

Vermont Pesticide Advisory Council
Monday April 23, 2007
Meeting Minutes

The Vermont Pesticide Advisory Council meeting was held on April 23, 2007 at the Agency of Transportation at National Life, 4th Floor Conference Room #1.

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 p.m.

The following council members were present: Barbara Burnes for Scott Pfister, Sid Bosworth, Doug Burnham, Jim Leland, Lorraine Burkett, and Andy Shively.

Council members not present were Eric Palmer and Razelle Hoffman-Contois.

Non members who were present: Sylvia Knight representing Charlotte Conservation Commission, Jeffrey Disorda and Bill Conn representing VELCO, Bertram Stewart, Stephen Shaw and Terry Redfield representing CVPS, John Cookson representing National Grid, Jeff Taylor, Harry Williston and Bill Clough representing VCS,

1. Announcements:
None.

2. Public comment

Sylvia Knight raised concerns about glyphosate degradates breaking down into phosphorus and contributing to Lake Champlain water quality issues.

3. Electric Utility Rights of Way herbicide permits applications

- a. CVPS – Transmission – Burt Stewart presented the CVPS Transmission permit application. He explained the permit is similar to years past, with the additional request of a new Garlon 4 formulation, and with the exemption of being able to treat on some state lands, this is due to license agreements that get renegotiated every 10 years. CVPS is also attempting to control pioneer communities of invasive species in their rights of way, mostly honeysuckle.

Jim Leland moves the application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval Sid Bosworth Seconds. The motion carries 6,0,0.

- b. CVPS – Distribution – Steve Shaw presented the CVPS-Distribution permit application. Jarod Wilcox is the new herbicide manager. They request a later start date because it is too wet. Tree trimming crews, would also like to use Garlon 4 Ultra. When asked about using dyes in their stump cutting applications Steve responded that dyes – not necessary for effectiveness but

does cause homeowner questions. Compliance could be done without dye. 2006 Rates were .2 gal. for acre Garlon 4 .18 gal. Krenite per acre. CVPS will continue to educate of contractors with regard to wetlands. Fresh stumps and older cuts from winter will be treated this spring. Invasive species are everywhere, CVPS will control if pioneer species – honey suckle and phragmites. Phragmites fires are of concern. Annual West Rutland swamp burning.

Lorraine Burkett motioned to recommend approval of the permit. Jim Leland seconded the motion, which was carried 6-0-0.

- c. VELCO – Jeff Disorda presented the VELCO permit. The area they wish to treat is Barre – Essex → Islands Georgia. The newly acquired Citizens system will need more treatment to bring it up to VELCO standards.

The VELCO Northeast reliability project line needs treatment there is 9' growth 1 year old clearing. VELCO wants to treat about 1750 acres of 100'-200' ROW. They will be treating the new line, May 14th using low volume wands and Thinvert or water as a carrier. They would prefer to flag instead of dye for cut stump treatments near water.

Lorraine Burkett motioned to recommend approval of the permit. Sid Bosworth seconded the motion. There was no mention of PSB. The motion carried 6-0-0.

- d. National Grid – The permit for National Grid was presented by John Cookson.

New England Power – assets managed by National Grid. 265 acres to be treated this year. IVM – Mechanical and herbicide. Accord and Arsenal 3% / 1/8% are the preferred herbicides. Well mapping was acquired from VT DEC. They have run their advertising and also 90% about will receive hand notification.

Jim Leland made the motion to recommend approval of the permit. Sid Bosworth seconded the motion, which was carried 6-0-0.

- 4. VTRANS Right of Way herbicide permit application – Craig Dusablon presented the VTRANS permit. Craig said they were in the process of updating their management plan to minimize use. This year they are proposing no use on guard rails along the Interstate system. They will concentrate on brush control. They are also proposing a glyphosate only application for guard rail along secondary roads no Oust or Escort will be used and would like to maintain a 10' buffer because the products they will use have been approved for use in water. Accord – labeled for use in water. They would also like buffer exclusion – for poison ivy and parsnip with in 2' of water.

Discussion topics included;
Control of invasive species on roadways
ANR – BMP's in riparian zones.
Follow through on RR heater
Demo plots mechanical / M&C
Delineate wetlands
Special accommodations form, AG organic farms requests
Curbing would not be treated but Jersey Barriers would
Brush treatments on Interstate State System

Jim Leland made the motion to recommend the approval of the permit which 10' parallel Accord only and the crossing buffer remain 30'.
The motion was seconded and carried 4-0-2.

5. Other business; Schedule 2007 Meeting Dates

Discussion about S.78 Homeowner Pesticide Use – Municipal Regulation. Buffers – Pre-notification. Policy issues

35 golf courses are striving to renew

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May, 14, 2007 at 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.