

**DOE TEC Rail Topic Group Conference Call
Thursday, June 8, 2006, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. EDT**

Conference Call Minutes

Participants:

Chair: Jay Jones (RW)

Members: Catherine Anne (NAC), Jane Beetem (CSG/MW), Scott Field (WIEB), Angela Kordyak (DOE General Counsel), Adam Levin (Exelon), Bill Mackie (WGA), Michael Mulhare (NE Task Force), Christina Nelson (NCSL), Richard Pinney (CSG/NE), Sarah Wochos (CSG/MW)

Contractor Support: Ralph Best (BSC), Randy Coppage (BAH), Michele Enders (SAIC), and John Smegal (LEGIN)

Summary:

The conference call began at 11:00 a.m. eastern time on Thursday, June 8, 2006. Jay announced this conference call would be a brief call on updates from each of the four subgroups.

Items Discussed:

New Potential Route In Nevada

Since the topic group's last conference call in April, Bob Halstead had sent an e-mail to the Rail Topic Group about a potential new route in Nevada. Jay provided background information on this route. There is a tribe in Nevada that had not wanted the route to come through their reservation. However, the leadership of the tribe has recently changed, and now there is an interest by the tribe to have DOE study the feasibility for potential routes through their reservation. DOE may consider this route review as part of the current rail alignment EIS and future transport activities.

Subgroup Updates:

1. Inspections Subgroup

Sarah Wochos reported that the subgroup had a productive conference call on May 18. The subgroup has developed a preliminary laundry list of inspection points for rail. Another effort by the subgroup has been to locate potential inspection spots by reviewing maps and acquiring crew change point information from the railroads.

Jay asked Sarah if the subgroup was going to produce a document with this information. Sarah said the subgroup will produce a document that has recommendations for procedures for on-route inspections and locations of on-route inspections. The timeframe for the subgroup's recommendations is to have a draft by the next full TEC meeting in September.

2. Tracking and Radiation Monitoring Subgroup

Sarah Wochos reported that this subgroup has had two conference calls since the TEC meeting in March. In April, the subgroup participated in an IRRIS demonstration which is technology originally commissioned by the US Army to track their assault weapons and other shipments. More recently, the subgroup participated in a demo by MHF Logistical Solutions Smart Car Technology. The purpose of these demos is to see what technology is available and whether these technologies would be suitable for recommendation to the states and other stakeholders. The subgroup is waiting for the states' feedback from the security questionnaire so they can tailor their recommendations to the states' tracking needs.

Sarah suggested that possibly for the next TEC meeting a tracking technology demo be available for the larger TEC membership. Both IRRIS and MHF expressed interest in providing a demo for the TEC meeting.

Catherine Anne asked if Sarah was working with a satellite tracking company besides MHF and IRRIS. Sarah stated that the subgroup used the Volpe Center TRANSCOM study as a basis and IRRIS was one of the technologies profiled in the study.

Jay will present Sarah's suggestion about a larger demo during TEC to those who are coordinating the September TEC meeting.

Radiation Monitoring will be addressed at a future time by the subgroup.

3. Planning Subgroup

No update from this subgroup at this time.

4. Lessons Learned Subgroup

Jane Beetem reported that a draft document was sent to members of the subgroup. Originally, the document was a chart format, and ultimately Jane decided there was too much information for this format. The latest draft is not a complete version as Jane would like to receive feedback from the subgroup to see if this is the direction the subgroup would like to pursue for this document.

Jay suggested that Jane send the draft document to the larger topic group for a broader perspective since this subgroup has only a few members.

5. Legal Weight Truck Shipments Subgroup

Jay stated that once other subgroups complete their work, this subgroup may evolve into an intermodal subgroup when the time is appropriate.

6. TRAGIS

Sarah reported that the subgroup had a conference call in April. The subgroup decided to review assumptions for the TRAGIS model and explain them in layman terms. In addition, the subgroup will be looking at how routing is changed if the assumptions are changed.

Jay asked if this subgroup is going to use the Rail Topic Group as a sampling for improving and updating TRAGIS. Sarah confirmed that this is the approach for the subgroup at this time.

Miscellaneous

Jay mentioned the state regional group meetings have been taking place and will continue. Kevin Crowley has been attending most of these meetings to present the NAS study.

Paul Johnson and Doug Osborn have formed a TRAGIS/RADTRAN working group.

Jay announced Edward Sproat has been confirmed as the new director for OCRWM. Jay and others have been busy preparing briefing papers for Mr. Sproat.

Sarah asked about the dates for the next TEC meeting. The next TEC meeting will be September 13th and 14th.

The next conference call will tentatively be scheduled for late July or early August.