

ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

October 5, 2005

TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

FALL 2005 TSP MEETING IN SAN ANTONIO, TX

SPRING 2006 NARPM MEETING

FALL 2006 TSP MEETING

RPM EXPERTISE SURVEY UPDATE

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE

COST ESTIMATING SOFTWARE

Fall 2005 TSP Meeting in San Antonio, TX

The Fall TSP meeting will take place October 24-27, 2005, in San Antonio, TX. Sharon Hayes (Region 1) distributed the final agenda for the meeting prior to the call. EF members indicated that they were pleased with the schedule and had no comments on the agenda. EF members will give updates on issue papers during the Monday afternoon business session. EF members who are not attending the meeting and who are responsible for current issue papers or other EF products should send a progress report to one of their regional colleagues or a forum co-chair by October 19. Because they will not be attending the meeting, Frank Vavra (Region 3) and Ray Cody (Region 1) will send Harry Ball (Region 9) an update on the vapor intrusion issue paper.

Kathy Yager (TIFSD) asked Sharon to distribute an abstract to all individuals who will participate in the long-term monitoring optimization training. Sharon will send the abstract to EMS, Inc., who will forward it to registered participants.

Spring 2006 NARPM Meeting

The NARPM co-chairs have asked the EF to forward one or two "hot" topics that may be adapted into a half- or full-day training session or panel presentation at the spring NARPM meeting. EF members will discuss potential topics in greater detail at the fall meeting and will forward the topics to NARPM before the October 31 deadline. Frank Vavra suggested that RPMs involved in the Hurricane Katrina cleanup discuss damage assessment and their response efforts. He also proposed a session on USACE's beach restoration efforts. Bernie Schorle (Region 5) noted that NARPM is interested in hosting several 1-hour sessions devoted to individual remedial technologies. In addition to providing a basic overview of these technologies, the sessions would focus on lessons learned. PRBs and sheet pile walls were mentioned as possible technology topics.

Harry Ball suggested that a session be devoted to the technological aspects of technical impracticability (TI) waivers. Harry will contact Ken Lovelace (OSRTI), the Headquarters lead for TI waivers, and Jim Cummings (TIFSD) to discuss the feasibility and appropriateness of such a session at the NARPM meeting. Harry is not sure that he can draft an abstract by the October 31 deadline, so Sharon Hayes will check with the NARPM co-chairs to see if the deadline is flexible. Sharon also will check with Dick Willey (Region 1 GWF) to see if the GWF may be interested in the topic of TI waivers.

Fall 2006 TSP Meeting

The GWF is planning the fall 2006 TSP meeting. Dates, potential topics, and locations have not been determined.

RPM Expertise Survey Update

Sharon reported that Rich Steimle (TIFSD) has arranged for contractor support to finalize the RPM Expertise Survey for publication. The report should be ready for distribution by the end of the calendar year. At the fall meeting, EF members will discuss logistics for finalizing and distributing the report.

Design and Construction Conference

Kelly Madalinski (TIFSD) will forward information about an upcoming conference on design and construction issues at hazardous waste sites to Keith Arnold (EMS) for distribution to the EF. The conference will take place in Philadelphia in April 2006.

Cost Estimating Software

Mike Gill (Region 9 HSTL) asked EF members if they knew of any cost estimating software other than RACER. Bill Rothenmeyer (Region 8) said that RCRA project managers often use a program called CostPro, which was developed by Region 4 and is available to all EPA employees free of charge. Ed Mead noted that USACE has their own cost estimating software program called MCACES.

ATTENDEES

Sharon Hayes, Region 1
Andy Palestini, Region 3
Hilary Thornton, Region 3
Frank Vavra, Region 3
Bernie Schorle, Region 5
Steve Kinser, Region 7
Bill Rothenmeyer, Region 8
Harry Ball, Region 9
Mike Gill, Region 9 HSTL

Neil Thompson, Region 10
Kelly Madalinski, TIFSD
Gareth Pearson, ESD-Las Vegas
Marta Richards, NRMRL-Cincinnati
Lindsey Lien, USACE
Ed Mead, USACE
Keith Arnold, EMS, Inc.

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