RPM News

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In This Issue

WINTER 2002

High-Level Feds Speak at ITRC Annual Meeting

Speaking at the annual fall meeting of an organization of state regulators, three high-level Federal officials emphasized the importance of working cooperatively with the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) to meet their agencies' environmental cleanup challenges. ITRC met in Washington, D.C. to strengthen its members' commitment to innovative cleanup technologies and to broaden its ties to Federal partners.

The centerpiece of a plenary session on 7 November 2002 was addressed by Marianne Horinko, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Jessie Roberson, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); and Maureen Koetz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Environment, Safety & Occupational Health with the U.S. Air Force.

Marianne Horinko called on ITRC's assistance in addressing two EPA priorities: the One Cleanup program and land revitalization. The One Cleanup program, which strives to clarify and standardize cleanup policies across Federal agencies and among states, can benefit from ITRC's experience in testing new ideas, bringing states and tribes together to focus on the regulatory issues involved in the adoption of new environmental technologies, and integrating lessons learned. On the land revitalization front, Horinko said that EPA needs to work in partnership with ITRC and other groups to ensure that contaminated sites have a realistic path toward return to economic productivity.

Maureen Koetz emphasized the Department of Defense's (DoD's) challenge to meet its national security mission in the face of competing environmental and financial risks. She identified technologies as critical in managing the environmental risks inherent in maintaining the country's national defense capability. Declaring that increased knowledge is the goal of both the Air Force and the ITRC, Koetz said, "We need your technology application knowledge and look forward to your help in guiding us in getting cleanup expedited. We want to turn dirt." Koetz expressed appreciation that two current teams, the Remedial Process Optimization Team and the Diffusion Samplers Team, are focusing on DoD needs.

Jessie Roberson also acknowledged several ways ITRC has benefited DOE. In redefining the EM mission to close sites and to develop

alternative baselines for reducing risks, Roberson credited the cooperation of state regulators, who are vital to EM's new approach. She also credited ITRC's technical and regulatory guidance documents with streamlining decision making, especially with regard to groundwater. ITRC analysis provides a "basis upon which to conclude that a technology is cost-effective and a worthwhile expenditure of taxpayers' dollars." Roberson asked ITRC to expand its guidance to include a clear delineation of cleanup objectives, performance metrics, and treatment technology end points and to clarify exit strategies—"to inform us when we should transition from treatment to monitoring, and even when to stop monitoring."

ITRC is a state-led group that works to overcome regulatory barriers to the deployment of innovative environmen-

tal technologies. ITRC participants come from the ranks of state regulatory agencies, Federal agencies concerned with environmental cleanup, environmental consulting firms, and technology vendors. These diverse ITRC participants work together in technical teams to develop documents and training to help regulators develop a consistent and streamlined approach for regulating innovative technologies. ITRC products also help environmental consultants improve the way innovative technologies are deployed.

The ITRC Board of Directors is cochaired by Oklahoma's Secretary of Environment, and Director of the Hydrogeology Division of South Carolina's Bureau of Land and Waste Management.

For more information, contact:
(540) 557-6101

Superfund Records of Decision (RODS) Online

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a new online database called "RODS", which contains full-text Superfund RODS, abstracts, amendments, and explanations of significant differences (ESDs). A ROD provides the justification for the remedial action (treatment) chosen at a Superfund site. It also contains site history, site description, site characteristics, community participation, enforcement activities, past and present activities, contaminated media, the contaminants present, scope and role of response action, and the remedy selected for cleanup. RODS can be found at: *http://cfpub.epa.gov/superrods.*

For more information, contact:
Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center (NFESC)
(805) 982-4858

Defense State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) Regional Training
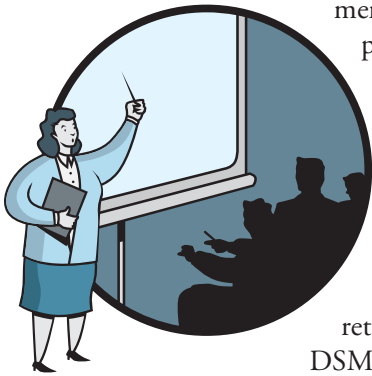
The DSMOA program has been subject to significant changes in the past two years, among them, development of new cooperative agreements and a fiscal law ruling prohibiting carry over of funds over the period of the agreement. These and other changes, including a turnover of personnel in the Department of Defense (DoD) and state regulatory agencies, necessitate the retraining of all parties on the DSMOA program six-step process.

The Air Force has taken the lead, as assigned by DoD, in coordinating the training, and offers DoD-state training sessions in FY03. In order to ensure uniform training is provided to all components and states, maximum attendance, and leveraging of limited resources, we strongly urge the participation of *Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), Remedial Technical Managers (RTMs) and other working level personnel* in the development and execution of this training.

Please encourage representatives within your districts, major commands, and installations to participate in the training to ensure that all components have a common understanding of the DSMOA process.

For questions or requests for additional information, contact:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters, (NAVFAC HQ)
(214) 767-4671

Announcement of DoD and DSMOA Training Initiative

DSMOA Training

The Department of Defense (DoD) is pleased to announce the inception of a series of 12 Defense State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) training workshops to be held at various locations across the country. These trainings will focus on teaching a standardized approach to the Six-Step Cooperative Agreement process and promoting a productive dialogue between members of the DSMOA program. Both state and DoD DSMOA personnel are encouraged to attend.

Training Schedule

Please review the attached schedule of trainings to determine the date and location of the session in which your state is participating. *It is important that DSMOA personnel attend the training workshop identified for their state.*

Registration

To register for your training workshop and locate information on a specific training, including the workshop agenda and hotel information, visit us at: *www.enstg.com/conference*

Note: Registrants are responsible for making their own hotel and travel arrangements. The hotel information for each training workshop is provided through the registration web site given above.

For more information on the trainings, visit us at: *www.denix.osd.mil/denix/State/DSMOA/news.html*

Thank you in advance for your participation. We look forward to seeing you at the training!

DSMOA Training Schedule

Training Location	Date	Participating States
Honolulu, Hawaii	23 – 24 January 2003	Hawaii, Guam, Mariana Islands
Orlando, Florida	11 – 12 February 2003	Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida
Sacramento, California	25 – 26 February 2003	Northern California, Nevada, Utah
Colorado Springs, Colorado	18 – 19 March 2003	Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri
Palm Springs, California	2 – 3 April 2003	Southern California, Arizona
San Antonio, Texas	22 – 23 April 2003	New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana
Seattle, Washington	30 April – 1 May 2003	Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
Anchorage, Alaska	6 – 7 May 2003	Alaska
Norfolk, Virgina	13 – 14 May 2003	West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, District of Columbia, Delaware, Puerto Rico
Columbus, Ohio	3 – 4 June 2003	Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey
Chicago, Illinois	11 – 12 June 2003	Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota
Providence, Rhode Island	25 – 26 June 2003	Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island
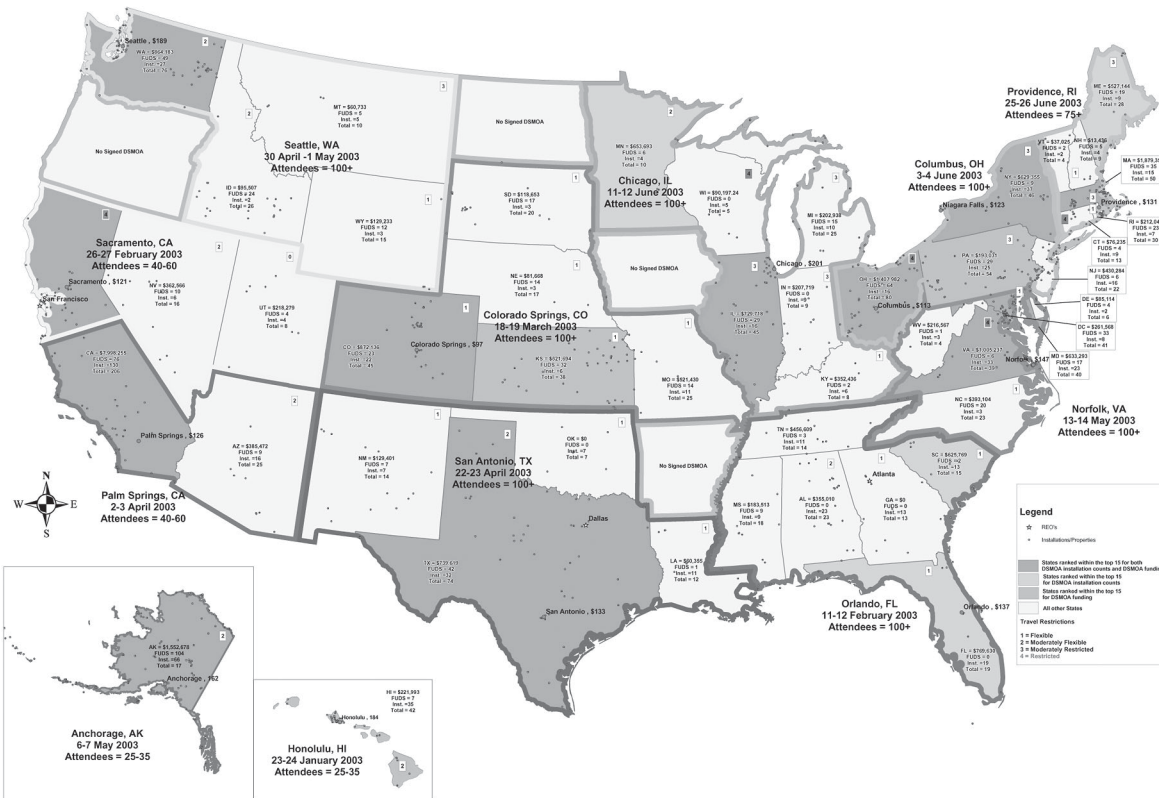
DSMOA Training Sites Selection Map

DSMOA Training Agenda

Starting Times	Activity	Time(min)	Remarks
8:00 AM	"Intro, Administrative, General Rules-1) No one sits next to (on either side) someone who is closely associated or knows one another well (i.e., 2 AF persons next to an Army person) 2) No communication devices will be turned on."	20	Detailed info to be developed. This is place holder.
	Overview (from Core Slides)	40	
	Short standup break	5	5 min over
9:05 AM	Step 1	20	
	Step 2 - Prepare Plans	35	
	Step 3 - Develop Budget - state	10	
10:10 AM	Long Break	10	
10:20 AM	Step 4 - Concur on Budget	35	
	Step 5 - Submit package	35	
11:30 AM	Step 6 - Approval	30	
12:00 PM	Lunch	60	
1:00 PM	Practice CA Development	120	Break out in small groups of 4 or 5 & create a complete package (forms & practice materials will be provided)
3:00 PM	Long break	10	
3:10 PM	Annual Funding Review	40	10 min cushion
4:00 PM	Performance Report	25	
4:30 PM	Questions/wrap-up/dismiss	15	20 min cushion
Day 2			
12:00 PM	Intro/kickoff	10	
12:10 PM	Close out	40	
	Short break	5	
1:00 PM	Discussion	50	State/DoD panel on successes
2:00 PM	Componet Breakouts	50	
	Short Break	5	5 min cushion
3:00 PM	Concerns of both parties	45	Discussion of top 3/4 concerns
3:45 PM	Wrap-up/dismiss	15	
4:00 PM	This hour used as needed		

Innovative Approaches for Expediting the Corrective Measures Studies Process

Naval Ordnance Station Louisville (NOSL) is a 143-acre facility that was closed 30 September 1997. It is in the process of being transferred to the public under the Department of Defense (DoD) Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. The Navy is conducting environmental investigations and site closeout under a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The use of Environmental Geographic Information System (EGIS) to manage data has reduced the schedule for completion of the RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI)/ Corrective Measures Studies (CMS) process at NOSL.

By utilizing EGIS to manage and evaluate all the environmental data at NOSL, the BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) streamlined the RFI/CMS process and reduced the clean-up schedule substantially.

The Navy was able to engage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Kentucky Division for Environmental Protection (KDEP) in detailed discussions concerning sources of contamination, potential pathways, possible receptors, and likely remedial technologies. The Navy found that using EGIS to facilitate these discussions greatly enhanced the regulators understanding of site conditions, which in turn, reduced their review time of RFI and CMS reports.
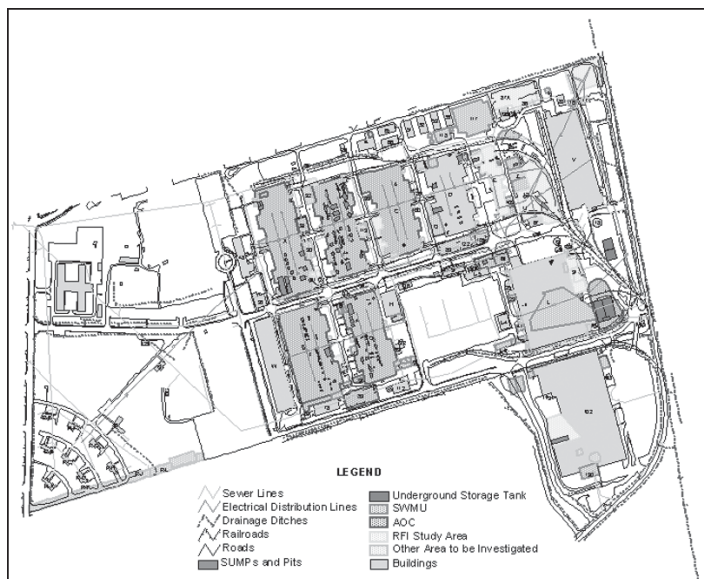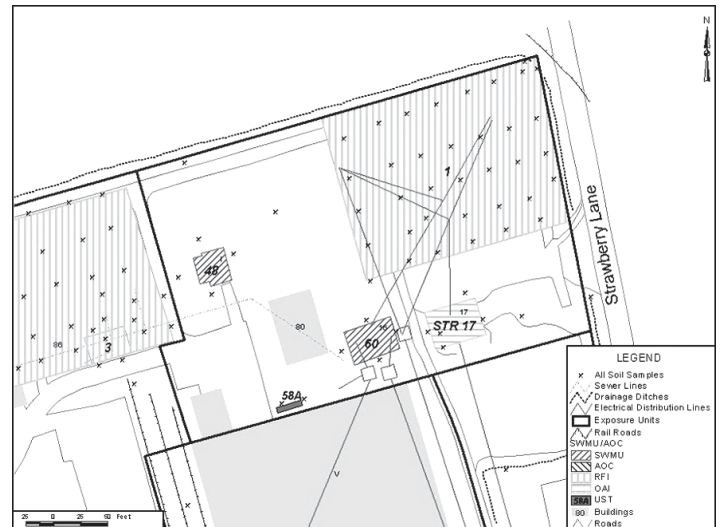

Figure 1. SWMU/AOC map.

Figure 2. SWMU and AOC locations within northeast disposal exposure unit.

In an effort to reduce the cleanup schedule, the Navy proposed to review all data real-time with EPA and KDEP prior to preparing RFI and CMS reports for review. The regulators agreed that they would review the data with the Navy and discuss and debate the technical issues openly in partnering meetings. The EGIS ensured access to all data that would be presented in an RFI and CMS report. Reviewing the data before reports were submitted enabled the BCT to quickly identify and resolve any major technical issues.

The BCT spent eight months reviewing all data collected in an effort to come to consensus on the source, nature, and extent of contamination for each Solid Waste Management Unit/Area of Concern (SWMU/AOC) (350 sites) (Figure 1). Technical issues were debated such as groundwater flow direction, metals background in soil, extent of contamination, and data gaps. Through this process, the BCT agreed on which sites required no further action and identified data gaps for additional sampling to obtain full site characterization.

The challenge in this process was to be able to provide all data for BCT review and evaluation in a meeting setting. The EGIS enabled this to be done efficiently and comprehensively. The EGIS was used prior to the meeting to prepare data packages consisting of maps of the particular site, sample locations, and corresponding contaminants (Figures 2, 3, and 4). Each BCT member was able to independently review a
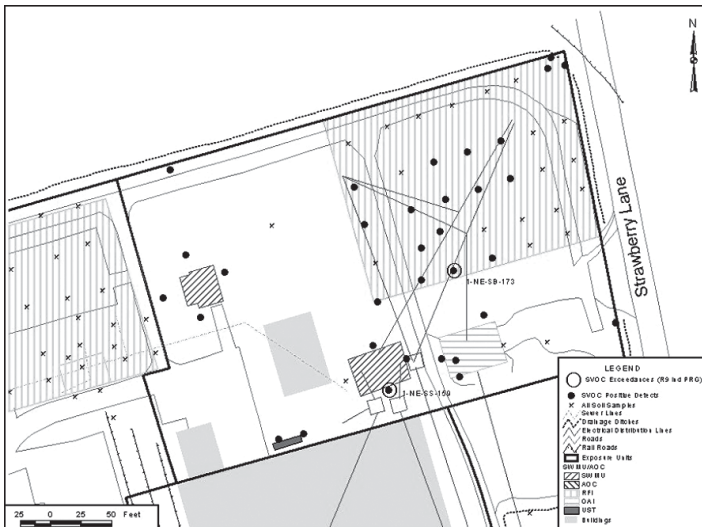
Figure 3. SWMU/AOC exceedance summary
within northeast disposal exposure unit.

copy of the data package then participate in the review and discussion with the other BCT members. During the meetings, an EGIS operator performed queries of the data and provided requested views. This left the BCT members to completely focus on evaluating the data.

Developing trust between BCT members to allow the free exchange of technical opinions and debate was integral to the process. The Navy was able to foster this environment by offering full disclosure of all data via the EGIS and providing the opportunity to the regulators to express concerns on any aspect of the investigation. In a short time the regulators were convinced that the Navy was disclosing all data and honestly evaluating site conditions as well as obtaining input from all stakeholders.
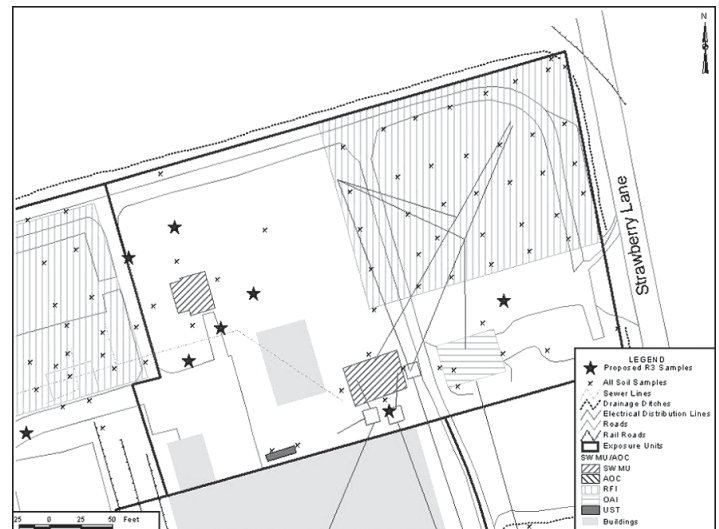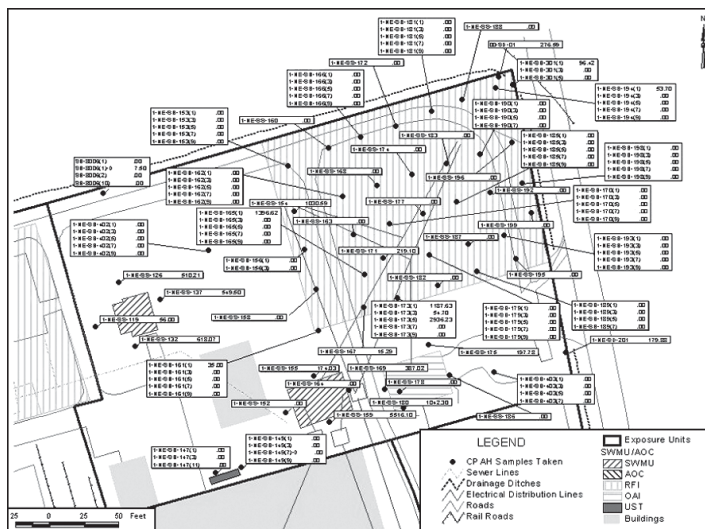

Figure 4. Benzo (A) Pyrene equivalent sample concentrations
(UG/KG) within northeast disposal exposure unit.

By reviewing data prior to development of the RFI and CMS reports, the BCT was able to agree on conceptual site models, chemicals of potential concern, nature and extent, and probable remedial technologies for every site. When the RFI and CMS reports were submitted, the review time was drastically reduced because regulators were intimately familiar with the data and all potential problems were resolved prior to the submission (Figure 5).

Overall, utilizing the EGIS to manage and review all data saved the Navy time and provided cost avoidance. Originally, the RFI reports submission and review process was to be completed by September 2003. The actual completion date for the RFI report was September 2001, a 2-year savings. The estimated cost avoidance is $1.1 million in additional sampling, report rewriting, and extensive meetings. The CMS

Figure 5. Proposed Round 3 samples within northeast disposal unit.

reports are being developed and were expected to be approved by November 2002, a year ahead of the original RFI completion date.

Using EGIS allowed full disclosure of data and was integral to the regulators understanding of site conditions and satisfying all stakeholders in the RFI/CMS process.

For more information, contact:
SOUTHNAVFACENGCOM (SOUTHDIV)
(843) 820-7341

Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. (TtNUS)
(301) 528-3074

Reminder

Get a head start on your article for upcoming issues of RPM News.

Please provide a complete current and/or updated article from a previous story. A complete article includes text, photographs, figures, captions, etc. Because EFD/As sometimes submit multiple articles, send a separate e-mail for each article. Tentative deadlines for each upcoming issue of RPM News:

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SUMMER 2003
April 28

FALL 2003
July 28

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