

## **TEC/WG Executive Meeting Summary**

July 12-14, 1994

Denver, Colorado

The Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC/WG) met for the fifth time on July 12-14, 1994 in Denver, Colorado. TEC/WG works with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to identify and resolve significant issues related to the transportation of radioactive and other hazardous materials. TEC/WG includes representatives of state, tribal, and local government as well as professional and industry organizations interested in the department's transportation activities. A letter from Secretary of Energy Hazel R. O'Leary endorsing DOE's commitment to work with TEC/WG was presented to meeting participants.

The meeting was a mix of plenary and breakout sessions. Plenary session topics included an update on DOE transportation programs, a report from the Western Governors' Association on its involvement in planning the Cesium-137 Capsule Return Program, a report on a national survey measuring public perceptions of transportation risks, and a U.S. Department of Transportation briefing on implementation of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act State and Tribal Grants Program. The plenary session on DOE transportation programs included updates from two DOE programs new to TEC/WG: the Idaho Environmental Impact Statement Project on Spent Nuclear Fuel and the Federal Facility Compliance Act Program.

In response to TEC/WG member requests for more time to discuss existing and new issues, a majority of the meeting was dedicated to breakout sessions. Three breakout groups spent a total of 7-1/2 hours each reviewing current activities and discussing new issues relating to the group's topical areas: (1) General Planning; (2) Safe Routine Transport; (3) Inspection & Enforcement; (4) Emergency Management; (5) Training; (6) Technical Assistance; and (7) Public Information & Education.

Breakout session discussions resulted in:

### General Planning

- adoption of a final version of the TEC/WG Process Plan (the Process Plan describes how the group will be involved in DOE's transportation-related decision-making);
- agreement to refine the format and substance of the TEC/WG Work Plan (the Work Plan is a record of the group's recommendations and corresponding DOE actions in the context of the seven issue areas);
- agreement that the emerging issue of environmental justice has implications for hazardous materials transportation and that DOE will take action to articulate those implications;

### Training

- agreement on the need to link federal training courses to CFR 1910.120 (Hazardous Waste Operations Emergency Response) requirements to make the training more desirable to organizations balancing mandated training against limited training time;
- consensus that any determination for the use of escorts for DOE shipments will have a significant impact on the need for training (and technical assistance);

### Technical Assistance

- agreement that the draft definition of "technical assistance" for Section 180(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act put forth by DOE will be reassessed to address various concerns raised by breakout participants;
- agreement on the need for a compilation of lessons learned from radioactive material exercises, drills, and responses and the desirability of providing the document to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Learning Resource Center;

### Public Information & Education

- closure of DOE's risk communications training activity as it relates to TEC/WG's recommendation for DOE to encourage sensitivity to public perceptions relating to transportation risk; and
- distribution for review and comment of a glossary of terms relating to the transportation of radioactive and other hazardous materials.

A complete summary of the meeting will be mailed in the near future to all TEC/WG members and meeting participants.

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