

**DOE TEC Rail Topic Group Conference Call
Thursday, August 31, 2006, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. EDT**

Conference Call Minutes

Participants:

Chair: Jay Jones (RW)

Members: Jane Beetem (CSG/MW), Kevin Blackwell (DOT/FRA), Patrick Edwards (CSG/NE), Ray English (DOE), Kurt Espiritu (DOE/RW), Eric Huang (DOE/EM), Lisa Janairo (CSG/MW), Paul Johnson (ORNL), Marsha Keister (INL), Angela Kordyak (DOE), Michael Mulhare (CCS/NE), Christina Nelson (NCSL), Doug Osborn (SNL), Sarah Wochos (CSG/MW)

Contractor Support: Ralph Best (BSC), Peter Blaney (Legin), Randy Coppage (BAH), and Michele Enders (SAIC)

Summary:

The conference call began at 11:00 a.m. eastern time on Thursday, August 31, 2006. Jay announced this conference call would be a brief call on updates from each of the four subgroups and a general update on the upcoming TEC meeting.

Items Discussed:

New Routing Topic Group

Jay announced that there will be a new topic group that will focus on routing. An official announcement will be made at TEC. Members from the different TEC organizations will comprise the membership for this routing topic group. The intent of this routing topic group will be to develop the routing criteria and ultimately identify a national suite of routes for Yucca Mountain.

Kevin Blackwell asked if this new topic group could be combined with or addressed under the Rail Planning Subgroup. Kevin commented that it has become increasingly more difficult to be available for the various topic group and subgroup conference calls.

Jay answered that it may not matter what the topic group is called but it will most likely be elevated to a topic group level. The members of this new topic group will need to be available and devoted to this topic group. Membership may be limited to one or two representatives from each TEC organization for a range of 20-25 individuals to serve on the topic group.

Lisa Janairo asked who will be staffing this new topic group. Jay answered that he will be the DOE lead and possibly request another individual to be a co-chair. In terms of note taking, SAIC is the primary support.

DOE TEC Meeting

Jay reviewed the agenda for the upcoming DOE TEC meeting in September. There will be several plenary sessions. The main plenary in the morning and early afternoon will be the National Academies Study with Kevin Crowley and other panel members. The

plenary session for the remainder of the afternoon on the first day will be a Routing Discussion. This will be a discussion of DOE's approach for the national routing process. Sarah Wochos and Cort Richardson will give a presentation on their regional approaches. John Keigley will give the railroad perspective during this session. David Blee from the U.S. Transport Council will give a presentation. From the Tribal perspective, Willie Preacher will give a presentation.

The second day of the TEC meeting will be all Topic Group sessions.

Subgroup Updates:

1. Inspections Subgroup

Sarah Wochos reported that this subgroup has sent everyone on the Rail Topic Group a forms document. This document contains different inspection forms for the various stages of shipment. Sarah and Tim Runyon will do the presentation for this subgroup at TEC.

Doug Osborn asked if the intent is to also do radiation and contamination surveys at these 1,000 mile inspection points. Kevin Blackwell stated that there is a difference between the regulatory mechanical inspection and the state radiation inspections. These inspections could potentially be conducted at the same time.

Doug commented that more information needs to be added to the inspections forms since these will be considered legal documents.

Sarah and Tim will discuss these inspection forms in more detail at TEC. Sarah suggested that any additional comments Doug might have should be forwarded to Sarah and Tim.

2. Tracking and Radiation Monitoring Subgroup

Jay mentioned that Bill Mackie has left the Western Governors' Association and has gone to WIPP. Scott Field stated that Bill's last day at WGA is September 15 and he is not coming to TEC.

Sarah reported that the subgroup will review the recommendations which were based on the results of the states' responses from the tracking portion of the Security survey. Sarah hopes to send a document to the Rail Topic Group members to review before TEC. In addition, there will be three tracking technology demonstrations during TEC. The subgroup would like to get feedback from the Rail Topic Group members on these technologies via an evaluation form provided at TEC.

3. Planning and Process Subgroup

Lisa Janairo submitted the subgroup's timeline via e-mail to everyone on the Rail Topic Group. Several comments were received and have been incorporated into the latest version of the timeline. The revised timeline will be sent to the Rail Topic Group in the next couple of days. For the TEC meeting, Lisa will be talking about the changes that were made to the timeline.

4. Lessons Learned Subgroup

Jane Beetem reported that the subgroup will send out a draft of the Lessons Learned document to all the Rail Topic Group members on September 8. At TEC, the subgroup would like to briefly review the document and get feedback on the types of studies, reports, etc. used. Unless that are major issues with the document, the subgroup will be accepting editorial comments on the document via e-mail after the TEC meeting.

5. TRAGIS

Sarah reported that the subgroup has decided to table this effort until after the Routing Topic Group has formed.

Jay commented that this subgroup may not remain a subgroup and might be rolled into the Routing Topic Group.

Jay mentioned that as these current subgroups are finishing their tasks, the topic group may want to think about any additional or new subgroups that need to be formed. The Rail Topic Group will continue to be an active topic group.

Miscellaneous

Michele asked if the subgroups who have sent documents out to everyone via e-mail, are the subgroups going to want to have hard copies for the Rail Topic Group members at TEC.

For the Rail Planning subgroup, Lisa responded not to bring hard copies for everyone but maybe have 10 to 15 hard copies.