

PETROLEUM ENFORCEMENT LIAISON GROUP

ACTION NOTES OF 25th PELG MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25 MAY 2004

Phil Thomas (Chair)	South East
Stewart McEwen	HSE - CFPD
Peter Roberts	HSE - CFPD
John Hazeldean	HSE - HID
Ted Beckley	COSLA
Alison Edwards	LACORS
Rob Tunnicliff	Midlands
Steve Quick	LGA
Phil Monger	PRA

Welcome, introduction and apologies

- 1 Phil Thomas (Chair) welcomed members to the 25th PELG meeting.
- 2 Apologies were received from: Roger Marris, Huw Morgan, Rory Hennessy, Chris Hunt, David Pumford, John Worth, Gareth Broughton, Michael Webber and Harry Eggar. Alison Edwards mentioned that Steve Grey would now represent the Welsh authorities. Harry Eggar has replaced David Scott as the North West representative.

Notes of the 24th PELG meeting

- 3 There was one comment about the meeting notes - the PRA training package for unloading tankers is available to non-members of PRA and is also suitable for the training of tanker drivers.

Action notes

- 4 The following action notes were carried forward from the previous meeting:

- a. Competence of petroleum officers – Alison Edwards and Stewart McEwen need to progress this subject. Stewart and Alison will contact each other in due course.

Action: HSE & LACORS

- b. LPG nozzles and cold burns – HSE will take this matter forward. In the meantime, it was agreed that PLA members would arrange for authorities with first-hand knowledge of these problems to forward the information to HSE.

Action: HSE & PLA Members

- c. Communication difficulties with forecourt staff – Stewart had written to members on 23 April, enclosing some guidance on situations where workers are non-English speaking or have a limited knowledge of English. It was agreed this item could now be discharged.

Item discharged

- d. Draft PETEL on vapour retention devices etc – it is now on the website.

Item discharged

- e. Draft PETEL on LAPS – HSE has written to Lancashire about the Lancashire CC / Fairbanks entry, but are now awaiting further information from the Local Authority Unit. HSE will finalise the draft and arrange distribution.

Action: HSE

- f. Guidance for site operators – see main agenda item.

- g. Autogas recent incidents – see main agenda item.

- h. Autogas – dispensing into cylinders – see main agenda item.

Item discharged from this section

- i. Review of PETEL 65/51 – the working party has not yet met. John Hazeldean will update members in due course.

Action: John Hazeldean

- j. Vapour hoses – problems with valves – John and Roger had attended a meeting with the Energy Institute's Road Tanker and Service Station Panels (see PELG Technical Subcommittee notes for the meeting held on 6 May for further details).

Action: John Hazeldean & Roger Marris

- k. Any other business – interpretation of Regulation 7(4) of DSEAR – the West Yorkshire guidance document now contains an entry on this topic.

Item discharged

- l. Any other business – PETEL 65/39 – video on thermite reactions. HSE have answered the enquiry.

Item discharged

Main Agenda

Guidance for site operators

4 The draft guidance document for site operators had been distributed to PELG and Petroleum Working Group members. Many comments of an editorial or typographic nature have since been incorporated into the draft.

- 5 However, one industry representative had raised three substantial issues:
- Use of the 'EX' sign – after some discussion, members agreed that the 'EX' sign (required by DSEAR to give warning of a possible explosive atmosphere) would not be of any real safety benefit in dispensing areas. However, it could be used to warn contractors etc of the zones where they would need to take care.
 - Anti-static clothing and footwear – members agreed that site operators would not normally need to provide anti-static clothing but there would be occasions when anti-static footwear might be necessary eg, clearing up substantial spills.
 - Mobile phone usage – members agreed that the line developed in PETEL 65/51 should be maintained, ie, the public except when they were actually dispensing petrol could use mobile phones. It was pointed out that if a site operator wanted to go further and prohibit mobile phone usage anywhere on the site, then they could do so.

6 Roger Marris will update the draft. It was agreed that HSE would then consider “endorsement” for the document, checking whether it should be on behalf of PELG.

Action: Roger Marris and HSE

Draft PETELs – Surrey and Esso LAPS

7 Members agreed that the Surrey / Esso LAPS was in order and could be issued as a PETEL. However, members thought guidance on Esso's wetstock management system was not a suitable topic for a PETEL – there was a danger that if PELG endorsed the Esso system, then some people in the industry might think there were faults in other wetstock reconciliation methods. HSE will arrange for the publication of the Surrey / Esso PETEL and will explain to Surrey why the other document is not suitable.

Action: HSE

Autogas – dispensing into cylinders

8 Penny Taylor has contacted some European colleagues concerning filling cylinders at Autogas facilities – there does not appear to be any consistent trans-Europe policy. It would appear that GB usage is minimal, but further enquiries will be undertaken.

Action: HSE

Autogas – draft PETEL

9 The draft PETEL has been sent out for comment. It is likely that additional material will be included in the next draft and that it may need to be circulated again. Members will be kept informed of developments.

Action: Autogas working group

Report back from PELG Technical sub-committee

10 All of the significant issues discussed at the last PELG Tech meeting have been raised as other items on the agenda.

HSE Website – PELG page

11 Stewart McEwen had prepared a draft page for HSE's website detailing PELG activities. Members were asked to comment on the draft – comments have been noted and the information will appear on the website in the near future.

Any other business

12 Alison Edwards requested that some thought should be given to how PLAs can report incidents to a central point so that local / regional / national trends can be identified. It will also be useful in enabling PLAs to provide comparative information for their own organisations. HSE agreed to investigate the situation and report back to the next meeting.

Action: HSE

Dates of future meetings

13 The date for the next meeting has already been agreed - 23 September 2004.

14 It was agreed that the next PELG meeting should take place on 27 January 2005, this was based on the next PELG Tech meeting taking place on 6 January 2005.