

Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
August 20, 2002

At its first meeting the Waste Tire End User Reimbursement Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) endorsed the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) draft legislative proposal to raise the tire tax by 50¢ per tire (to \$1.00 per tire) for a three year period, with all the additional funds dedicated to tire pile clean ups. They also concluded that the most efficient way to achieve the clean ups was by raising the tire End User Reimbursement rate from a maximum of \$50 per ton to a maximum of \$100 per ton for certified piles.

The committee agreed that most of the remaining 339 tire piles (containing almost 5 million tires) could be cleaned up at the higher rate (up to a maximum of \$100 per ton) but acknowledged that several of the most serious piles would have to be bidded out, as the \$100 maximum per ton would not be sufficient. Of concern was the time lag; any tax increase would not become effective until July 1, 2003 at the earliest, with actual additional funds for pile cleanups not being available until late 2003.

The committee also endorsed all the other provisions of DEQ's legislative proposal on waste tire management including: tire fire liability, tire storage limits, DEQ's right to entry and clean up tire piles of any property owner who violates clean up orders and provisions for liens to recover those costs.

The committee was asked to speak to the workings of the Waste Tire Management Program, specifically the current reimbursement rates, the eligible/ineligible uses of waste tire material, the EUR application procedures, the existing EUR payment policy, and the use of WTCs to authenticate Virginia-generated waste tires. Other than increasing the EUR for tire pile tires as indicated previously, the committee stated for the record that Virginia's program was successful and that it should not be changed.