NEWMOA CONF CALL - DATE: 6/9/2009 SUBJECT: NANOTECHNOLOGY

Note for space I used the following abbreviations: nt- Nanotechnology, nm- Nanomaterial

The majority of the meeting consisted of a review of the powerpoint presentation by Sharon Weber, Senior Technical Advisor, Commissioner's Office, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on their Nanotechnology work that the emerging contaminants workgroup is studying.

After the presentation, the following issues were brought up in a question and answer session:

CT- has it been determined if nm subject to TSCA laws? - Only if they are truly a new substance, but with clays, already in use so just change in size does not trigger TSCA regulation.

ME-none

NH- Would be interested in size 27 meeting. - Slides 28-29 were questions put to group. Sharon will forward when this is finalized.

NJ- no

NY- no

RI- no

VT- no

Region I- What are current practices to dispose of waste? -Some folks try to trace their waste, such as UMASS/Amherst. Despite best efforts could not precisely trace where their waste went, so chose to dispose of as haz waste. Their quantity is very small. MADEP is unable to track it.

CT- If it is treated as a haz waste why can't they track it?- It was consolidated with other substances, so it was difficult to track. What about recycling?- Very little waste to recycle.

What kind of regs do you have for NT?

CT- none governor is trying to promote nt.

ME- none, beginning process of trying to understand this.

NH- have point person for nt. He is away, focusing on state and transportation.

NJ- have web page about nt but it is all about economics. Very good report about impacts of nt but nothing about health and safety.

NY- Have interagency nt worgroup, formed after Nov 2007. Primary concern is lack of health and safety data. SNUY Albany have a center for nt and engineering. May formalize some kind of center for green nt. Also exploring partnership w/ pollution prevention institute.

RI- Brown Univ has interesting project involving nt, esp iron impurities in carbon fiber and possible Trojan horse effects to bring impurities into the cell. Brown is looking into whether carbon fibers can have some of these removed in production to reduce possible risk. No regulation of these materials at this point.

VT- none, very early in this process.

Future Actions?

CT- should we have NEWMOA workgroup?

NEWMOA may bring this up at the next board meeting if there is a need for priorities on this issue.