

Progress Report
Reduction of Mercury Releases from the Arctic Countries
ACAP Working Group Meeting, Helsinki 18-19 September 2008

Members: Canada (not appointed yet), Denmark (Mikala Klint), Finland (Magnus Nyström), Norway (Bente Sleire), Russia (Andrey Pechkurov, Oxana Tsittser), Sweden (John Munthe), United States (Stan Durkee, Marilyn Engle), NEFCO (Husamuddin Admadzai).

Project chair: Denmark (Mikala Klint) with consultancy support from Cowi

The project includes three phases:

Phase I: *Assessment and prioritization*

Phase II: *Site specific prioritization and selection of demonstration project.*

Phase III: *Implementation of demonstration project.*

(1) Work accomplished:

Phase III: Implementation of a demonstration project

Part of the preparation for phase III is a Feasibility Study for the proposed demonstration project on Mercury containing waste (MCW) in the NW regions of the Russian Federation.

The aim of the project is to assess the current system (collection-storage-transport-treatment) for management and handling of MCW within the NW Region of Russia in order to identify possible gaps; to provide an overview of the actual situation regarding PCBs and Obsolete Pesticides within the Region; to screen and propose specific components for a Demonstration Project, which will lead to establishing of an updated system for management and handling of MCW in the Region, replicable for implementation within other regions in Russia; and finally to prepare Terms of References, Technical Specifications and a financing plan for the Demonstration Project;

Based on the estimated amounts of MCW estimated for each region in NW Russia a draft Baseline Report has been prepared presenting the different scenarios for the set up of the multi complex of collection, storage, transportation and handling.

On 20 February 2008 a successful workshop was hosted by Rostekhnadzor in Moscow gathering all the stakeholders in this project including Federal and subordinated bodies to Rostekhnadzor and administrations (territorial), Russian managers as well as European managers. At the workshop the draft Baseline Report including a Workshop Discussion paper were presented by Cowi and discussed at the workshop.

A resolution has as an outcome of the SGM been prepared (attached) and a mission report has been prepared by the Rostekhnadzor authorised institute Ecobezopasnost.

The Danish consultant has since spring been awaiting the comments to the draft Baseline report from regional and from Federal Rostekhnadzor. The interest and needs given by the beneficiary is necessary in order for COWI to finalize the baseline and prepare the draft feasibility study. Therefore no further progress has been obtained since March.

(2) Timeline to completion:

If Rostekhnadzor will forward their comments to the draft baseline report (centralized contra regional treatment facilities) in September the draft feasibility study (including logistic and technical solutions and Terms of References for the investment project) can be prepared in November and discussed and agreed by the ACAP mercury project members in December.

(3) Total Funding:

The budget for the feasibility study is the following: 1,199,778 DKK (162,132 €) and financed as follows:

Finland:	30,000 €	(222,000 DKK)
Norway:	175,000 N kr	(157,500 DKK)
NEFCO:	35,000 €	(259,000 DKK)
Denmark:	88,848 €	(561,278 DKK)
Total		1,299,778 DKK

Russia: costs of seminar & coordination (in-kind)

Estimated funding: The budget has been spent until date. Additional funding is required. NEFCO has indicated interest in further financial support (300.000 DKK)

(4) Issues, problems, and/or opportunities encountered and/or anticipated:

The beneficiary needs to express its interest in the project continuation. Response on consultancy work is neither given by the regions nor by Federal Rostekhnadzor.

(8) Next meeting

The next mercury steering group meeting was proposed to take place in September 2008 but the meeting is delayed until the draft feasibility study is ready based on the response from Rostekhnadzor. Norway has offered to host the meeting.

Other demonstration projects:**Coal-Fired Power Plant Mercury Control Project(USA & Sweden).**

The proposed project shall demonstrate the effectiveness of two types of sorbents in reducing mercury emissions at coal-fired power plants using electrostatic precipitators. The project shall test how well these sorbents perform with coals used in Russia and will complement earlier studies in the U.S. and Canada which have used coals with different characteristics. The project will also test the leaching potential of the associated waste residues expected to be disposed of in a landfill. The information developed may be useful not only for Russia and Arctic countries but also for countries whose emissions impact the Arctic, e.g., China and India. The proposal is being developed in cooperation with the All-Russian Thermal Engineering Institute (VTI) in Moscow and the testing is proposed to be conducted at the Cherepetskaya Power Plant outside Moscow. It is anticipated that the source of funding for the project will be the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) in Moscow.

Status: The status will be reported later

Proposed Multi-pollutant Control Project at a Russian Zinc Smelter (USA & NEFCO). The proposed project would reduce mercury and other air emissions (including Particulate Matter (PM), sulphur oxides (SOx), and nitrogen oxides (NOx)) and releases to land and water at one Russian zinc smelter, thereby providing an effective demonstration to stimulate control at other Russian zinc smelters.

Status: The status of this proposal will be reported later

The status on Chlor-alkali partnership with Russian Federation (USA, Canada & Norway) is reported separately.