

Pest Management Advisory Council : History and Overview

Presentation to the
Pest Management Advisory Council

June 2005

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History

- Established in 1998 as per Government Proposal for the Pest Management Regulatory System (purple book)
- Early focus of Council was on the legislative proposal for the new Pest Control Products Act



Impact of PMAC on Legislative Reform

- A number of changes were made to the proposal as a result of PMAC input
- PMAC support for the legislative reform and strong recommendations to introduce the new legislation into Parliament played an important role in facilitating its introduction



Recent PMAC Focus

- Continued focus on regulatory initiatives under the PCPA
- Policy and Program Advice



Terms of Reference - Purpose

- The Pest Management Advisory Council is:
 - a multi-stakeholder group that fosters communication and dialogue among stakeholders and with PMRA
 - provides advice directly to the Minister of Health on policies and issues relating to the federal pest management regulatory system
 - decision making remains the responsibility of the PMRA



Terms of Reference - Mandate

- To provide recommendations on broad strategic directions, management, and overall priorities for the PMRA;
- To provide a challenge function to ensure that PMRA programs are consistent with the needs of Canadians within the overall national and global environmental, social, and economic context;



Terms of Reference Mandate (cont.)

- To provide advice and a forum for the exchange of views of all key stakeholders on issues affecting the management of pest control products in Canada;
- To receive and review reports from Council working groups.



Terms of Reference - Membership

- Balanced representation of interests in pest management issues, including:
 - Pesticide manufacturers
 - Users
 - Environmental and health groups
 - Individuals with appropriate expertise



Terms of Reference – Membership (cont.)

- Approximately 25 members
- Balance of gender, regional and linguistic backgrounds
- Minister of Health appoints members, the Chair and a Vice-chair to act in the absence of the Chair
- Council members representing associations may nominate one permanent alternate
- Secretariat functions provided by PMRA



Reporting

- Advice to Minister will be provided through a written report from Council
- Secretariat to draft the report for review by Council members and will then finalize after comments are incorporated
- Chair provides the report to the Minister
- Report published on PMRA website

Operations

- At least two meetings per year
- Secretariat to set meeting dates accommodating as many as possible, in particular those not able to name alternates
- All members have equal status
- PMRA staff, other than the Executive Director, may not serve as members of the Council, but will respond to questions and provide information



Operations (cont.)

- Observers are welcome if their attendance is indicated in advance
- Interested persons may submit written comments before/after the meetings, or if time permits may make a short statement at a specified time on the agenda
- Documentation is not provided to observers
- Closed sessions will be indicated on the agenda
- The Council may establish Working Groups

Tenure

- Chair will be appointed for two years, the Minister may extend the term
- Members will be appointed for two year terms, the Minister may reappoint sitting members



Security and Conduct

- Security Clearance not required
- Any confidential information provided to Council members must be kept secure, and not disclosed until such time that it is made public
- Executive Director, PMRA, must consent to disclosure of any unreleased information
- Any confidential information provided to Council must be returned

Security and Conduct (cont.)

- Council members must agree to maintain confidentiality
- Council members may discuss any information provided in advance of meeting that is not identified as confidential

Conflict of Interest

- Council members must avoid conflict of interest
 - This includes advice intended to benefit an interest of the member that is inconsistent with the interests of the body which the member represents
 - This includes using knowledge or information acquired as a member for the purpose of gaining direct/indirect financial benefit or business advantage, or to advise special interest groups, before such knowledge or information is acted on by the PMRA or is made public
 - Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form



Terms of Reference - Compensation

- Compensation for travel and living expenses according to Treasury Board Guidelines
- Honoraria will not be paid

Meeting Summary / Recommendations to the Minister

- Meeting report will summarize major areas of discussion
- Discussion on any major area of recommendation occurs after each agenda item and a draft summary of these recommendations is presented prior to adjournment