

## **FEDERAL FACILITIES FORUM TELECONFERENCE**

**August 11, 2005**

### **CO-CHAIR SELECTION**

The Forum recently elected Mike Overbay (Region 6) to replace outgoing Co-Chair Jim Kiefer (Region 8), effective this month.

### **PLANS FOR UPCOMING TSP MEETING**

The Fall 2005 TSP meeting, which will highlight optimization strategies, will be held in San Antonio, TX, during the week of October 24. It was suggested that Thomas Krug of GeoSyntec be requested to present information on in-situ enhanced bioremediation, a topic he effectively addressed at a recent federal gathering. Members are requested to submit additional suggestions on potential topics and speakers to the co-chairs. The Forum plans to hold its business sessions on the afternoons of Monday and Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **FORUM PARTICIPATION IN NARPM 2006 CONFERENCE**

The Forum discussed potential expert panels and training sessions to be held during the NARPM 2006 annual meeting. Members suggested:

- Sebastian Tindall (Bechtel Hanford, Inc.), contractor for DOE, may provide a short course on managing uncertainty and systematic planning.
- Mike Carter (FFRRO) may help organize a panel discussion on performance-based contracting, which is an issue now addressed by a new Headquarters workgroup.
- Jim Woolford (FFRRO) may provide an update on BRAC '06 and describe the Agency's efforts to address the various problems posed by BRAC sites, and in particular, early transfers.
- The topic of wetlands restoration may be addressed through a field trip or case study in conjunction with local brownfields redevelopment.

Any additional suggestions should be forwarded to the co-chairs for discussion with NARPM representatives.

### **DOD USE OF NON-STANDARD EXPLOSIVES METHODS**

Overbay described recent DOD proposals to use non-standard methods for explosives detection at the McAllister Army Ammunition Plant, OK, and Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant, TN. DOD used the Army's Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine (CHPPM) analytical method rather than EPA Method 8330. Finding that the approach was used for both sample collection and internal laboratory analysis without offsite lab verification, Region 6 rejected the proposals.

In contrast to Method 8330, CHPPM does not demonstrate a documented performance history or include extensive quality assurance procedures. The Forum agreed that the regions should decline DOD proposals to use CHPPM and should recommend use of the standard Method 8330. If greater sensitivity is needed, regions could suggest EPA Method 8095, with an awareness that the method may result in a degree of inconsistency.

### **OPEN MIC.**

Members discussed potential reasons for significantly reduced state participation in the Forum's monthly teleconference and other activities. The co-chairs will raise the issue during the next TSP co-chair teleconference.

The Forum discussed the current status of the BRAC Commission's list of DOD facilities to be realigned or closed under BRAC '05 and the potential outcomes of related discussions underway in Congress. Woolford and other Agency management staff testified during several Congressional hearings this summer on the cleanup problems posed at the candidate sites as well as DOD's overall progress at past

BRAC sites. Any changes to the pending list must receive Congressional and Presidential approval by November 7, 2005.

A member posed the question of how regions are handling problems posed by the demolition of buildings containing explosives/residue. Though in practice the issue may be addressed similar to PCB or asbestos contamination, the associated regulatory authority (such as RCRA Subpart X) and Headquarters' recommendations or guidelines are unclear. Ken Shuster (OSW) will be contacted for clarification.

Members discussed the revised draft OB/OD guidance, which ORD/Cincinnati will release in final form in September 2005. Recognizing that the guidance extensively addresses analytical methods and treatment options, the Forum may request that any future revision of the guidance include more information on air emissions, various OB/OD units, and detonation issues.

Regional and headquarters staff are exchanging information on the issue of underwater ordnance detection and treatment. Recent attention was called to the issue when DOD proposed that waste containing underwater ordnance be managed at offsite processing facilities, many of which are located in outlying states. Receiving states are requesting, however, that ordnance be addressed before the waste is transported. Federal and state agency management will meet during late September in an effort to resolve the dispute.

#### ATTENDEES

Christine Williams, Region 1  
Steve Hirsh, Region 3  
Michelle Price-Fay, Region 3  
Felicia Barnett, Region 4 HSTL  
Mike Overbay, Region 6  
Chris Villarreal, Region 6  
Scott Marquess, Region 7  
Harry Craig, Region 10  
Sandra Novotny, EMS, Inc.

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