

## ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

August 6, 2003

### TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

#### **TECHNICAL TOPICS**

- *One Cleanup Program*

#### **ISSUE PAPER UPDATES/ONGOING PROJECTS**

- *Soil Vapor Extraction Off-Gas Treatment Technologies Draft Document*
- *In-Situ Soil Treatment*
- *Engineering Expertise in Superfund Letter*

#### **PLANNING FOR FALL 2003 TSP MEETING**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- *Corps/EPA Superfund Remediation Conference*
  - *RPM Request for Value Engineering Resources*
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### TECHNICAL TOPICS

#### **One Cleanup Program**

Ellen Rubin (OSTRI) asked for comments on two prototype web sites being developed for the One Cleanup Program Initiative. One website has a contaminant focus, and the other has a technology focus. She explained that the websites will enable the general public to look up either chemicals or technologies that are present or being utilized at nearby sites. They also contain a wealth of URL links to documents and guidances that would be useful to EF members. Members are encouraged to review these websites, both of which can be found at <http://www.techinsite.org>. Comments should be e-mailed to Ellen at [rubin.ellen@epa.gov](mailto:rubin.ellen@epa.gov).

### ISSUE PAPER UPDATES/ONGOING PROJECTS

#### ***Soil Vapor Extraction Off-Gas Treatment Technologies Draft Document***

Kelly Madalinski (OSRTI) noted that the draft *Soil Vapor Extraction Off-Gas Treatment Technologies* was originally produced in 2000 and examined alternatives to oxidizing and carbon absorption units. It also provided a comparison of the alternatives based on performance and cost. The document is being revised, and a draft should be available for review in the fall. In addition to review, Kelly is looking to add any new technologies that may have been recently implemented in the Regions. For example, Harry Ball in Region 9 has just finished a project that used resin adsorption with microwave regeneration. Mike Gill (Region 9 HSTL) added that there was some concern in Region 9 that thermal oxidation was inefficient and might result in intermedia transfer as well as dioxin/furan production. This document is an effort to present all the alternatives for off-gas treatment in one place.

#### ***In-Situ Soil Treatment***

Dave Reisman (NRMRL-Cinc.) said that NRMRL should have a draft of the in-situ soil treatment paper ready for review sometime in September. He asked the Forum to consider whether they want to retain asbestos and radionuclides in the document as they have not identified an appropriate in situ treatment technology for either. He will have a preview table of the technologies ready in the next week or two and will distribute it for review. There are five other issue papers that are nearing the first draft stage. Dave has informed the authors that the EF would like the opportunity to review them.

### ***Engineering Expertise***

Mike Gill (Region 9 HSTL) reported that he and Karen Mason-Smith (Region 5) have developed a draft letter but there is still work to be done such as polling the Regions individually. To date only RPMs in Region 5 have been polled. The co-chairs have reviewed an email sent to them by Mike and agree that the Forum should support the effort but that it should concentrate on the CERCLA side of the program. It was agreed that they would develop a standard questionnaire for all the Regions and have one Forum member per Region be responsible for gathering the information from their RPMs. The basic information to be gathered concerns the RPM's technical background, degree, area of expertise, and whether they are PEs. Mike will look at Bernie Schorle's material and finalize a questionnaire. Julie Santiago volunteered to be a liaison to NARPM and distribute the questionnaire through them.

### **PLANNING FOR FALL 2003 TSP MEETING**

The Ground Water Forum (GWF) has chosen Niagara Falls for the fall 2003 TSP meeting, which will be held during the week of October 19, 2003. This will be a regular, full-scale meeting lasting four days and five nights. The EF has the option of participating in joint sessions with the GWF, or setting up their own technical sessions. The focus will be on characterization and remediation of contaminants in fractured bedrock. A field trip is planned for Monday. On Tuesday there will be an all-day technical session on fractured bedrock that will be led by Dr. Bernie Kueper (University of Toronto).

The consensus of the EF was to have Sunday and Friday as travel days with no activities planned for Friday. They decided that they would not plan separate sessions from those planned by the GWF. There was also some interest voiced in participating in the voluntary geology/fossil field trip on Friday.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### ***USACE/EPA Superfund Remediation Conference***

John Smith (OSRTI) is concerned with remedy design and construction issues and said his branch is currently working on uploading electronic versions of pertinent documents to the EPA web site. John believes that more attention needs to be paid to design and construction management issues, since the agency has about \$300 million in Superfund-led construction currently underway. The yearly conference on Superfund remediation sponsored by USACE will be held December 9-11 in San Antonio this year. The emphasis will be on design and construction management. John urged EF members to consider attending the conference because there is a need for more Regional representation at the conference, as well as participation from outside agencies and states. He asked EF members to send him possible topics for the conference and sites that might serve as good case studies. John can be reached at 703-603-8802 or via e-mail at [smith.johnj@epa.gov](mailto:smith.johnj@epa.gov).

#### ***RPM Request for Value Engineering Resources***

Neil Thompson (Region 10) thanked the EF for assisting an RPM with a sediment contamination problem. He now needs a concrete or grout expert to help a RCRA RPM to develop specifications for materials to seal leaking tanks (inside or out) at the Hanford Site (mixed waste). Anyone who can provide the expertise, or information on where to get it, should contact Dave Bartus at 206-553-2804 or [bartus.dave@epa.gov](mailto:bartus.dave@epa.gov) or Neil Thompson at [thompson.neil@epa.gov](mailto:thompson.neil@epa.gov).

### **ATTENDEES**

Ray Cody, Region 1

Sharon Hayes, Region 1

Mark Granger, Region 2

Frank Vavra, Region 3

Jon Bornholm, Region 4

Leo Romanowski, Region 4

Julie Santiago, Region 4

Tony Holoska, Region 5

Bernie Schorle, Region 5

Gene Keepper, Region 6

Carlos Sanchez, Region 6

Steve Kinser, Region 7

Fran Costanzi, Region 8

Bill Rothenmeyer, Region 8

Mike Gill, Region 9 HSTL  
Neil Thompson, Region 10  
Kelly Madalinski, OSRTI  
Ellen Rubin, OSRTI  
John Smith, OSRTI  
Marta Richards, NRMRL-Cinc.  
Gareth Pearson, NERL-LV

Dave Jaros, USACE-Omaha  
Ed Mead, USACE-Omaha  
Jeff Catanzarita, ERT-Edison  
Jim Harrington, NYSDEC  
Leca Buchan, EMS, Inc.