

OSRTI Recommendations to Supplement Superfund/ORD Technical Support

Technical Support Project Meeting
San Diego
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Background

- ORD management indicates that ORD focus is on research themes with national significance (i.e., overall emphasis is not on site-specific support)
- OSRTI perceives that ORD is not likely to increase support for the Technical Support Centers (TSCs)
 - e.g., OSRTI is providing funding to operate EPIC and NERL/LV is managing EPIC in FY 2009; OSRTI/ORD discussion is under way for future funding and management of EPIC
 - e.g., NCEA/STSC is trying to streamline process for providing provisional peer review toxicity values (PPRTVs) because it is unable to meet 6 month turnaround time
- Prospects for OSRTI to increase funding to support the TSCs is not certain
 - In FY 2008 ORD and OSRTI each provided approximately 50% funding to operate TSC projects as requested by the Regions

Options For Pilot Project

- OSRTI recommends initiating a one-year pilot program to supplement efforts of the existing TSCs, with all pilot support to be completed in 2009. The goal is to access additional ORD researchers if they are available.
- ORD provides expertise on a voluntary short-term basis to Superfund program where Superfund does not have in-house expertise readily available, but ORD provides no additional funding
- Option 1: All pilot requests to ORD are screened through a bulletin board managed by the Regional Superfund and Technology Liaisons (STLs)
- Option 2: the bulletin board can be located in the ORD Environmental Science Connector and managed by ORD/OSP
- Option 3: other approach??

Options for Pilot Project (Concluded)

- Regions can post requests on the bulletin board, ORD researchers outside of TSCs can respond if they have the expertise, interests and time
- Regions can agree to use site-specific account for pilot support, if warranted
- Short-term pilot support could mean no longer than certain negotiated period (e.g., 30 days)

Initial Collaboration Outside of TSCs

- OSRTI is developing and improving contaminated sediment analysis technologies with NERL/LV and NRMRL/Cincinnati
- ORD/OSP and NERL/LV are supporting statistical review for the OSRTI draft surface soil cleanup strategies guidance
- OSRTI and ORD/NERL to discuss additional support of OSWER vapor intrusion modeling effort

Next Steps

- Forum members can continue the discussion at your own session
- STLs and OSP will help finalize the pilot proposal
- ORD/OSP and STLs may have additional options to manage the bulletin board
- STLs and Forums will promote the use of bulletin board, and provide project evaluation to ORD
- STLs will help provide ORD researchers with more suitable site access to conduct basic research

Next Steps (Concluded)

- Suggested discussion topics at each Forum session may include:
 - does the existing role of the STLs meet the Regional needs, or does any additional STL role need to be provided?
 - the roles of managing a bulletin board by the STLs, Forums, ORD and OSRTI vs. using the existing STL role in the Regions
 - the preferred topics and format to be posted
- OSRTI will present the TSP meeting feedback to ORD on February 4