

ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

January 11, 2006

TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

SPRING 2006 NARPM CONFERENCE

ISSUE PAPERS UPDATE

RPM ENGINEERING EXPERTISE SURVEY UPDATE

INCREASING EF PARTICIPATION/MEMBERSHIP

NEW BUSINESS

Spring 2006 NARPM Conference

The NARPM co-chairs met with Headquarters staff the week of January 16th to finalize details regarding the upcoming spring conference in New Orleans. A finalized agenda will be distributed shortly. The two proposed EF session topics that were forwarded to NARPM were: 1) repeating the course, Engineering Design Considerations for Mitigation of Vapor Intrusion; and 2) providing 1-hour overview and lessons-learned sessions on different remediation technologies, including sheet pile walls, permeable reactive barriers/zones (PRBs/PRZs), in-well strippers, and electrical resistance heating (ERH) to treat DNAPL.

Steve Kinser (Region 7) will lead the discussion on in-well strippers, drawing upon his experiences with an on-going optimization project in Region 7. Bill Rothenmeyer (Region 8) worked on a site in Region 8 that utilized sheet pile walls, so he volunteered to spearhead the planning of that session. Bill will contact Ed Bates (NRMRL-Cinc.), who also has worked with sheet pile walls at a copper site in Region 8. Dave Reisman (NRMRL-Cinc.) recommended that Bill contact Dave Carson (NRMRL-Cinc.), as Dave's Waste and Containment group has worked with sheet pile walls in the past. Gene Keepper (Region 6) noted that there is a Chevron site in Region 6 that used sheet pile walls as part of the remedy. Bill will contact Gene for more information about that site. Dave said the most recent issue of Tech Trends included an article on the use of PRBs/PRZs at a site in Helena, MT. Richard Wilkin (ERC-Ada) worked on the project, and Linda Jacobson (Region 8) is the RPM. Bernie Schorle (Region 5) will contact Rich and Linda to see if they can help plan a session on this topic.

Bernie spoke with Rob Pope (Region 4, NARPM Co-Chair) regarding possible presentations on the federal, state, and local responses to Hurricane Katrina. Rob said there were few hurricane-related presentations planned at the moment, but if the EF is interested in developing ideas for hurricane-related items, they should do so. Gene Keepper will email Emergency Response Team (ERT) employees who worked at the EPA command center in Region 6 following Hurricane Katrina to see if they might be willing to participate in a session on communications during emergency response actions. Bernie suggested that Gene contact Jon Gulch (Region 5) and John Gilbert (ERT-Cinc.), both of whom are familiar with EPA's newer communications systems. Other proposed topics included post-hurricane solid waste disposal issues, Superfund site integrity following the storm event, and use of air curtains.

Issue Papers Update

The in-situ chemical oxidation paper has been distributed for review, and comments are due to Hilary Thornton (Region 3) by January 17. Comments on the PCB remediation issue paper are due to Steve Kinser by January 23. He will be consolidating the comments and submitting them to ORD.

RPM Engineering Expertise Survey Update

The engineering expertise survey report has been completed and was posted to NARPM's intranet web site (which is accessible only by EPA employees). Sharon Hayes (Region 1) has drafted a transmittal letter to Mike Cook (Director, OSRTI) and will finalize the letter when she returns from vacation.

Increasing EF Participation/Membership

The EF is still looking for members from Region 2, as well as state participants. Bernie will send an email solicitation to select state employees who attended last year's NARPM conference. In addition, Regional EF members who work in RCRA should reach out to their state counterparts. EF members discussed the limits on travel funding for state participants, as well as travel restrictions some states place on their employees. Some EF members suggested involving state employees on a rotational basis. Bernie will discuss this issue further with Rich Steimle (OSRTI) and Kelly Madalinski (OSRTI). Bill Rothenmeyer suggested adding this topic to the agenda for the spring meeting business sessions.

New Business

EF members should begin thinking about accomplishments from the past year, and anticipated future projects. Rich may ask the Forums for a brief overview of what the EF hopes to accomplish in the coming year.

ATTENDEES

Fred MacMillan, Region 3
Andy Palestini, Region 3
Frank Vavra, Region 3
Jon Bornholm, Region 4
Bernie Schorle, Region 5
Gene Keepper, Region 6

Carlos Sanchez, Region 6
Steve Kinser, Region 7
Bill Rothenmeyer, Region 8
Dave Reisman, NRMRL-Cinc.
Keith Arnold, EMS, Inc.

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