***Draft* NSC Technical Subcommittee Call Minutes – February 16, 2016**

**Zoom meeting (graphical interactive presentation):** <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/7854529456>

Tech-Subcommittee: <https://nationalsbeap.org/sbeap/resources/subcommittees/technical>

**Participation [by regions]:**

1: Sara Johnson - NH

2: Harry Ching - NY

3: Jeremy Hancher & Nancy Herb – PA

4: Jim Grassiano – AL; Melissa Collier – MS; Jessica Dalton – FL; Mary Talukder – GA; Phyllis Copeland – SC and Tony Pendola - NC

5: Mike Nelson – MN; Christine Grossman – MI; Erin Conley - IL; Richard Carleski & Todd Nein - OH; Lisa Ashenbrenner, Jennifer Hamill & Renee Bashel - WI; and Mark Stoddard - IN

6: Melissa McKibben & Dianne Wilkins – OK; Patty Avery – TX and Sandy Spon - NM

7: Barb Goode & Larey Sadiq – KS

**Approval of January minutes:** approved as is.

**Ohio EPA’s Permit Wizard**

[**http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/opa**](http://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/opa)

Synopsis of presentation by Rick Carleski, Ohio SBEAP Manager

**What is the history?** Ohio EPA launched its first Permit Wizard in 2006 as an online tool to help business determine what permits they needed. However, it relied too heavily on the user having some prior knowledge of Ohio EPA permitting programs to get to the relevant questions and the results were not as comprehensive as desired. IT was a Java script program and we had to depend on our IT department for even simple updates, such as fixing broken web links.

**What changed?** Last year, Ohio EPA upgraded its Oracle service to include Oracle Policy Automation (OPA) capability. Rick worked with an IT contractor to redesign the Permit Wizard using OPA software and some of the material from the original Wizard.

**What was the objective?** Provide the user a progressive “Turbo Tax” like series of questions that were basic and free from regulatory citations and acronyms and without requiring a substantial amount of time for data input.

**What is the output?** The output is a screen summary showing positive permit results, links to more information, and local contact info. The Wizard’s underlying logic of the determination, based on the user’s responses, can be viewed in expandable, accordion format. A downloadable PDF file of results is provided. However, results are lost upon exiting the tool since users are not forced to establish an account to store this data. Ohio EPA wanted to users to remain anonymous to alleviate fear of discovery.

**What were and are the challenges:** Keeping the instructions for use and answers brief and simple, i.e., jargon-free, while offering options to enter as much or as little information to obtain simple or more involved answers. Ohio EPA permitting staff wanted to include more detailed and nuanced information, but this would usually require too many questions and would test the user’s patience. Development of a comprehensive, “all needed permits” tool required much compromise among the many permitting programs within Ohio EPA.

**What are some positive attributes:** The permit wizard is easy to maintain and update without involving IT staff. Some of the questions and result combinations can serve as educational tutorials (i.e. identifying what is typically hazardous waste), even to internal Ohio EPA staff.

Rick invites you to view his recorded webinar of the Permit Wizard demo, available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19M_oAtafzY&index=6&list=PLG-i5NyfnYhFlCj9tqIpntLXSf2Ix_BjJ>

**Contact Rick with any feedback you have on the tool** [**Richard.Carleski@epa.ohio.gov**](mailto:Richard.Carleski@epa.ohio.gov)**.**

**Potential Future Topics**

* EPA’s Next Generation Compliance
* Ozone NAAQS
* Clean Power Plan
* Climate change / GHG
* Promoting/conducting confidential compliance assistance visits
* Conducting more effective compliance assessments
* Other ideas?

**Next Call:**

March 15, 2016

2-3pm EST (3rd Tuesday of month)

Minutes prepared by Lisa Ashenbrenner Hunt – WI ([lisa.ashenbrennerhunt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:lisa.ashenbrennerhunt@wisconsin.gov)) and Mark Stoddard – IN ([MSTODDAR@idem.IN.gov](mailto:MSTODDAR@idem.IN.gov)), Technical Subcommittee Co-Chairs.