

DMCC PROGRAM TELECONFERENCE 08-02
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008; 2:00 PM-12:00 M EST

Teleconference 08-02 Participants

Tom Bellinger, BWXT Y-12
Brent Bowen, LLNL
John Ciolek, Alpha TRAC
Dorothy Cohen, ORISE
Cliff Glantz, PNNL
Chuck Hunter, SRNL
Scot Johnson, LANL
Carl Mazzola, Shaw Environmental
John Merrick, Consultant
Gustavo Vazquez, DOE/HS-21

Teleconference Highlights

I. Roll Call

Carl Mazzola conducted a roll call and acknowledged that 10 individuals involved in the DMCC program were present, and the teleconference was called to order.

II. Administrative Matters

A. Previous Teleconference Highlights and Action Items

Carl Mazzola indicated that The minutes of the January 29, 2008 teleconference have been developed and will be posted by ORISE on the DMCC portion of the EMI SIG web page.

B. DMCC Action Item Status

Carl briefly discussed the latest updated DMCC Program Action Item (AI) listing. At the time of the last teleconference, seven (7) action items were open, and the progress on these AIs will be discussed in today's conference call. The assist visits have been moved from the action item list to a status table. The existing DMCC AI list will be updated on the basis of information exchange during this teleconference and other relevant events.

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C. American Nuclear Society (ANS) Topical Meetings on Emergency Preparedness & Response (EP & R)

Carl mentioned that the 10th EP & R meeting took place at the Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town Albuquerque, NM, on March 9-12, 2008, with the following sessions that were of interest to NA-41:

1. Emergency Response Systems & Equipment;
2. ENSEMBLE Atmospheric Modeling/Monitoring for EP & R in Europe;
3. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – I;
4. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – II;
5. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – III);
6. Software Quality Assurance for EP & R; and,
7. Severe Weather Planning for Key Facilities.

A 5-hour chemical dispersion and consequence assessment training session also took place on Sunday, March 8, 2008.

Carl stated that the 11th Topical meeting on EP & R has been established and is planned to occur in Knoxville, TN, sometime in early 2011.

D. DMCC Meeting Planning

Walt Schalk and John Ciolek are developing the agenda for the May 5, 2008 DMCC Meeting in Reston, VA. It will be the 15th DMCC Meeting. The following individuals indicated that they will likely be attending: Jim Fairbent, Gustavo Vazquez, Walt Schalk, Carl Mazzola, Cliff Glantz, John Ciolek, Kevin Birdwell, Chuck Hunter, Kirk Clawson, Ken Burk, Brad Harvey (NRC), and an OFCM representative. Cliff will check with NA-41 as to whether meteorological monitoring system vendors can attend.

The program will begin with a discussion from NA-41, followed by a 45-minute plenary from a NOAA representative. Gus Vazquez will present on NESHAP and Brad Harvey will provide insights from NRC. There will also be updates on the DMCC web forum, ANS standards, and the meteorological data SQA initiative. John and Walt should have the final agenda available by the middle of April, 2008.

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III. Assist Visit Status

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

Oak Ridge Reservation: Y-12

Tom Bellinger and Robert Gee requested a follow-up to the May 2004 Y-12 AV, which has been scheduled for May 28-29, 2008. Initial planning has commenced, and Carl will be meeting with Tom Bellinger on April 8, 2008 to review the information that was sent out to him.

Hanford Site

Carl Mazzola will be presenting the AV program to Will Shaw, Ken Burk and Cliff Glantz on May 2, 2008. An AV before the upcoming meteorological program procurement may serve as a good baseline of the program.

Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL)

Chuck Hunter indicated that the AV at Savannah River site (SRS) is tentatively scheduled for late-2008.

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

Joel Siegel is addressing the August 2005 AV observations and recommendations. DMCC will discuss when a follow-up AV should take place. No further discussion during this teleconference.

Idaho National Laboratory (INL)

Kirk Clawson mentioned that he will not likely have a follow-up AV until 2010 due to funding constraints, but will develop a formal response to the 2004 AV by the end of the fiscal year. No further discussion during this teleconference.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)

An AV was performed in August 2006 and work has begun on selecting an improved three-dimensional mass-consistent atmospheric transport and dispersion model, adding a meteorological tower and instrument surveillance program and augmenting the meteorological data quality assurance. No need for follow-up until at least 2009.

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Pantex Site

Chuck Rives was not available to discuss possible DMCC support to a planned Pantex self-assessment of its meteorological program. Pantex had its AV in April 1997. Chuck Rives may move forward with a self-assessment once the DMCC AV Guide is issued and may supplement his team with a DMCC member.

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)

A Statement of Work to perform an AV at BNL was sent on October 15, 2006. BNL is evaluating funding options and when it would like the AV performed. BNL is quite interested, but has no funding. Gus Vazquez will assist in partial funding. No further discussion during this teleconference.

IV. DMCC Projects

AI 07-02: At an earlier teleconference, Gus Vazquez provided a status on the DOE EH-0173T update and indicated that the balance of the chapters of this technical guide has been revised in a similar manner to Chapter 5, Meteorology. This will become a companion guide for the upcoming revision of DOE O 5400.5. The revision to this 11-chapter1991 guide has been prepared and is undergoing HS-20 internal review and will soon be placed on Rev Com. The update to DOE O 5400.5 is also ongoing and this effort may affect the final version of DOE/EH-0173T. Gus will request a DMCC review of Chapter 5 since it was prepared in 2004.

ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.

AI 08-01: John Ciolek further discussed the DMCC Forum where members can post information or questions and receive replies. He is developing a prototype and will work with ORISE regarding implementation. John will also be presenting a paper on the topic at the upcoming May 2008 DMCC meeting. The forum will be by invitation only and participants will have user names and passwords. Some of the things to post on it would be the ANS standards, DOE-EH/0173T, DMCC meeting reports, and other documents of interest to the DMCC community. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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V. DMCC Issues

AI 06-12: With respect to the SQA associated with meteorological data acquisition, DMCC interest is in the more narrow area of meteorological monitoring software. Cliff Glantz updated the progress on this issue and mentioned that he and Walt Schalk presented separate papers at the March 2008 topical meeting on this subject. There are plans to develop a separate task force to address this matter. The value of this product is to have it available if NNSA/DOE 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. The papers will be posted on the DMCC web page. Cliff will present an update at the DMCC Meeting. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

VI. Status of Related Federal/Private Sector Programs

AI 04-11: Carl discussed the status of ANSI/ANS meteorological Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCSs), of which five (5) are in preparation (ANSI/ANS-2.3, ANSI/ANS-2.15, ANSI/ANS-2.16, ANSI/ANS-2.21, and ANSI/ANS-3.8.10). The ANSI/ANS-2.3 standard for tornadoes is outdated and does not account for NRC and DOE technical approach differences and does not address extreme straight-line winds. This standard is expected to be ready for consensus review sometime in 2008. Carl added that after ANSI/ANS-2.15 moves into the consensus review process, the other standards will be developed. Recently, John Ciolek has accepted the co-chairman role and issued a notice of interest to all 23 WG members, of which 16 responded positively. It is hoped that a draft for consensus review will be available by the end of the calendar year. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

VII. NNSA/DOE Site Initiatives

AI 07-05: Kirk Clawson had earlier agreed to make two ARL/FRD products, the INL Wind Pattern Study and INL Climatology Update, available to DMCC members. Subsequently, the wind pattern study was rejected by a journal it was submitted to and Kirk would like to keep it out of the public domain for now. The publication of the climatology will be provided to DMCC members through a web page posting when it is available. No further discussion. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

AI 07-06: During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, Walt Schalk agreed to make NTS-developed fire forecasting guideline which employs the Haynes Index and dry lightning probability available to DMCC members before the next fire season. No further discussion. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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VIII. DMCC Web Page Report

Cliff shared that ORISE had implemented several updates that have improved the quality and content of the DMCC web page.

IX. New Business: Round Robin

Carl led a round robin discussion.

SRNL: Chuck Hunter mentioned that his group is about to roll out a monitoring program for the SRS Security Contractor that involves the use of visibility sensors on three existing meteorological towers and a ceilometer on the helicopter landing pad. This visibility monitoring program will assist the Security Contractor in its helicopter operations. It is a first of a kind for DOE/NNSA meteorological monitoring programs.

Pantex: John mentioned that he had spoken with Chuck Rives who is very busy with a HS-63 emergency response.

SNL-NM: John stated that the SNL consequence assessment team has recently suffered significant human resource losses as two trained staff have taken different jobs within the organization or have pursued further education. Two positions need to be filled immediately and the budget only allows those positions to be filled by a staff augmentation contractor.

LANL: Scot Johnson was happy to report that he has been provided additional funding to convert all six LANL mesa and canyon meteorological towers to sonic anemometers. He is planning to install the R.M. Young heated 85000 models. Brent Bowen asked how he was planning to field test them. Carl recommended that Scot contact Ken Wastrack, TVA, who developed a field test program when TVA installed its sonic anemometers about five years ago. Regarding the need for a new transport and dispersion model, Scot liked CAPARS the best, but could not afford its costs due to budget constraints. He indicated that the site will increase its dependence on NARAC in the interim until a better system than MIDAS is in place. Scot stated that the 2006 AV was instrumental in him receiving funding to address the DMCC observations and recommendations and that he benefited from the AV. **AI 08-02: ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

SNL-CA: Brent Bowen indicated that there was one meteorological tower at that location which also uses data from the LLNL tower.

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LLNL: Brent mentioned that his program is being targeted as part of larger cutbacks at LLNL. He stated his management wanted to know why he had more meteorological towers than INL, which they believe had none. (Note: INL has 33 meteorological towers). LLNL has two tall 52-meter towers at the main location and Site 300 location at LLNL, which are instrumented on three levels. There is a need for an AV at LLNL, but no funding is available.

Hanford: Cliff mentioned that Will Shaw now runs the meteorological monitoring program at Hanford as Carl Berkowitz has taken a different job. He suggested that a site survey of DOE/NNSA meteorological program equipment would be a good task for DMCC to undertake and volunteered to develop a questionnaire. Carl mentioned that NUMUG has performed a site survey of nuclear utility meteorological program equipment and that he would share their questionnaire with DMCC. **AI 08-03: ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

X. Next DMCC Conference Call

The next DMCC Conference call will be scheduled during the 2008 DMCC Meeting on May 5, 2008.

XI. Adjournment

The teleconference was adjourned at **3:00 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, two (2) new AIs were opened, and no AIs were closed. This increased the number of DMCC AIs to nine.

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.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl Mazzola