

**U. S. Department of Energy (DOE)  
Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC)  
Security Topic Group  
Conference Call  
November 17, 2005**

**Summary of Discussion:**

The TEC Security Topic Group (STG) held its second monthly conference call on Thursday, November 17, 2005, starting at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time. The call had been scheduled for the previous Tuesday but was postponed due to technical problems. Participants included **Alex Thrower**, Office of National Transportation (ONT), Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), DOE; **Priscilla Bumbaca**, ONT/OCRWM; **Larry Stern**, Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance; **Phil Brochman**, Division of Nuclear Security, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); **John Fitzgibbons**, Office of Security and Safety Assurance (SSA), DOE; **Scott Palmer**, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET); **Aubrey Godwin**, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency (ARRA); **Martha Crosland**, DOE Office of General Counsel; **Michelle Sampson**, Federal Railroad Administration; **Joe Strolin**, Nevada Nuclear Waste Project Office; **Scott Ramsay**, Wyoming Emergency Management Agency; **Julie Maaske**, Nebraska State Patrol; **Dean House**, Iowa Department of Transportation; **Bob Halstead**, Nevada Nuclear Waste Project Office; and **Don Flater**, Iowa Bureau of Radiological Health.

Mr. Thrower noted minutes of the Pueblo meeting on September 21, 2005, had been finalized. He asked for final comments on the minutes from the group's first conference call held on October 18, 2005. A current roster and updated work plan had also been provided for review and comment. Mr. Thrower noted Capt. Allan Turner had recommended moving one suggested activity from the operations to the information subgroup, and that change had been made. Mr. Thrower also indicated a list of definitions and terms related to DOE security had been provided by Mr. Fitzgibbons and forwarded to the group. No participants had further comment on the minutes, work plan or definitions.

The group briefly discussed the availability of online security awareness training that may be informative to topic group participants. One participant had suggested using material developed by DOE's Savannah River Site; Mr. Thrower stated that after following up with that office, they had indicated those materials would be of limited use to the topic group. He stated he would work with DOE's headquarters security staff to identify any materials or information that would be both publicly available and useful to the group. Mr. Stern stated that CVSA's ad hoc security subcommittee had developed some information, which had also been used by the Michigan State Patrol. Mr. Stern agreed to provide those materials to the topic group.

Mr. Palmer then briefly talked about subsequent discussions he had with Bob Fronczak of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) regarding worker exposure and security.

Mr. Palmer said that based on their preliminary discussions, they would like to have from DOE a description of its plans for escorting casks on railcars, particularly how and to what extent any protective force might be interacting with the train crew. This information would help AAR and BLET identify and resolve security issues they may have, and could provide useful information to train crews' job briefings for these shipments when the time comes. Mr. Thrower stated some information about escorts was sensitive and could not be shared, while other determinations about protective force details have not been made. However, if Mr. Palmer could send a note describing precisely what specific information he and Mr. Fronczak were looking for and how it would be used, Mr. Thrower said that would be helpful.

Mr. Flater raised the issue of security plans, stating that in the event of an incident, protective forces need to be able to reach local police and other State and local authorities. Mr. Brochman added that while a plan may need to address such matters, there also will be reliance on existing State-local notification procedures apart from whatever notifications a driver or crew may or may not make. This is a broader issue than just spent fuel shipments, he said.

Mr. Thrower suggested the group look at some of the broader issues in security that can be addressed now; discussions about detailed operating procedures may be premature. Mr. Halstead agreed, stating that in the absence of detailed operational planning, detailed security planning will not be effective. He suggested DOE may want to consider spelling out precisely how the recent decision on dedicated train service will impact security, in specific areas such as frequency of shipments and number of casks. Until that happens, he said, the group is really just throwing out ideas. Similarly, said Mr. Halstead, AAR and BLET need to provide a list of assumptions they are going to work from in planning for these shipments. Only then can the group meaningfully gauge the impacts of different approaches, he said.

Discussion next turned to updating the security "protocol" in DOE M 460.2-1, the Practices Manual. Mr. Thrower stated that while the other sections of the Manual are being updated as part of the process outlined by Ella McNeil at the Pueblo TEC meeting, this topic group has an opportunity to draft and comment on the security practice, which predates the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and subsequent developments. This practice will need to be revised substantially, he said, and asked if any members had a particular interest in re-drafting this practice to please let him know. According to the work plan, the group must have a draft submitted by the end of January 2006, so this update is a very near-term objective. Mr. Thrower offered to edit the current version, send around to the group and make this update the focus of the next conference call on December 20, 2005.

Mr. Halstead also asked if it would be possible to have either Gary Lanthrum or Judith Holm participate in the Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> call to update the group on the latest developments in the canistered-fuel concept and likely impacts for transportation. Mr. Thrower responded that Mr. Lanthrum or Ms. Holm may not have much to say since, per Paul Golan's direction, exploration of the concept is just getting underway, but he said he would get one of them to the next call.

The call adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

The next conference call is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20, 2005, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time. Participants should call in on (866) 657-9756, and enter the access code: 5836052.

**Action Items:**

1. Edit work plan, first conference call and roster to incorporate group input and finalize (Thrower).
2. Write up request for information about worker exposure and security issues and email to DOE (Palmer).
3. Send CVSA security awareness training and Michigan State Patrol materials to group (Stern, Thrower)
4. Draft update to security practice in DOEM 460.2-1 and circulate before next call (Thrower).

**Submitted by:** Alex Thrower, Nov. 28, 2005