

# Atlantic RBCA Eco-Risk Task Group

## Terms of Reference

May, 2006

Revised August 2007

### **Members**

Rita Mroz, EC - Chair  
Ken Doe, EC  
Brian Drover, EC  
Melanie Haggart, NSDEL  
Dan Hemsworth, NSDEL  
Ulysses Klee, Dillon  
Peter Miasek, Esso/CPPI  
Doug Spry/Kelly Potter, EC-HQ  
Malcolm Stephenson, JWEL  
Rob Willis, Intrinsik

Associate member: Tom Parkerton, Exxon/Mobil

### **Purpose**

The Atlantic RBCA Eco-risk Task Group will update, as necessary, the ecological risk assessment screening portion of the Atlantic Risk-Based Corrective Action (RBCA) process. The current screening has been in place since 1996 and it is timely to review this process.

### **Objectives**

1. Review existing ecological screening protocol in the Atlantic RBCA Guidance document, *Reference Guidelines Tier I Checklist for Ecological Receptor Assessment in Atlantic Canada* (Appendix 1, v.2, Oct 2003).
2. Consider other existing ecological risk assessment models (eg. ASTM's Eco-RBCA, Dec 2005) and evaluate their applicability to Atlantic RBCA.
3. Based on scientifically defensible, technically valid methodologies and processes, the following tools will be developed within the eco-RCA framework:
  - a. revised/updated eco-checklist
  - b. screening criteria for soil, sediment, surface water
  - c. associated guidance
4. Such tools will be developed in a phased approach, with each of the tools being presented, in draft, to the PIRI members for review and comment prior to finalization. Timeframe for specific deliverables:

- a. Revise draft checklist – August, 2007
  - b. Revise draft eco soil contact protocol – August 2007
  - c. Revise draft surface/sediment protocol – August 2007
  - d. Finalize sediment tox testing program – Fall 2007
  - e. Pending confirmation of funding, conduct sediment toxicity testing program followed by the development of sediment screening criteria - Winter/Spring 2008
5. Draft changes to Guidance Manual and/or Appendix 1. Seek final approval of Atlantic PIRI. Such updates will be made all at one time, when all deliverables are finalized or could be made periodically, as the deliverables are completed, pending a decision within the Task Group and PIRI.
  6. Update RBCA website.

**Committee Structure and Operations:**

- The Task Group will be chaired by Environment Canada.
- Secretariat and meeting support will be provided by Environment Canada.
- The Task Group reports to Atlantic PIRI.
- The Task Group will operate via e-mail, teleconferences and meetings to achieve objectives and develop the required product(s).

Attachment: Participation in the Atlantic PIRI Task Group (RBCA website)

Accepted by Task Group Members: May 25, 2006  
Revised: August 2, 2007