

Ontario Ministry of the Environment
Toxics Reduction Strategy
Stakeholder Workshops

Workbook

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Date/City: _____

September 2008



CONSULTATION WORKBOOK

1 BACKGROUND

Toxic chemical substances in our air, land, water and consumer products can be a risk to our health and to the natural environment. Toxics have become increasingly common and we can be exposed to them through various aspects of our lives.

The Ministry of the Environment is proposing a comprehensive **Toxics Reduction Strategy** that is intended to address the amount of toxic substances used by facilities as inputs in processes and/or produced as products, by-products or waste.

As a first step, the government is looking for views and opinions from a cross section of stakeholders that have an interest in the details of the draft discussion paper, *Creating Ontario's Toxics Reduction Strategy*. The consultation workshops will help determine what the final Toxics Reduction Strategy could look like.

The workshops are designed to:

- Obtain input from industry, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties.
- Elicit views on the draft discussion paper introduced by the Ministry of the Environment entitled *Creating Ontario's Toxics Reduction Strategy* by focussing on three areas:
 - **Scope and Timing**, including proposals relating to:
 - Lists of substances
 - Thresholds
 - Scope of the sectors included
 - Phased approach.
 - **Facilities Requirements**, including
 - Benefits and challenges of undertaking materials accounting and toxics reduction planning
 - Benefits and challenges associating with reporting to the government and the public
 - Types and levels of costs associated with these activities
 - How the government could assist with compliance
 - Possible training and certification of toxics reduction planners.
 - **Toxics Reduction Programming**, including:
 - What action the Government of Ontario should take to provide Ontarians with information to make informed decisions related to toxic substances
 - Functions and types of external parties that could support the implementation of the strategy
 - Key activities to support the development of safer alternatives through green chemistry.

3. Are there substances that should be added or deleted from the schedules?

Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure _____

Why? Why not? .

4. Are the thresholds appropriate?

Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure _____

Why? Why not? (See page 20 of the discussion paper)

6. Is the phased approach and related timing appropriate?

Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure _____

Why? Why not? (Consult pages 19 and 20 in the Discussion Paper)

Table 1 – Proposed Phasing

Phase	Toxics	Requirements
Phase 1 ○ Materials ○ Accounting 2010 ○ Reporting 2011 ○ Planning 2012	○ ~45 Priority NPRI ○ Toxics (schedule 1)	○ Materials Accounting ○ Toxics Reduction Planning ○ Reporting
	○ ~20 Priority non-NPRI Toxics (schedule 3)	○ Reporting
Phase 2 ○ Subject to consultation ○ Potentially two to four years after Phase 1	○ ~275 NPRI Toxics (schedule 2)	○ Materials Accounting ○ Toxics Reduction Planning ○ Reporting
	○ ~135 non-NPRI Toxics (schedule 4)	○ Voluntary reductions ○ Ministry to review schedule 4 to determine, based on science, whether any toxics should be moved to other schedules so reduction actions can be taken

Breakout Session 2—Facilities Requirements

1. What are the actual or potential benefits and challenges of undertaking materials accounting and toxics reduction planning?

Undertaking Materials Accounting	
Benefits	Challenges

Undertaking Toxics Reduction Planning	
Benefits	Challenges

2. What are the benefits and challenges associated with reporting to the government and the public of materials accounting information, toxics reduction plans and progress in implementing the plans?

Reporting to Government	
Benefits	Challenges

3. What types and levels of costs are associated, or would be associated, with materials accounting and toxics reduction planning these activities for your organization, if any?

Materials Accounting		
Activity	Type of Cost	Level of Cost

Toxics Reduction Planning		
Activity	Type of Cost	Level of Cost

- 4. What forms of assistance (technical, financial and other) should the government consider providing to support compliance with the proposed new requirements as well as the development and implementation of toxics reduction plans?

Forms of Assistance

5. a) Should the Government of Ontario offer training and certification for individuals as toxics reduction planners?

Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure _____

Why? Why not?

b) Should the government require toxics reduction plans to be certified by accredited toxics reduction planners?

Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure _____

Why? Why not?

Break-out Session 3: Toxics Reduction Programming

1. What action should the Government of Ontario take to provide Ontarians with the information that they need to make informed decisions related to toxic substances?

Lined area for writing an answer to the question.

2. If the Government of Ontario were to turn to one or more external parties to support the implementation of the Toxics Reduction Strategy, what should be the functions of the external party or parties? Why? What type of organization would be best suited to provide such support?

3. What should the government consider doing to further support pollution prevention solutions, through green chemistry, for example?
