

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

Overview for Newcomers



HISTORY

- Forums existed for addressing issues with communities adjacent to DOE sites/locations
 - No forums existed for engaging the communities along transportation corridors
- Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC) was formed in 1992 to improve coordination between the DOE and external groups interested in the Department's transportation activities.
 - TEC was led by the Offices of Environmental Management (EM) and Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (RW)



BACKGROUND ON TEC

- ◎ TEC “Members” represented state and tribal organizations, DOE programs, Federal agencies, and other groups
- ◎ Key documents and work history for TEC can be found on the NTSF website at the following link:

<http://www.em.doe.gov/Pages/NationalTransportationForum.aspx>

SOME FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

- ◎ TEC concept centered on unique stakeholder accountability principles
 - Participation by key responsible parties in technical/policy issue discussion and resolution results in increased confidence and more efficient business decisions
- ◎ Ultimate goal: develop a consolidated, multi-year set of action plans between DOE and the State and Tribal government members on transportation issues

HISTORICAL ISSUES

- ◎ First meeting 1992
 - over 100 issues identified
- ◎ Original DOE focus
 - Emergency management issues
 - Anticipation of increased shipments
 - Opening of WIPP
 - Increase in shipments due to clean up activities
 - SNF to a repository



UF6 accident in Beckley, WV

PERFORMANCE GOALS

- ◎ Enhancement of:
 - DOE transportation organization
 - Better communication across programmatic lines
 - Ability of external organizations to carry out transportation emergency preparedness and safety responsibilities related to DOE radiological shipments
- ◎ Remove barriers to the safe, acceptable transport of DOE radioactive shipments

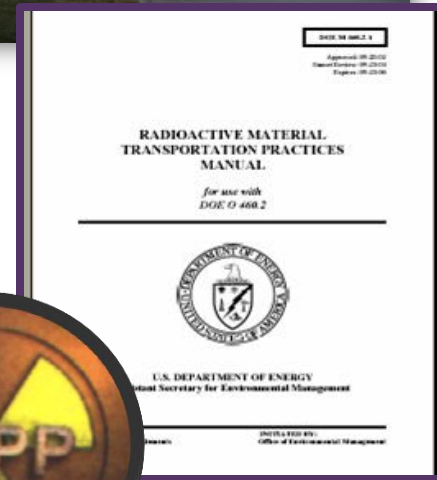


TOPIC GROUPS ESTABLISHED

- ◎ Participants wanted more in-depth research and discussion on technical issues
- ◎ Topic Groups initiated in 1996
- ◎ Topic Groups formed:
 - Communications
 - Consolidated Grant
 - Emergency Preparedness Training
 - Mechanics of Funding & Technical Assistance
 - Medical Issues
 - Protocols
 - Rail
 - Routing
 - Tribal

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TEC

- 14 Protocols developed; implemented in DOE M 460.2-1, *Radioactive Material Transportation Practices Manual*
- Documented Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Transportation Q&As
- Developed and deployed the Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP)
 - Modular Emergency Radiological Response Transportation Training (MERRTT)
- Provided the framework for the program documents for WIPP
- Packaging and Transportation Fact Sheets



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

- What happened to TEC ?
 - RW went away
 - EM recognized a need to continue dialog
- National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) is the mechanism through which DOE engages at a national level with states, tribes, federal agencies and other interested stakeholders about the Department's shipments of radioactive waste and materials, as well as occasional high-visibility shipments that are nonradioactive
 - Charter established
 - Work thru existing agreements and networks
 - Planning Committee established
 - Annual spring meeting

INFORMATION SHARING

- Inform states and tribes about ongoing, upcoming, or tentatively planned DOE shipments or shipping campaigns that may have an impact on their jurisdictions.
 - High visibility shipment campaigns, ongoing or planned;
- Sharing shipment information electronically with stakeholders.
 - Projected Shipment Report (PSR) and Waste Information Management System (WIMS).
- Follow the established protocols in DOE M 460.2-1.



ADDRESS ISSUES/CONCERNS

- ◎ Obtain input that is relevant to shipment planning and execution.
 - Annual meetings and webinars
 - Directly to DOE or thru State Regional Groups
 - During campaign-specific planning
- ◎ As issues are identified, the Planning Committee will determine the priority for establishing an ad hoc working group

HOW DOES NTSF WORK?

- ◎ A DOE chairperson is responsible for:
 - Leading the NTSF;
 - Overall operation of the group;
 - Providing feedback from the NTSF to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management and various DOE elements such as the Environmental Management Advisory Board and corporate boards; and
 - Designating the members of the Planning Committee and the ad hoc working groups, organizing annual meetings and webinars, following up on action items, and coordinating participation by other DOE Program Offices and other elements.
- ◎ Planning Committee assists the chairperson with:
 - Developing the agenda for annual meetings;
 - Identifying topic for webinars; and
 - Prioritizing issues for ad hoc working groups.

HOW DOES NTSF WORK? (CONTD)

- ◎ **DOE representatives with ongoing or upcoming shipments:**
 - Attend annual meetings and webinars;
 - Provide comprehensive information regarding their shipping plans;
 - Identify a single point of contact for information on shipments;
 - Serve on ad hoc working groups as requested; and
 - Respond to stakeholder requests for information in a timely manner.
- ◎ **State and tribal participants:**
 - Attend meetings and webinars;
 - Provide feedback on DOE's shipping campaigns;
 - Respond to requests for information in a timely manner;
 - Coordinate with other agencies in their jurisdictions;
 - Serve on ad hoc working groups; and
 - Act as conduits for information between DOE and their respective states and tribes.

NTSF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS

◎ Communications

- Developing, revising, and improving various DOE public information materials.

◎ Financial Guidance

- Develop financial guidance for states and tribes that receive funding from WIPP.

◎ PSR Improvements

- Develop recommendations for improving the Prospective Shipment Report (PSR)

◎ WIPP Security Communications

- Review and revise as needed the security section of the WIPP Program Implementation Guide

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

National Transportation Stakeholders Forum Ella McNeil | [My account](#)

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Welcome to the NTSF wiki site

The National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) is the mechanism through which the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) communicates at a national level with states and tribes about the department's shipments of radioactive waste and materials, as well as occasional high-visibility shipments that are nonradioactive. The purpose of the NTSF is to bring transparency, openness, and accountability to DOE's offsite transportation activities through collaboration with state and tribal governments.

The new NTSF wiki provides a forum for the members of the NTSF to share general information about DOE shipments and program activities, state and tribal needs, and emerging issues related to radioactive waste transportation. In addition to accessing information posted on the site, members can contribute files, notices, or links of interest, as well as post comments in discussion forums on the site. To view the general NTSF discussion forum, use the ["forum"](#) link in the menu bar above. From that page, members can subscribe to an RSS feed to receive alerts when new items are posted.

Feedback from users will help DOE and the NTSF Planning Committee improve this site to best meet the members' needs. Please use our forum to provide input on the NTSF wiki.



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- **We also have the DOE public web site:**

<http://www.em.doe.gov/Pages/NationalTransportationForum.aspx>

CONTINUING FOCUS OF NTSF

- ⦿ Although current best practices have been recognized, the underlying focus has never changed:
 - Implement sound business strategies that have been vetted through key responsible parties, resulting in more efficient and credible site operations
 - Maintain cooperative approach to resolving operational and policy issues
 - Bring DOE programs together to better coordinate and communicate about transportation