, however it is understood that overlap can occur. Written comment can be submitted addressing any of the topic areas.
    - Each of the four discussion topic areas was defined with general questions. February 17: Industry and manufacturing; March 3: Phthalates in products; March 17: Waste systems; and March 24: Environment.
  - We need your feedback.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://bit.ly/phthalates-AP>

- Staff reiterated that all feedback is important, including whether we are asking the right questions, getting exposure priorities in the right order, considering the best information available, and hearing from the most informed voices on issues discussed.
  - Preparing for meetings
    - Staff reviewed how advisory committee members can prepare for meetings, including reviewing pre-meeting questions about the topics to be discussed.
  - Respecting participation and productive, fair meetings
    - Throughout this process, we want everyone to feel respected and that their opinions are being valued. These meetings are meant for active participation, to share perspectives and identify solutions. Consensus is always welcome.
  - Questions
    - Larry Dunn asked whether agency staff had reached out to California EPA regarding the work they have already conducted on phthalates. Sascha Stump responded that we had not specifically interacted with their staff but we will look at their work.
- Part three: Engagement and outreach
  - Stakeholder input and community outreach
    - Staff explained that the committee will participate early and often in the process, but we're not limiting participation to committee members.
    - Stakeholders and the public are invited to join the project during the scoping discussions, and we will continue to involve these groups throughout the process.
    - Throughout this effort, the scoping process and the plan development are paired with a public education campaign around phthalates.
    - The planning team does not have a structured discussion question around stakeholder involvement or community engagement at any of our upcoming scoping meetings, but the team is certainly open to input and suggestions.
  - Questions
    - No questions were posed at the end of this part.
- Part four: Discussion—phthalates in industry and manufacturing
  - The topic area address in the meeting was industry and manufacturing.
  - Following a framing of concerns, questions to start the discussion were posed in four areas: general questions, chemical production, product manufacturing, and incentives and disincentives.
  - Input was summarized into discussion points during the meeting and shown on screen. Find the summarized input in the [February 17, 2022 presentation slides](#).<sup>5</sup>

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- A more detailed summary of the meeting discussion will be provided in the input compilation document.
- Part five: Public input and questions
  - Public input collected during the meeting is summarized in the [February 17, 2022 presentation slides](#).<sup>6</sup>
  - A more detailed summary of the meeting discussion will be provided in the input compilation document.
- Part six: Closing
  - The next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2022, from 9 to 11 a.m. PST, will be focused on phthalates in products.
  - Links for online project resources were provided.
  - Links to references used in the topic discussion were provided.

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<sup>6</sup> [https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/\\_1962/Documents/Phthalates/2-17-2022\\_ACMeeting\\_Presentation.pdf](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/Phthalates/2-17-2022_ACMeeting_Presentation.pdf)

## Meeting attendees

### Agency project staff

**Table 1. Department of Ecology, Department of Health, and Department of Natural Resources project staff who supported the February 17 advisory committee meeting.**

Name	Organization
Autumn Falls	Department of Ecology
Elinor Fanning	Department of Health
Andy Kallus	Department of Ecology
Emily Kijowski	Department of Ecology
Amy Leang	Department of Ecology
Nate Lubliner	Department of Ecology
Irina Makarow	Department of Ecology
Callie Mathieu	Department of Ecology
Cheryl Niemi	Department of Ecology
Lenford O'Garro	Department of Health
Gary Palcisko	Department of Ecology
Amber Sergent	Department of Ecology
Erika Shaffer	Department of Natural Resources
Marissa Smith	Department of Ecology
Sascha Stump	Department of Ecology
Lauren Tamboer	Department of Ecology

### Attendees

**Table 2. Stakeholders and public representatives who attended the February 17 advisory committee meeting. The notation (AC) indicates the individual is a member of the Advisory Committee.**

Name	Organization (if provided)
David	KC/DNRP/WLRD/SWS
HZ	
David Adenuga	ExxonMobil (AC)
Nsilo Berry	Healthy Building Network (AC)
Molly Blessing	Household and Consumer Products Association (AC)
Eileen Conneely	American Chemistry Council (AC)
Dana de Leon	City of Tacoma (AC)
John Diamant	
Larry Dunn	National Tribal Toxics Council (AC)
Sarah F	
Gerald French	Department of Ecology
Bryson Finch	
Patrick Harmon	BASF (AC)
Mary Henley	City of Tacoma (AC)

Name	Organization (if provided)
Erika Kinno	
Carolyn Kupper	
Michael LaScuola	Spokane Regional Health District (AC)
Teresa McGrath	Healthy Building Network (AC)
Grant Nelson	True North Public Affairs (representing American Chemistry Council) (AC)
Cheri Peele	Clean Production Action (AC)
Erika Schreder	Toxic Free Future (AC)
Jody Snyder	Washington Refuse and Recycling Association (AC)
Lisa Race	
Melanie Schubert	
Tim Shestek	American Chemistry Council (AC)
John Stuart	Statehouse Strategy LLC
Shirlee Tan	Public Health Seattle King County (AC)
Dan Thompson	Northwest Biosolids Board Member (AC)
Steve Thompson	Northwest Biosolids Board Member (AC)
Nicole Thomsen	Snohomish County/Collaborative on Health and the Environment (AC)
Heather Trim	Zero Waste Washington (AC)
Laurie Valeriano	Toxic Free Future (AC)
Jackie White	NWPPA
Call-in participant -9507	
Call-in participant -2898	
Call-in participant -7166	
Call-in participant -8058	