

AIPOLG
Agencies' and Industry Packaging Operations Liaison Group
Hosted by BPI Recycled Products, Heanor
3 September 2008

Industry: Phil Conran, Steve Gough, Andrew Green, Peter Gaffney, Jim Devlin

SEPA: Patrick McKell

NIEA: Apologies from Eugene Kelly & Daniel Mulholland

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

1. Last meeting actions (BCarr)

- Data cleansing of NPWD unique company number ongoing. Target completion and publication of NPWD number to all registered producers in Nov08 in time for change to scheme systems prior to registration. **PMcKell**
- Mechanism to capture wider industry views to feed into future AIPOLG meetings. ACP event proposed late October. **SGough**
- Enhanced reporting functionality funded by Valpak to be launched (except for Public Register exceptions report which is still not working correctly) **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. **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. **CGrove**
When would schemes (particularly those with large number of members) need revised guidance and potential impact in managing the change. **SGough**

2. Update on NPWD enhancement programme (SStocks)

- 4 phases planned
 - Phase 9.1 in September – Broadly Equivalent regulatory change & accreditation improvements
 - Phase 9.2 in October – Various enhancements including change to obligation after audit & scheme fee improvements
 - Phase 9.3 in November – Various enhancements including waste recording by overseas reprocessor & scheme template improvements. Implementation of the NPWD unique code per organisation (eg producer, scheme, reprocessor & exporter)
 - Phase 9.4 in December – Various enhancements including archiving, risk profiling & operational plan improvements
- Hope to add further identified enhancements before end of March 2009.
- Fee increase in 2008 equivalent to 1%, representing £40,000 per yr projected to fund NPWD enhancements over the next 5 years. £200,000 actually allocated to spend in 2008/09 and likely to be more. Industry representatives said this is a good news story and should be an item for the Producer Responsibility newsletter. **JCooper**

3. Update on progress of strategic review of PR IT systems and scope for industry involvement (SStocks)

- NPWD functionality is now well developed with the current enhancement programme to improve existing functionality. The development of a Batteries IT system will now be the priority followed by functionality development of WEEE IT. A scoping study to investigate the

feasibility of integrating the producer responsibility systems in line with the Environment Agency's Integrated Regulation Programme is ongoing.

- Briefing note to be circulated to AIPOLG members re:outcome of PR IT Scoping study **SStocks**

4. **Compliance Scheme Code of Practice feedback and progress** (PMcKell)

- The agencies are working with the packaging compliance schemes to develop a code of practice, which will outline how a compliant, effective compliance should be operating. Once agreed with industry, the Agencies will use the code of practice as a factor when risk profiling compliance schemes.
- Positive feedback from Compliance Schemes representing AIPOLG
- Specific feedback to be given to CGrove in a telecom **SGough**

5. **Risk profiling progress** (PMcKell)

- Finalised draft to be circulated for comment **CGrove**
- Code of Practice (CoP) score has been elevated to add weight to benefit of following the CoP
- Risk profiling criteria needs external release to drive take-up of CoP **CGrove**

6. **Data providers project update** (PMcKell)

- Dates of visits to review the two methodologies have been arranged. Both Valpak and DHL have completed pre-visit questionnaires provided by the project team and these have been reviewed and will form part of the review of the methodologies employed. It is also the intention of the project team to undertake some sample weight of packaging and compare these with weights held by Valpak and DHL. Discussion was held on the outcome of the audits and it was explained that detailed feedback would only be provided to Valpak and DHL other external stakeholders would only be informed of whether the two systems would go on to the list of acknowledged data systems. Discussion also focussed on the use of the approach to other data gathering systems/protocols and while the agencies indicated their willingness to consider this it was emphasised that this was a pilot project and not likely to be fully completed till the end of 2008 or possibly early 2009.
- Outcomes of audits need resolution in order to allow any changes in reporting obligation to be made prior to registration (target Nov08 as with other issues affecting data submissions for registration in 2009) **PMcKell/CGrove**

7. **FOI/EIR reporting on data requested update** (CChambers)

- Publication of Scheme obligations not released and reasoning shared with AIPOLG members. If Industry representatives still feel benefit of data being publically available then need to ensure all schemes feel the same. Industry to raise via AIPOLG **SGough/PConran/PGaffney**
- Publication of the requests received and outcomes hope to be published on NPWD. When? Awaiting legal determination. **CChambers**

8. **Conversion/packfill update** (PMcKell)

- Feedback from DEFRA indicates clarity not likely to come with regulatory change but should be in guidance only. Need to revisit with DEFRA **PMcKell/SGough**
- Feedback from DEFRA re: full list of proposed regulatory change. What is being considered and what is not? Share with industry representatives to establish a combined view to feedback to DEFRA. **PMcKell/CGrove**
- ACP task force to have rolling agenda item on regulatory change **SGough/PConran**

9. **Process for publishing AIPOLG meeting notes & actions** (BCarr)

- Confirmed that notes & actions will be posted in DEFRA and NPWD websites. Process for publication as follows:
 - Draft notes to be circulated between agencies (inc version control) **All**
 - Draft notes to be circulated to Industry representatives **All**

- o Final version to be published on NPWD **CChambers**
- o Link to NPWD to be published on DEFRA website to minimise risk of different versions being published **PConran**
- o Previous meeting notes already given to DEFRA to be forwarded to CChambers for version control and publication on NPWD **PConran**
- o Confirm location on NPWD **CChambers**

10. **Query on evidence note transfer process on NPWD** (PConran)

- Agreed splitting ePRNs/ePERNs not an option. All to be aware as compliance year ends that balancing of PRNs at year end between schemes across more than one agency can be managed by the allocation in the first place and procedure in place at the agencies for cancelling ePRNs/ePERNs manually.

11. **Future meetings and incorporating WEEE ops group** (BCarr)

- Next meeting scheduled for 3 December 2008 – Quadrant 2, Sheffield
- AIPOLG meeting to reduce to 1/2day meeting
- WEEE Operational Liaison Group to meet in the other half of day. (Agency representation will be the same.) WEEE and Packaging representation may not be the same and recognise that first set of WEEE Operational Liaison Group meetings may need full day.
- WEEE Advisory Body nominating representatives for WEEE Operational Liaison Group. Confirmation of attendees to be shared with AIPOLG members. **JCooper**

12. **AOB** (BCarr)

- Sectoral comparison of obligation and variance due to 'credit crunch'
Can we link to productivity data collated in Government? **JCooper**
Can we identify no of companies by material who varied obligation <>10% **CChambers**
- External Newsletter due to be published within a week. **JCooper**
- Compliance Monitoring Report for 2007 to be circulated. **CGrove**
Does it include fines per sector? **CGrove**
- Compliance Monitoring Plan for 2009 early draft to be shared with ACP in October **JCooper**

13. Tour of BPI Recycled Products