AASHTO NTPEP HDPE Plastic Pipe Quarterly Conference Call Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2014

Attendees:

David Meggers (Kansas); Sam Allen (TRI); Robert Sarcinella (AASHTO); Kenny Anderson (Indiana); Katheryn Malusky (AASHTO); Joel Sprague (TRI); Doug Baker (Springfield Plastics); Russ Willacker (Microbac); Dan Currence (PPI); Ed Lucas (New York); Mario Paredes (Florida); Russell Dabbs (AASHTO)

Workplan Update:

The workplan went out for ballot. Only minor changes made. Carbon black changed from 2-5% to 2-4%. Other minor editorial changes made as well. Question asked by Sarc about when we should start enforcing the new carbon black amount. Katheryn notes that NTPEP begins enforcing the changes beginning in January of 2014. (IN) agreed. Suggested that states make sure manufacturers are aware of the change. Doug Baker indicated that all manufacturers who are involved in NTPEP already know. Dan Currence will also mention this change during their scheduled PPI call with the manufacturers who are members of PPI. New workplan is available on the NTPEP website.

Audit Update:

Audits have been started for the year. The first two audits were conducted this week in Georgia. Participation in the audit program has stayed the same from last year. NTPEP does not have any additional facilities to audit in 2014. Desktop reviews have been completed and all audits will be scheduled as they have always been (4 weeks prior to the audit being conducted). GADOT sent 10 people to a NTPEP audit for learning purposes this week. Katheryn encouraged states to attend a NTPEP audit if they take place in their states. Several states who are members of this TC have already participated in several NTPEP audits.

A question was raised about a manufacturer adding polypropylene pipe during the year (Joel Sprague). Do they need to have a NTPEP audit right away? (IN) suggests that depends on the state specification where they are trying to sell. Katheryn does not think that they will need an audit immediately unless
they are performing all the testing in house. Joel suggests we need something in writing to determine what steps need to be followed if a facility wants to add polypropylene to their current NTPEP scope.

(IN) asked if we need to see the testing done twice if the testing is the same for both HDPE and polypropylene pipe. Katheryn stated split samples would be taken for both HDPE piep and polypropylene pipe, and the traceability will be completed for both products, but the testing can be done on one product and any differences will be discussed with the technician. (IN) asked if the workplans cover this. Should we put something in the workplans or in the SP01 document? Sarc explained that this is a unique situation to HDPE and polypropylene. It is a combined audit and a combined report. This procedure will be included in the standard practice.

Information has been passed on to the auditors concerning sending the resin with the pipe samples so things do not get lost and the resin and pipe samples arrive in one package at the test lab

**Vice Chair:**

This committee needs a vice chair. Dave Meggers suggested that we solicit for a vice chair at the annual NTPEP meeting.

**Annual Meeting Agenda:**

Katheryn asked for 10-minutes to be added to the HDPE agenda at the meeting for the auditors to report on things they have witnessed when conducting on-site NTPEP audits in 2014, good, bad, or informational in nature.

The next conference call will be the week before the annual meeting (Thursday, May 15th). If a call is necessary, it can be rescheduled for an earlier date.