

FEDERAL FACILITIES FORUM TELECONFERENCE

Thursday, April 12, 2001

TSP MEETING UPDATE

Meghan Cassidy (Region 1) provided an update on plans for the Spring 2001 TSP meeting, which will be held May 7-11 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina, CA. Members are requested to: (1) register for the meeting by contacting Diane Dopkin at EMS, Inc. (301-589-5318); (2) obtain an advanced visitor's pass for the field trip (as described in earlier e-mail notification forwarded by EMS, Inc.); and (3) bring travel authorizations to the meeting and submit them to EMS, Inc. at that time.

Monday's agenda calls for Forum business sessions in the morning and joint sessions with the Engineering Forum and Ground Water Forum during the afternoon. On Tuesday, the Federal Facilities Forum will meet with Renee Wynn (FFRRO) in the morning to discuss federal facility issues, including budgets/resources, the BRAC Program, FUDS, UXO, institutional controls, transition news, and new Headquarters initiatives. In the afternoon, joint Forum sessions will be held to discuss sediment-related topics. On Wednesday, a field trip with the U.S. Navy will be taken to visit the Naval research laboratory and to view a technology demonstration at North Island.

Federal Facilities Forum business sessions will resume on Thursday to discuss additional technical issues such as perchlorate contamination, UXO developments, and ecotoxicity strategies. Prior to the meeting, Cassidy will distribute a detailed agenda for the Forum sessions. It was noted that Co-Chair responsibilities will be transferred from Cassidy to Chris Villarreal (Region 6) during the meeting.

REGION 7 TECHNICAL ISSUES

FUDS Policy Update and Status

Scott Marquess (Region 7) provided an overview of FUDS issues, as outlined in a summary he had earlier distributed to the Forum [additional copies of the summary may be requested from EMS, Inc. at nova2000@bellatlantic.net]. Acknowledging a long-standing disagreement between EPA and DOD regarding the technical and management problems posed at FUD sites, Marquess highlighted important steps taken by EPA, DOD, and ASTSWMO to resolve these problems.

Aspects of EPA's FUDS policy, which addresses non-NPL FUDS, were discussed in greater detail with respect to EPA's four primary roles at FUDS: site assessment, response actions/response action oversight, enforcement, and coordinated oversight with the states. DOD's interagency FUDS Improvement Working Group will meet on April 17 and May 16, 2001, to discuss its comments on the draft final FUDS policy. Marquess suggested that the Forum may contribute to FUDS management initiatives by developing guidance or criteria for establishing regional FUDS inventories.

It was noted that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has begun utilizing management action plans (MAPs) to assist project managers in delineating cleanup tasks, schedules, and budgets within DERP. With the opportunity for regulatory-agency review offered by the MAP process, it is anticipated that MAPs will serve as useful tools for all involved agencies. In particular, MAPs may facilitate development of the much-needed FUDS facility inventories.

Energizing the Federal Facilities Forum

Marquess recognized the Forum as a valuable resource for technical and management information concerning federal facilities, and encouraged the Forum to develop additional technical products such as issue papers. Members also discussed the need for continued Forum contributions to other EPA and interagency projects. Two such initiatives in which Jim Woolford (FFRRO) had previously indicated Forum participation would be useful are the DOE vadose zone project and DOE's long-term stewardship program. Members are requested to bring to the upcoming TSP meeting additional suggestions for Forum work products and project contributions.

ATTENDEES

Megan Cassidy, Region 1

Bill Roach, Region 2

Steve Hirsh, Region 3

Jim Barksdale, Region 4

Laura Stankosky, Region 6

Chris Villarreal, Region 6

Scott Marquess, Region 7

Glenn Kistner, Region 9

Claire Trombadore, Region 9

Leo Henning, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Robert Weld, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Ralph Ludwig, ORD/Ada

Sandra Novotny, EMS, Inc.