

PETROLEUM ENFORCEMENT LIAISON GROUP

MINUTES OF 23rd PELG MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2003

Mr P Thomas (Chair)	South East (SELCOG)
Mr Stewart McEwen	HSE - CFPD
Mr Peter Roberts	HSE - CFPD
Mrs Paula Stam	HSE – CFPD (Observer)
Mr John Hazeldean	HSE - HID
Mr Roger Marris	North East
Mr Steve Quick	LGAEH
Mr David Scott	North West
Ms Alison Edwards	LACORS
Mr Graham Milne	UKPIA
Mr Rory Hennessy	AUKOI & BRC
Mr Andy Berry	London
Mr Rob Tunnicliff	Midlands
Mr Michael Webber	South West
Mr Ian Hillier	Scotland/TSI
Mr Ted Beckley	CoSLA

Welcome, introduction and apologies

- 1 Phil Thomas (Chair) welcomed members to the 23rd PELG meeting.
- 2 Apologies were received from: Huw Morgan, Phil Monger, David Pumford, John Worth, and Gareth Broughton. Graham Milne was substituting for Chris Hunt.

Notes of the 22nd PELG meeting

- 3 Corrections to the notes: Ted Beckley attended the meeting, but Roger Marris did not. Ian Hillier's entry should have included his status as representing TSI.

Action notes

- 4 The following action notes were carried forward from the previous meeting:
 - a. Priority planning – the planned revision of LAC 67/1 (rev 2) by the HELA Technical Subcommittee will not now take place for another two years. The priority-planning scheme will now be dependent on the introduction of the Corporate Operational Intelligence project (COIN), possibly in 2005/06. This item can therefore be discharged.

Item discharged

- b. Liaison with EA/SEPA – members agreed that liaison arrangements were already working satisfactorily and thus there was no need to write a letter to EA or SEPA.

Item discharged

- c. Competence of petroleum officers – Alison Edwards and Stewart McEwen will progress this subject. One important point is to clarify if HSWA Section 18 guidance applies to officers employed by county councils and fire authorities.

Action: HSE & LACORS

- d. Data collection on petroleum enforcement – this subject will now form part of Phase 2 of HSE's Modernising Petrol Legislation project and can therefore be discharged.

Item discharged

- e. Interpretation questions relating to DSEAR – a PETEL has been issued covering HSE's Operational Circular on this topic.

Item discharged

- f. LACORS revision of licence conditions – another draft is being prepared and should be available by late October. The final document should be published in late November.

Action: LACORS

- g. Update on DSEAR – the 'general' ACOP and the 4 technical ACOPs had been approved by HSC and the Minister. The expected publication date is w/c 3 November. This item can be discharged.

Item discharged

- h. Petroleum LACS – four PETELS have been issued since the last meeting but have not yet appeared on the website. HSE agreed to pursue this issue urgently.

Action: HSE

- i. LAPS agreements – dealt with under report back from PELG Tech Subcommittee – see below.

- j. LPG nozzles and cold burns – some regional representatives reported a fairly large number of incidents. HSE will take this matter forward, both considering HSWA Section 6 issues and whether it is a DSEAR or COSHH subject.

Action: HSE

- k. PETEL – *Dispensing Control Measures* – the PETEL has been issued.

Item discharged

Main agenda

CCTV on petrol stations

5 Some members raised concerns that the recently issued PETEL on dispensing control measures could be interpreted as meaning that CCTV should not be used for supervisory purposes at staffed sites. After an extended discussion, members agreed that this interpretation was possible, but should not cause problems if the issues were addressed in a common-sense manner. CCTV could, on occasion, be used as a supervisory tool, but should not be 'designed-in' to a new or rebuilt site if better solutions were possible.

6 Members agreed that if industry had problems with the interpretation of the guidance by a particular PLA, then perhaps the first port of call for clarification of guidance should be the PELG Regional Chair, or PELG itself.

Disposal of contaminated fuel

7 One member had experienced a large number of misfuellings in their region and wondered if there were any recognised systems for disposal of contaminated fuel. Members suggested a number of solutions – most vehicles would either be rescued by AA, RAC etc, or otherwise taken to motor vehicle repair workshops, which would have their own disposal facilities. Contaminated fuel in small containers could be poured down an interceptor – the separator would then need to be emptied.

Communication difficulties with forecourt staff

8 One member raised a possible safety problem relating to staff with poor language skills being employed at filling stations – eg, would they have difficulty in dealing with customers who had spilled petrol on their clothing or other safety issues, and would they be able to contact the emergency services when this was necessary? Other members agreed that poor language skills could be a problem.

9 HSE is making internal enquiries about possible conflicts with equal opportunities legislation and members will be informed of the outcome in due course. However, the bottom line is that filling station staff should be competent.

Action: HSE

Report back from PELG Technical sub-committee

10 Notes of the meeting held on 30 September had been distributed to members before the meeting. Three issues were raised:

- The draft PETEL on vapour retention devices etc has been distributed to installers etc for comment. Members were asked to comment by 31 October if they thought further consultation was necessary.

Action: Members

- The latest draft PETEL on fuel retrievers and airfield bowsers was acceptable to members. HSE will distribute it to regional representatives in the near future.

Action: HSE

- Further examples of LAPS are London with both Shell and Total, and Lancashire with Fairbanks. HSE will now draft a PETEL on this topic and distribute it to members for final comments.

Action: HSE

Any other business

11 Members pointed out that the HSE FOD OC circular on enforcement demarcation for DSEAR contained a small mistake – if generators were refuelled from mechanical or electrical dispensers, then this would be a PLA area of enforcement (generators are powered by internal combustion engines). HSE noted the point – the author of the guidance will be informed.

Action: HSE

12 Members were aware that Moira Buchan was currently absent from work due to sickness. It was agreed that the committee should send a card expressing our condolences and wishing her a speedy recovery.

Dates of future meetings

13 The dates for the next three meetings were agreed as:

- 22 January 2004
- 20 May 2004
- 23 September 2004