Participants

Pete Greiner, chair (NSF); Julius Ballanco (J.B. Engineering); Mike Briggs (IAPMO); Nate Buzard (Viega LLC); Mark Clark (NIBCO, Inc.); Franco Di Folco (CSA); Jeff Kempic (USEPA); Andrew Kireta and Bob Weed (Copper Development Assn.); France Lemieux (Health Canada); Donald Reid (Alberta Environment & Sustainable Development); Sally Remedios (Consultant); Rick Sakaji (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Craig Selover (Consultant); and Monica Leslie (NSF)

Discussion

P. Greiner called the meeting to order. M. Leslie took attendance and read the antitrust statement. It was noted that a quorum had been reached. P. Greiner asked if there were any additions or corrections to the July meeting summary. M. Leslie noted that she needed to add Sally Remedios to the attendance list.

P. Greiner reviewed the purpose and status of the task group. The group has been charged to address concerns raised in the issue paper submitted by M. Schock at last year’s JC meeting that copper pipe requires a different approach than the simplistic one currently used under the standard based simply on pH.

As reported at the last TG meeting, a small group has met on several occasions and continued to meet trying to develop a framework to address the need. P. Greiner updated that group on the action done by this subgroup.

Key water characteristics have been pulled together based on available research, with the focus on pH and alkalinity. Also, consistent with the recommendations of this group, the issue was raised with the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) at its September meeting. B. Weed reported that discussions are still ongoing with regards to what recommendations they want to make. No definitive action has been determined yet. He noted that it appears that they are moving towards refining testing protocols to be more rigorous and increasing public education efforts with regards to lead in drinking water. For copper, B. Weed reported that much of the discussion was on the water qualities that lead to leaching. There was acknowledgement that copper is viewed differently than lead. Unlike copper, there is not a safe level of lead, and therefore a different protocol is needed. The group also agreed that there should be public education for copper but it is not the same high priority as lead.

The task group discussed that it appears that the drinking water parameters for inclusion under an annex of NSF/ANSI 61 are the same that would be needed for long-term copper monitoring for NDWAC (relative to LCR testing procedures). Age of a structure would also a factor. P. Greiner asked the group for feedback on what the next steps should be for this group. J. Kempic stated that the NDWAC meets every two months and will likely have 3 more meetings. The focus of November’s meeting will be on lead service line replacement. The subsequent meetings will likely be to draft recommendations. So with regards to timing, we are looking at sometime in summer 2015 for the final recommendations. P. Greiner
stated that this group will continue to provide feedback to NDWAC on the status of our efforts here. A. Kireta agreed and added that this group will want to make sure the water chemistry factors are in line with the LCR before we finalize anything here.

P. Greiner reported that the subgroup has also taken a first attempt at determining what the informational annex would contain. It would not be limited to copper alone, but rather it could address any material type where water quality issues are known and should be considered when selecting material types for installations, or conversely. An example of another water contact material type to add to the annex could be galvanized. P. Greiner added that there are water characteristics identified from the European states and these could also be used where appropriate.

P. Greiner stated his intent to create a draft document that this group could use to further develop into the informational annex. It was suggested, however, that this task group would not want to get ahead of the recommendations coming from the NDWAC group. There was general agreement from the group. Members also agreed that the subgroup should continue to provide public comments on water quality parameters to NDWAC. F. Lemieux agreed to bring forward anything the group may develop that would be worthwhile to them. It was suggested that the most appropriate time to bring this group’s recommendations to NDWAC would be at their meeting at the end of January/February when they are revisiting all of the issues. This would be helpful their deliberations with regards to copper. J. Kempic stated that it would be helpful to have either the LCR and SDWA criteria only, or an actual annex for NSF/ANSI 61, that would include guidance for new installations and selecting monitoring sites. This could include: screening for situations where one doesn’t need to do copper monitoring at all; situations in which there is likely to be a problem; and then a third “gray” area. F. Lemieux agreed that it would be helpful to have the annex.

P. Greiner stated that M. Schock has put together the criteria for the NDWAC working group, but that the framework for the annex still needs to be completed. P. Greiner stated that he will do that with input from F. Lemieux and M. Schock and then circulate it the entire group for review.

The group agreed that they would not have time to meet again before the JC meeting at the beginning of December. It was suggested that a Doodle poll be sent out and that a teleconference be scheduled for the weeks of December 8th -17th.

**Action Items**

1. M. Leslie will send out a Doodle Poll and schedule a meeting to take place between December 8-17th.

2. P. Greiner will draft a framework for the informational annex for the group to review at the next meeting.