

**ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES
May 5, 2004**

TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

TECHNICAL TOPIC

PLANNING FOR SPRING 2004 TSP MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

FALL TSP MEETING PLANNING

EF/NARPM RPM EXPERTISE QUESTIONNAIRE

SCREENING DATA COLLECTION PAPER

CO-CHAIR ELECTION

Technical Topic

The Franklin Slag Pile is a Superfund Site in an industrial and residential neighborhood of Philadelphia. The slag was the byproduct of a secondary copper smelter located adjacent to the site. From 1950 to 1990, the slag was sold for sandblasting and roof shingles. The site still contains an estimated 68,000 cubic yards of slag, with lead, copper, and zinc being the primary contaminants of concern. Lead concentrations exceed the RCRA Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) test. During an emergency removal action, the slag pile was covered with a 60-mil high density polyethylene (HDPE) cover. The site is currently in the RI/FS stage, and Region 3 is evaluating the following remedial alternatives:

1. No action;
2. Operation and maintenance of the existing cover at \$200,000;
3. Removal and off-site disposal at \$30 million;
4. RCRA cap at \$5 million; and
5. On-site treatment and off-site, non-hazardous waste disposal at \$17 million.

ORD is conducting a study on treating the slag and disposing of it in a lagoon, so depending on their results, there may be a 6th alternative. The ROD is due at the end of FY04. Site RPM Kris Matzko (Region 3) asked EF members if they know of sites with similar issues, and if so, what cleanup options were explored and selected at those sites. Kris also wanted to know if there is a relatively inexpensive treatment or possible reuse of slag that is being overlooked. She noted that the site is located on a small parcel of land in an industrial area, so its property value may not be high. If the site were reused, the slag would need to be removed. Kris also noted that the state is concerned about long-term O&M costs.

Neil Thompson (Region 10) suggested that Kris contact Region 10 RPMs Kevin Rochlin (206-553-2106) and Sheila Eckman (206-553-0455) to find out what cleanup methods they employed at the ASARO Smelter and the Bunker Hill Smelter, respectively. Both sites have extensive slag tailing issues. Bernie Schorle (Region 5) recommended that Kris contact Robert Smith in Region 5 to discuss his work at the Chemetco site, which has similar slag pile issues that are being addressed under a consent decree. Tony Holoska (Region 5) will send Kris information on the Circle Smelting site in Southern Illinois that also had

lead and copper contamination from a slag heap that was addressed using chemical stabilization and a cover. Steve Kinser said that Mark Doolan (Region 7) has had some success mixing biosolid sludge with slag to reduce contaminant levels at a site in southern Missouri. Sharon Hayes will forward to Kris an email from Ed Mead (USACE) providing slag-related information.

Planning for the Spring 2004 TSP/NARPM Meeting

All EF members planning to attend the spring TSP meeting in Miami must register with EMS as soon as possible. The co-chairs reminded participants that they cannot claim per diem reimbursement for any free meals. As a reminder, the EF business sessions will be held from 3:30-5:30 PM on Monday, May 24, and from 1:30-5:30 PM on Tuesday, May 25.

Newsletter

OSRTI has sent 5 CD-ROMs containing the fractured bedrock sessions from the Fall 2003 TSP meeting in Niagara Falls, complete with video introductions by Dick Willey (Region 1 GWF) and Herb Buxton (USGS), to each Region. The CDs were sent to Ground Water Forum representatives.

Fall TSP Meeting Planning

The Federal Facilities Forum has the lead for planning the Fall 2004 TSP meeting. They currently are considering Sacramento for the meeting location, and perchlorate issues as the meeting focus.

EF/NARPM RPM Expertise Questionnaire

The EF/NARPM RPM Expertise Questionnaire subgroup (Sharon Hayes, Karen Mason-Smith (Region 5), Bernie Schorle, and Bill Rothenmeyer (Region 8)) participated on a conference call to discuss the status of the survey. Sharon has not received all Regional spreadsheets yet. Region 1 summarized their response data and submitted it to the subgroup for comment. Once this format has been approved, the subgroup will distribute the write up to all Regional representatives. The survey will be discussed in greater detail in Miami.

Kelly Madalinski (OSRTI) noted that the expertise survey was mentioned several times in William Muno's (Region 5) *Regional Superfund Workforce Analysis* report. In addition, a 120-day study examining the Superfund Program's costs and benefits was recently completed and is available on the Superfund homepage (<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/>), along with a National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) Superfund subcommittee report. Bernie would like to include a blurb about the survey in the new issue of the NARPM newsletter.

Screening Data Collection Paper

Ed Mead would like to include mention of his screening data collection paper in the NARPM newsletter. Sharon Hayes will respond to Ed's email request.

Co-Chair Election

Bill Rothenmeyer's term as co-chair ends at the spring meeting. Bernie Schorle and Steve Kinser were nominated to assume his co-chair position. Each Region must send its 2 votes to Keith Arnold (EMS) by Tuesday, May 18, 2004. The winner will be announced at the spring meeting.

ATTENDEES

Ray Cody, Region 1

Sharon Hayes, Region 1

Kris Matzko, Region 3

Andrew Palestini, Region 3

Frank Vavra, Region 3

John Bornholm, Region 4

Leo Romanowski, Region 4

Julie Santiago-Ocasio, Region 4

Tony Holoska, Region 5
Bernie Schorle, Region 5
Gene Keepper, Region 6
Steve Kinser, Region 7
Bill Rothenmeyer, Region 8
Harry Ball, Region 9
Mike Gill, Region 9 HSTL

Neil Thompson, Region 10
Kelly Madalinski, OSRTI
Martha Otto, OSRTI
Gareth Pearson, NERL-Las Vegas
Keith Arnold, EMS, Inc.