

TEC Security Topic Group

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

11:00 a.m. EST

Group Chair: Alex Thrower

Participants: Herman Shorty (Navajo Nation), Angela Kordyak (DOE/OGC), Aubrey Godwin, Toby Morales, and Harvey Weatherford (WIEB), Sarah Wochos (CSG/MW), John Giarusso (CSG/NE), Christina Nelson (NCSL), Cloyce Brackett (SSEB), David Crawford (DOE/OGC), Scott Field (WIEB), Frank Moussa (CSG/MW), Conrad Smith (CSG/NE), Ed Walsh, Don Flater (CSG/MW), and Bob Fronczak (AAR).

DOE support contractors also participated on the call.

Action Items:

Responsible Party

Action to be Taken

Alex Thrower

Locate biography of newly-confirmed Director of OCRWM and circulate to members

Summary:

The purpose of this call was to discuss the status of the following items: 1) the Transportation Classification Guide; 2) the bibliography of publicly available documents; 3) the NAS Study recommendation on security; 4) the Lessons-Learned Report; and 5) the State Regional Group Questionnaire.

General Comments:

Alex Thrower asked the participants if they had any comments on the last Security Topic Group (STG) call summary. Because no one had any issues to address, the minutes were considered to be final.

Alex next discussed the Transportation Classification Guide. He noted that Chris Einberg had a meeting with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on May 17, 2006 to address the changes to this guide. The classification guide applies to Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) shipments between the DOE licensing facility and the NRC repository. The guide is a mutually agreed upon, non-binding document that was sent to NRC for concurrence on June 5, 2006. Deborah Dawson indicated that this process should be completed by September of 2006. Conrad Smith asked for more information about the format and content of the document. Deborah indicated that the guide works to define the system as a whole and the facilities associated with each facet of the system (e.g., materials, equipment and facilities, modalities, support facilities). It also reviews the security and

safety mechanisms that are in place. The information is displayed in a similar fashion to that in the Yucca Mountain Guide.

Alex responded that each field office will most likely follow different transportation procedures. Deborah added that despite this fact, this manual will work to eliminate the disparities in the way information is treated through its section entitled “Common Shipping Guide.” She also stressed that each agency involved in the process is enthusiastically promoting interagency activity.

Bob Halstead inquired into whether or a bibliography of publicly available documents related to transport security would soon be available. Alex responded that he is in the process of coordinating the concept with DOE security personnel and there has been support; however there are questions about specifics of what would be included and how it would be used. Conrad Smith then asked if there were considerations other than financial constraints that might of particular concern. Alex indicated that from a practical standpoint, the answer was no; however, in theory, there could be concern regarding the compilation of the materials in one easily accessible place. In other words, the individual documents referenced in the bibliography would probably not raise any security issues, but the cumulative effect of collecting information may be an issue. Alex said he is still working the issue and will report back on the next call.

Participants then discussed the NAS Report. It is currently available online, where it can be viewed two pages at a time. Alex added that he would obtain copies for topic group members at no cost if they wanted, members should just send him an email. A participant observed that NAS has already sent copies to the State and Regional Groups (SRGs). Alex indicated that although DOT, DOE, and NRC staff members have made recommendations to their management regarding the report and are continuing to discuss how they may be implemented.

A participant asked whether this issue was discussed at the most recent meeting in Cedar Rapids. Sarah Wochos reported that it was; however, she is still waiting for the official NRC response. In the meantime she noted that she is working with Earl Easton to compile a list of State officials with clearances who might be resources to address the security-related recommendations.

Alex indicated that he had not received any additional comments on the Lessons Learned report. Scott Field asked what function the Lessons Learned report was intended to serve. He stressed that if the report is supposed to be a guide, then it requires more detail. Bob Halstead responded that the document references are there for the purpose of filling in the information gaps. Scott replied that some of the reference material goes back for decades. Alex indicated that the draft would be circulated one more time for comment before it is added to the website as final.

Sarah Wochos noted that she is the process of collecting the last of the State Regional Group questionnaires. She added that she has at least three-quarters of the completed surveys in her possession. Within the next week Sarah will be compiling the results. Alex

asked her if she had identified any trends or common themes. She indicated that she was, but would report on these at a later date.

Alex asked the participants if there was anything else that they would like to address. He observed that there is a new OCRWM Director. He also indicated that the new Director has a background in industry, which included working for Exelon and the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor project in South Africa. He then established that he would send a general biography out to the participants.

The next call was scheduled for July 18, 2006 at 11 a.m. EST.