Minutes of the
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Hypoxia Advisory Panel
Subgroup #3 (Scientific Basis for Goals and Management Options)
Public Meeting
October 6, 2006

Committee Members: Dr. Cathy Kling
Dr. Bill Crumpton
Dr. Richard Lowrance
Dr. Clifford Snyder
Dr. Andrew Sharples
Dr. James Opaluch
Dr. Tom Simpson

Date and Time: October 6, 2006

Purpose: To discuss advisory work related to the scientific basis for goals and management options with respect to controlling hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico.

SAB Staff: Dr. Holly Stallworth, Designated Federal Officer
Dr. Thomas Armitage
Dr. Anthony Maciorowski

Other EPA Staff: Ken Teague

Other: Wayne Anderson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Thomas Purcell, American Petroleum Institute
Dean Lemke, Upper Mississippi River Sub-basin Hypoxia Nutrient Committee
Jim Baker
David Wangsness, United States Geological Survey

Meeting Summary

The discussion followed the issues and general timing as presented in the meeting agenda. Dr. Stallworth convened the meeting and explained the Hypoxia Advisory Panel (HAP) will operate under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Dr. Kling reviewed the purpose of the teleconference as well as the agenda.

Members discussed and generally agreed that they’d approach their respective topic areas in the manner suggested in a prior e-mail:
1) identifying the science in the 2000 Integrated Assessment that they do not accept;
2) reviewing the relevant literature to identify new information since 2000;
3) identifying the strengths and limitations in scientific understanding of the issue and gaps in knowledge; and
4) identifying scientific questions to answer over the next five years.

With these questions in mind, Subgroup 3 members agreed to take their particular topics (e.g. cropping systems, bioenergy, precision agriculture) and look at its treatment in the Topic #5 (found at http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/products/pubs_hypox.html#Topic5) reports as well as the general literature that has been produced since the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (CENR) reports issued in 2000. Members agreed to submit a draft of their portions to the Designated Federal Officer by mid-November, 2006.

Dr. Snyder reported to the group some of his findings on precision technologies, emphasizing his conclusion that more environmental assessments are needed from precision studies in terms of runoff and water quality data. As an action item, Dr. Snyder also said he’d download a database (on the effectiveness of various practices) onto a CD and mail it to me for sharing with the other HAP members.

Dr. Opaluch summarized his recent findings on the effects of hypoxia on living resources. It was generally agreed that Subgroup 1 might be involved in this topic as well. Dr. Opaluch will look at downstream effects of hypoxia while Dr. Kling will look at upstream issues, including co-benefits.

Drs. Giles Randall, Dan Jaynes and Otto Doehring were suggested by members as possible presenters for the upcoming Hypoxia Advisory panel meeting scheduled for December 6 – 8, 2006. Dr. Kling agreed to continue that conversation via e-mail so that the subgroup will have names to submit to the Science Advisory Board Staff Office by October 20, 2006.

On Behalf of the Panel,
Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Stallworth, Ph.D.
Designated Federal Officer

Certified as True:

Cathy Kling, Ph.D.
Chair, Hypoxia Advisory Panel