

Work Plan for the DOE TEC Rail Topic Group Intermodal Sub-Group

Status: Active

Chair: Melissa Bailey (CSG-NE)

DOE Lead: Alex Thrower (OCRWM)

Contractor Support: John Smegal (Legin)

Start Date: July 17, 2007

Purpose: The purpose of the Transportation External Coordinating (TEC) Working Group's Rail Topic Group (RTG) is to provide stakeholder perspectives and feedback to the Office of National Transportation (ONT) in the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) and Environmental Management (EM) regarding topics of common interest concerning operating practices, logistical constraints, and other rail-related issues affecting the development and deployment of a safe, secure, and efficient system for transporting spent fuel (SNF) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW) to a national repository by rail, while meriting public confidence.

Approach: The Rail Topic Group will convene conference calls every two months and will meet at TEC meetings. Smaller work groups will meet (including via teleconference) on a monthly basis or as necessary, reporting back to the full RTG on the bimonthly calls and at meetings. OCRWM and RTG stakeholder members will work collaboratively to develop agendas for RTG meetings and bimonthly calls.

Intermodal Subgroup: The RTG intermodal subgroup will identify intermodal issues to be considered when designing a national transportation system for shipping SNF and HLW.

Specific topics to be addressed by the RTG's intermodal subgroup will include:

1. Review of how intermodal issues are addressed in relevant DOE documents (i.e. OCRWM's Transportation System Concept of Operations, National Transportation Plan, NEPA documents, etc.). *Extract relevant points for recommendations paper.*
2. Evaluation of likely candidates for intermodal shipping operations and possible modes of transport.
3. Identify operational factors that complicate or increase the risk of intermodal transport from specific sites.
4. Identify implications (funding, inspections, etc.) of intermodal transportation for states.
5. Develop recommendations for requirements and procedures to ensure safe and secure transfers of SNF/HLW at intermodal transfer stations.
6. Inform routing discussions that are happening in the Rail and Routing Topic Groups.

Members: Amy Alesch (Yselta del Sur Pueblo), Jane Beetem (Missouri), Tony Dimond (BLET), Kurt Colborn (MHF Logistics), Fred Dilger (Nevada), Lee Finewood (BAH), Aubrey Godwin (Arizona), Bob Halstead (Nevada), Cash Jaszczak (Nye County, NV) Tammy Ottmer (WIEB), Sandy Stadtfeld (URS), Jim Williams (WIEB), Sarah Wochos (CSG-MW)

Products:

- Develop research report that addresses intermodal issues and challenges and offers recommendations for implementing an intermodal transportation system.

Schedule/Status as of 11/20/07:

Topic Group Product	Due Date	Lead	Comments/ Status
Sub-Group Conference Calls	bi-monthly	Melissa	Ongoing
Distribute call notes and incorporate comments	bi-monthly	John/Melissa	Ongoing
Develop and distribute work plan and key questions for the group to address	11/19	Melissa	MB to edit and re-distribute.
Develop inventory of plants w/out rail access	10/15	Group	Done: EIS, Fred and Bob intermodal paper
Review DOE documents for discussion of intermodal transport (summarize)	2/28	Melissa	EIS, OCRWM Concept of Ops,
Identify Administrative Impacts of intermodal shipments on states	2/15	Group	Brainstorm session at TEC
Review previous HLW shipping campaigns that utilized intermodal transportation (i.e. FRR)	2/28	Group	What other campaigns have used intermodal?
Summarize lessons-learned and identify key components for successful intermodal transfers	3/31	Melissa/ Group	
Identify site characteristics/factors that can potentially complicate intermodal shipments	TBD	Melissa/ Group	Talk to commercial shipping companies.
Identify sites that are good candidates for site visits	TBD	Melissa/ Group	MW is considering. NE may visit NY plant
Develop recommendations for intermodal procedures and write summary report.	TBD	Melissa/ Group	
Present recommendation to entire Topic Groups	TBD	Melissa/ Group	

Last Updated By: *Melissa Bailey (CSG-NE) 12/14/07*