

ENGINEERING FORUM TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

August 1, 2007

TOPICS IN THIS MONTH'S MINUTES:

UPDATE ON PROPOSED FALL MEETING IN LAS VEGAS

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER FROM NARPM

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ISCO LESSONS LEARNED UPDATE

STATUS OF EVERGREEN LIST

UPDATE ON PROPOSED FALL 2007 TSP MEETING

An informal poll of the call participants indicated that only five Engineering Forum members were planning to attend the proposed Fall 2007 TSP meeting in Las Vegas. EMS will conduct a more comprehensive poll of the forum and friends when distributing the minutes of the call.

During the fall meeting, the Engineering Forum hopes to plan a roundtable on permeable reactive zones. The forum hopes to offer the roundtable during the next NARPM conference in 2008. Kelly Madalinski (TIFSD) indicated that NARPM would be able to pay for panelists' travel, and there may be invitational travel money available in EMS's budget as well.

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER FROM NARPM

Diane Dopkin (EMS) sent the *Highlights* newsletter summarizing the spring 2007 NARPM meeting to all EF members on August 8. EF members should distribute this newsletter to Superfund and RCRA RPMs in their Region.

INTERSTATE TECHNOLOGY AND REGULATORY COUNCIL'S MID-YEAR MEETING

Although not on today's call, Mike Gill (Region 9) provided the following written update, via e-mail, on the ITRC's Mid-Year review meeting that he attended on July 25th in Chicago:

The bulk of the meeting was presentations by team leaders or state points of contact on the status of their teams' work and proposals for next year. Mike, along with Sally Gutierrez (Director of the National Risk Management Research Laboratory in Cincinnati) made presentations on increasing collaboration between EPA (the TSP forums) and ITRC. Mike's presentation identified some pros and cons of collaboration. He indicated that several people commented that the cons should not be issues that keep EPA from collaborating. The structure of how collaboration would occur was not worked out, but perhaps support could come from a high level, that is, from the new "Senior Environmental Technology Officer" being created in the Office of the Science Advisor. Mike will provide further updates on future forum calls. Mike's presentation is available on the Science Connector webpage.

Jim Harrington (NYSDEC), who also attended the meeting, noted that Mike's presentation was well received by ITRC. He sees an opportunity to collaborate on projects that overlap. He added that the ITRC work teams can benefit from the Engineering Forum's expertise.

ISCO LESSONS LEARNED UPDATE

Gary Miller (co-chair, Region 6) reminded everyone to distribute the e-mail message that Hilary Thornton (Region 3) prepared to request lessons learned regarding field applications of in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO). The language suggested by Hilary should be adapted to be Region-specific and sent to Superfund and RCRA project managers. Hilary noted that responses are due by September 14th, but he may extend the deadline. Because the Engineering Forum currently does not have a member in Region 10, Hilary volunteered to ask the Region 10 branch chiefs to distribute the message.

STATUS OF EVERGREEN LIST

Gary indicated that the Evergreen List, which resides on the Science Connector, has been updated with information reported during the Engineering Forum's July teleconference.

Bernie Schorle (Region 5) said he sent a message to Doug Grosse (NRMRL-Cincinnati) asking about the status of the document on evapotranspiration covers, but has yet to receive a response.

Don Bahnke (Region 7) reported that he and Mike Davis (Region 7) have been collaborating on the fact sheet on materials-handling equipment that they volunteered to draft. After some research, they expressed concern that comparing equipment on a cost per cubic yard of materials handled basis is very site-specific. Obstacles such as working in a residential setting versus an open field have a bigger affect on costs than the volume handled. As a result, Don and Mike do not think preparing this document would be worthwhile. Others on the call agreed that they probably would not use such a document and would rely on their contractors to do the evaluation.

Don will write a summary of the issue and e-mail it to the co-chairs along with a spreadsheet showing the wide variation in cubic yard costs. Gary said that the co-chairs will review the information and discuss further with the forum as to whether or not they should proceed with the document, cancel it, or take it in a different direction.

Don mentioned that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has cost-estimating software that can be used for materials handling equipment. Greg Melema (USACE) asked Don to also send him the information he collected, and he'll get the opinion of cost estimators at USACE.

ATTENDEES

Kevin Bilash, Region 3
Andy Palestini, Region 3
Hilary Thornton, Region 3
Jon Bornholm, Region 4
Bernie Schorle, Region 5
Dave Seely, Region 5
Terry Burton, Region 5 STL

Gary Miller, Region 6
Don Bahnke, Region 7
Suzanne Davis, CA DTSC
Jim Harrington, NYSDEC
Kelly Madalinski, TIFSD
Greg Melema, USACE
Diane Dopkin, EMS, Inc.

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