

DMCC PROGRAM TELECONFERENCE 09-01
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009; 12:30 PM-1:30 PM EST

Teleconference 09-01 Participants

Tom Bellinger	BWXT Y-12
Kevin Birdwell,	Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)
Brent Bowen,	Pantex
John Ciolek	Alpha-TRAC [representing Sandia National Laboratory (SNL)]
Dave Freshwater	Office of Emergency Management & Policy (NA-41)
Chaz Harris	Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM)
John Harris,	Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations (DOE/ORO)
Carl Mazzola	Shaw Environmental
Walt Schalk	Air Resources Laboratory/Special Operations and Research Division (ARL/SORD), Nevada Test Site (NTS)

Teleconference Highlights

I. Roll Call

Carl Mazzola conducted a roll call and acknowledged that nine individuals involved in the DOE Meteorological Coordinating Council (DMCC) program were present, and the teleconference was called to order.

II. Administrative Matters

A. Previous Teleconference Highlights and Action Items

Carl Mazzola stated that highlights of the December 3, 2008 teleconference have been developed and will soon be posted by ORISE on the DMCC portion of the EMI SIG web page.

B. DMCC Action Item Status

Carl indicated that an updated DMCC Program Action Item (AI) listing was sent out with the agenda. Eight action items were open, and the progress on these AIs will be discussed in today's conference call. The status of assist visits is maintained in a separate portion of that table. The existing DMCC AI list and assist visit status table will be updated on the basis of information exchanged during this teleconference and from developments of other relevant events.

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C. DMCC 2009 Meeting Planning

Carl and Walt Schalk discussed the structure of the upcoming May 4, 2009 DMCC Meeting. Since last year's meeting went so well, it was decided to keep the same format and look for speakers local to the San Francisco area to participate. These include National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center (NARAC) and the Navy's Fleet Numeric Operations Center.

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III. Assist Visit Status

Carl discussed the status of the ongoing DMCC Assist Visit (AV) program.

Hanford Site

An AV was conducted on September 25-26, 2008 and the AV team developed 29 observations and recommendations. A draft report was issued on December 17, 2008, with comments requested by January 15, 2009. A target for issuing the final report has been set for the end of January 2009.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)

Kevin Birdwell, who runs the ORNL meteorological program, requested an AV in October 2008 and NA-41 indicated it would support this effort. Carl met with Kevin on September 9, 2008 and with Kevin and other ORNL stakeholders on December 8, 2008 to scope out the March 24-25, 2009 ORNL AV. Matt Parker and Carl Mazzola are the AV team with Walt Schalk possibly joining the team.

Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL)

Chuck Hunter will be formally requesting an AV and a May 27-28, 2009 period has been established for it.

Idaho National Laboratory (INL)

Kirk Clawson is developing a formal response to the 2004 AV and may request a follow-up assist visit sometime in FY11.

Pantex

Brent Bowen will be conducting a self-appraisal of the Pantex site in February, 2009. Carl indicated that the last AV at Pantex was conducted in April 1997 and that DMCC can augment this self-appraisal, if requested.

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IV. DMCC Projects

AI 07-02: DOE EH-0173 Update and Draft DOE O 458.1: Gus Vazquez was not available to provide a status on the DOE EH-0173T *Environmental Regulatory Guide for Radiological Effluent Monitoring and Environmental Surveillance* update which will become a companion to the upcoming revision of DOE O 5400.5, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment* (Draft DOE 458.1). The revision to this eleven-chapter 1991-vintage guide has been prepared and is undergoing DOE Office of Health Safety and Security (DOE/HS) internal review and will soon be placed on Rev Com. Once the changes to DOE O 458.1 are finalized, the revision to DOE/EH-0173 can be finalized to ensure consistency between the two documents. Gus will request a DMCC review of Chapter 5 of DOE/EH-0173T since it was prepared back in 2004. DOE O 458.1 is expected to be completed sometime in the winter and will have a small section on meteorological monitoring. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

AI 08-03: Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) Meteorological Program Equipment Survey: The work on the DOE/NNSA meteorological program equipment survey is being modeled after the Nuclear Utility Meteorological data User Group (NUMUG) survey with John Ciolek leading the effort. The survey will be small and compact and easy to fill out in 15 minutes and sent out more frequently than annually. John is putting the finishing touches on the mini-survey and will send it out by e-mail and post it on the DMCC forum to solicit comments. Once the survey form is completed, it will be sent to all DOE/NNSA sites with meteorological programs and this information will be compiled. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

AI 08-05: DMCC Consequence Assessment Self-Appraisal Guide: Carl shared that the DMCC Consequence Assessment Self-Appraisal Guide has been drafted. A second draft, which has incorporated peer review comments by DMCC and the Subcommittee on Consequence Assessment and Protective Actions (SCAPA) Consequence Assessment Modeling Working Group (CAMWG), has been issued. Relevant material from the EMI SIG accreditation program, Draft DOE G 151.1-XY *Emergency Management Accreditation Program* (found on the front page, right hand side of the EMI SIG web page) was integrated into this effort. The DMCC Consequence Assessment Self-Appraisal Guide is currently under NA-41 review. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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V. DMCC Issues

AI 06-12: Cliff Glantz was unavailable to update the progress on meteorological data Software Quality Assurance (SQA). The value of this product is to have it available if DOE/NNSA site managers request it, and to commercial suppliers to ensure that they integrate it into the new instrumentation software. It will focus on the most important SQA elements which include configuration management, user's guides and documentation, and adequate verification and validation. Cliff had targeted the end of 2008 for issuing a draft for DMCC review, but it will be a little late. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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VI. Status of Related Federal/Private Sector Programs

AI 04-11: Meteorological Monitoring and Meteorological Modeling Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCSs):

DMCC members are involved in the development and maintenance of six national voluntary consensus standards (VCSs) with the American Nuclear Society (ANS) as the Standards Development Organization (SDO). The following presents the status of each of these 6 standards development efforts:

- **ANSI/ANS-2.15 Criteria for Modeling and Calculating Atmospheric Transport of Routine Releases from Nuclear Facilities, ANSI/ANS-2.16 Criteria for Modeling Design-Basis Accidental Releases from Nuclear Facilities, and ANSI/ANS-3.8.10 Criteria for Modeling Real-Time Releases at Nuclear Facilities** John Ciolek discussed the status of ANSI/ANS-2.15, ANSI/ANS-2.16, and ANSI/ANS-3.8.10, indicating that after ANSI/ANS-2.15 moves into the consensus review process, ANSI/ANS-2.16 and ANSI/ANS-3.8.10 will be developed. The ANSI/ANS-2.15 working group will be holding a teleconference later today. Alex Kasprak has joined the working group, and additional authors are still needed. A draft for consensus review of ANSI/ANS-2.15 is still targeted for the October 2009 NUMUG Meeting.
 - **ANSI/ANS-2.21 Criteria for Assessing Atmospheric Effects on the Ultimate Heat Sink:** Steve Vigeant, working group chair to ANSI/ANS-2.21, had earlier reported that the working group has been formed and that Matt Parker provided an earlier draft of that standard from Al Garrett who was on the previous working group.
 - **ANSI/ANS-2.3 Determining Tornado and Other Extreme Wind Characteristics at Nuclear Facility Sites:** Carl Mazzola reported that the ANSI/ANS-2.3 working group has developed a later draft of ANS-2.3 which may be ready for consensus review by the spring of 2009. This standard will support Natural Phenomena Hazard (NPH) DOE guides and standards. Carl is working with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) on the review of DOE G 420.1-2 *Guide for the Mitigation of Natural Phenomena Hazards fro DOE Nuclear and NonNuclear Facilities* and DOE-STD-XXXX. Both of these documents reference ANS-2.3 for NPH design of severe straight line winds, translational and rotational tornado winds, and tornado pressure drops.
 - **ANSI/ANS-3.11 Determining Meteorological Information at Nuclear Facilities:** Matt Parker is the new chairperson of ANSI/ANS-3.11. At the June 2008 NUMUG meeting, it was determined that this standard is adequate for the present time and will be submitted for reaffirmation some time in 2010, when it reaches its 5-year sunset.
- ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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VII. DOE/NNSA Site Initiatives

AI 07-06: At an earlier teleconference, Walt Schalk agreed to make NTS-developed fire forecasting guideline which employs the Haynes Index and dry lightning probability. Walt mentioned that he is not yet ready with the document and it was decided to close the action item. Walt will provide this when it is completed. **ACTIVITY CAN BE CLOSED.**

AI 08-02: At an earlier teleconference, Scot Johnson indicated that he hadn't yet contacted Ken Wastrack for guidance on the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) sonic anemometer comparison to mechanical anemometers. Scot was not available for an update. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

VIII. DMCC Web Page and Forum Reports

John stated that the DMCC Forum is presently being successfully used for the ANS-2.15 standards writing effort.

IX. New Business: Round Robin

Carl led a brief round robin discussion since there was very little time left in the call:

Y-12: Tom indicated that the meteorological program at Y-12 was experiencing internet issues which have disabled NARAC *iClient*; although the web back-up allows use of NARAC. He is looking to implement a real-time monitoring of wet-bulb globe temperature (i.e., globe inside 6-inch copper sphere). Chuck Hunter Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) has provided him with the algorithm to relate this to heat stress. Brent Bowen noted that at LLNL, measurements were affected by sunlight, which is actually what should happen to this parameter. Chaz Harris suggested that Department of Defense (DoD) army sites may be monitoring this parameter and could provide advice. Carl Mazzola mentioned that there may be an American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard on wet-bulb globe temperature.

ORNL: Kevin mentioned that he is getting ready for the upcoming March 24-25, 2009 Assist Visit. They are also experiencing issues with their Computer Assisted Protective Action Recommendation System (CAPARS) model as it is undergoing a Unix Operating System (OS) upgrade. Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is also having the same *iClient* internet issues. ORNL is getting close to acquiring the services of a part-time intern who can assist Kevin with his workload. Carl suggested that Tom also look into this possibility. Lastly, all Emergency Preparedness Hazard Assessment (EPHA) updates are in the process of being archived in CAPARS.

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Pantex: Brent Bowen stated that he is preparing for a self-appraisal using the 2008 DMCC meteorological monitoring self-appraisal guide. He has just completed a 3-year update of the meteorological data base to support EPHAs by validating the meteorological data. He is also developing procedures for the meteorological program and is performing quality assurance checks on the meteorological data on a monthly basis.

NTS: Walt Schalk indicated that the Vaisala contract on the NTS lightning protection system expires at the end of February 2009. The system is being upgraded since parts to the old system will no longer be available. NNSA/Nevada Site Office (NSO) is providing most of the capital funding. Due to budget crunches, ARL/SORD is cutting back on its space at both 232 Energy Way and at 703-A at the NTS. Jim Sanders has recently retired which saved two other positions and that FTE will not be filled. The new 5-year Interagency Agreement (IA) between the Department of Commerce (DOC) and DOE has been signed by NNSA and will be in place on February 1, 2009. Lastly, the web server is being modernized.

X. Next DMCC Conference Call

The next DMCC Conference call is scheduled for **March 17, 2009**. All future 2009 DMCC conference calls will be conducted the third Tuesday of every odd month, with the exception of May since it is so close to the DMCC meeting.

XI. Adjournment

The teleconference was adjourned at **1:30 pm EDT**. Carl thanked everyone for their time and their contributions.

XII. DMCC Program Action Item (AI) Status

Based on the information exchange from the DMCC Meeting and this teleconference, no new AIs were opened, and one AI was closed. This number of DMCC AIs is now seven.

The color-coding system used in the teleconference highlights are as follows:

- Existing AIs that are not closed are colored green;
- New AIs are colored yellow; and,
- AIs to be closed are colored blue.

Carl Mazzola will update the DMCC action item list based on the information exchange from this conference call.