

TASC CAG REVIEW

HUDSON RIVER PCBs SUPERFUND SITE

KIRBY WEBSTER, SKEO

WHAT IS TASC?

- Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)
- A U.S. Environmental Protection Agencyfunded program
- Provides independent, non-advocacy technical services, under contract with Skeo



CAG REVIEW OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate the CAG's functioning and effectiveness
- Ensure appropriate representation
- Summarize perspectives
- Provide recommendations



PROCESS

- Conducted research
- Reached out via email or phone
- Asked questions, listened and took notes
- Prepared report
- Shared draft report with those who participated



WHAT WAS LEARNED

- Widespread appreciation for the functions of the CAG
- Suggested areas of improvement centered on four main topics
 - Purpose
 - Membership
 - Meeting Organization and Content
 - Outreach and Communication Materials



RECOMMENDATIONS

PURPOSE

- Revisit purpose and goals
- Identify opportunities for CAG input to cleanup decisions

MEMBERSHIP

 Evaluate and reestablish CAG membership, requirements and responsibilities and CAG operating procedures



RECOMMENDATIONS

MEETING ORGANIZATION AND CONTENT

- Continue inviting people to join Administrative Team
- Split CAG meetings into two parts
- Consider focus groups
- Track CAG comments
- Include details in meeting summaries
- Produce brief overview of meeting
- Ensure meeting materials reach all

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION MATERIALS

- Produce site infographic
- Produce site newsletter or fact sheet



QUESTIONS



CONTACT INFORMATION

Kirby Webster Skeo Technical Assistance Provider (434) 975-6700 ext. 281 kwebster@skeo.com







Hudson Community Advisory Group

Consensus Building Institute

July 21, 2016

CAG Member and Alternate Expectations

┿

- Attend all regularly scheduled meetings, and if the member is unable to attend, communicate views through another member or the facilitators.
- Participate in educational briefings on the past and present of the site, as needed, to ensure a shared knowledge of key issues, technologies, and the Superfund process.
- Arrive at each meeting prepared to discuss the issues on the agenda. Preparation includes reviewing meeting summaries and materials prior to each meeting.



CAG Member and Alternate Expectations

┿

- Help formulate the Group's meeting agendas and work plans.
- Represent the views of her/his constituents (i.e. organizations, businesses, or neighborhoods) as well as his/her own individual views.
- **Provide information to the public and to constituents** to ensure that the larger public is kept informed of the CAG's efforts.
- Strive throughout the process to engage in respectful, constructive dialogue with other members of the group, bridge gaps in understanding, and seek creative resolution of differences.





Percentage of Meetings in which the Interest Group was Represented March '14 to May '16 (10 total meetings)

Potential Categories of Groups Identified in the Assessment Report (From page 6, not the complete list)

- Homeowners
- Businesses

+

- EJ communities
- Schools and environmental educators
- Tourism groups
- Planning and zoning boards
- Floodplain users
- Towns and counties
- Landowners
- Farming community and agriculture groups

- Land trusts, conservation and preservation groups
- State and Local Parks
- Chambers of Commerce
- Economic Development Committees
- Farm Bureaus
- Soil and water conservation districts
- Younger community members

























