

AIPOLG
Agencies' and Industry Packaging Operations Liaison Group
Hosted by Environment Agency, Sheffield
3 December 2008

Industry: Peter Gaffney, Jim Devlin, Adrian Hawkes, Phil Conran, Sian Miles

SEPA: Patrick McKell

EA: Bernie Carr, Jeff Cooper, Sue Stocks, Carly Chambers, Chris Grove

Apologies: Steve Gough, Andrew Green (both sent deputies) Eugene Kelly & Daniel Mulholland NIEA

1. Introductions

2. 2008 Reporting year risks.

- Both Agencies and industry accepted that the global economic downturn would impact on UK recycling. It generally agreed that there should be sufficient evidence for all producers to meet their obligations. Aluminium and glass could pose problems if in short supply. Through NPWD the Agencies will continue monitoring progress of all towards meeting full compliance. Industry urged the Agencies to carefully monitor potential carry over or write back that may distort market. AIPLOG will hold teleconference in mid January 2009 to determine progress. EA to arrange. **S Stocks**

3. Code of Practice and risk profiling.

- Agencies are keen for industry to fully adopt a code of practice and role it out to all PCS's. First draft of the code is expected to be launched at PCS event hosted by Valpak. Draft rests with AIPLOG industry members for completion. Role out will occur once date set for event. Application to code and inclusion in PCS operational plans will not occur in time for 2009 compliance year. Agencies would expect to see code adopted by industry and in place for 2010. Finalise first draft in Dec/January for circulation to all PCS's. **AHawkes/PGaffney**

4. Technical Issues.

- Guidance and Agreed positions documents circulated to all AIPLOG members. This clears up any issues relating to pack fill and other matters. Agencies to circulate to all PCS's and individual registered businesses. JCooper stated that government may well introduce plastic bag charge and this would clarify obligations on carrier bags such as pack fill and sell, as at present there are different views on who is obligated. **C Grove**

5. NPWD Development programme including unique producer identification codes.

- New enhancements include dynamic reporting for obligations reported. This will also apply to reprocessing data in new year. PMcKell reported that producer identifier codes posed a problem with duplication and debugged version should be available in January for all PCS's to register members with unique producer numbers. Other enhancements for monitoring purposes such as variance reports, reprocessor revenue are expected to be delivered by end of March 2009. Producer codes to be issued to all PCS in January. **NPWD WIRS Team**
- Agencies reported NPWD system would be adopted to deal with Batteries. Industry representatives congratulated the development team on the timing and successful delivery of NPWD functionality – a data system that works.

6. Agency review of Data Providers /Obligation calculator.

- Review undertaken of the methodology for both systems. Both appear to be robust and Agencies will now follow up with further data analysis comparing like for like data between the two systems. This work to be undertaken by February 2009. Inform of progress. **PMcKell**
- Industry enquired if any other industry established protocols are available e. g HTA and Building suppliers protocols. Action and inform. **CGrove**

7. Compliance Scheme event hosted by Valpak.

- A Hawkes stated that this event would occur in February 2009 rather than December. It would include updates from - DEFRA on Packing Waste Strategy, ACP role and work. AIPLOG informal groups roles and the launch of code of practice. Send outline of day to C Grove. **AHawkes**

8. Progress on actions following September meeting (BCarr)

- Data cleansing of NPWD unique company number ongoing. Target completion and publication of NPWD number to all registered producers in Nov 08 in time for change to scheme systems prior to registration. Completed role out in Jan 09 **PMcKell**
- Mechanism to capture wider industry views to feed into future AIPOLG meetings. ACP event proposed late October. Event will be scheduled for February 2009. **SGough**
- Enhanced reporting functionality funded by Valpak to be launched (except for Public Register exceptions report which is still not working correctly) Completed **PMcKell**
- GB-NI Registration Issues. Did DMulholland receive comments from AIPOLG members after June meeting. Regulatory change as a result of consultation to be confirmed. Not present at meeting but NFA required. **DMulholland**
- Bonded Warehouse and clarification of 'importer'. Regulatory change as a result of consultation to be confirmed. How will it be communicated to ensure change in who should register obligation is understood (including revision to compendium?) Target communication in Nov08 in time for change prior to registration. Completed final draft was circulated to AIPLOG members
- New Action (captured above) Agencies to circulate other PC's and individual registered businesses. **C Grove**

Agreed effects would take place from 2009 obligation year.

9. DEFRA Packaging Strategy -operational implications.

- J Cooper reported that DEFRA was still considering options. It will look how packaging contributes to climate change, optimising packaging, recycling more, increasing voluntary agreements, the benefits of closed loop recycling and more transparency on PRN revenue. In addition there will be technical changes. No firm date for document but expect to be later in the first or second quarter of the year.

10. 2009 Meeting Dates.

- Final dates to be determined by Chair. March hosted by Valpak Stratford, June hosted by EA Sheffield, Industry SEPT to be arranged. DEC EA Sheffield.

11. Thanks and goodbye.

- The Group thanked both Phil Conran and Jim Devlin for their valuable contributions to the Group over the year and wished them both successes in their new roles. Replacement representatives will be sought.

12. AOB none