

**DMCC PROGRAM TELECONFERENCE 07-05  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007; 11:00 AM-12:00 M EST**

**Teleconference 07-05 Participants**

Tom Bellinger, BWXT Y-12  
John Ciolek, Alpha TRAC  
Richard Davis, LLNL  
Cliff Glantz, PNNL  
Chuck Hunter, SRNL  
Scot Johnson, LANL  
Carl Mazzola, Shaw Environmental  
John Merrick, DOE/SR  
Judy Ryland, ORISE  
Walt Schalk, NTS (Chairman)  
Gustavo Vazquez, HS-21

**Teleconference Highlights**

**I. Roll Call**

Carl Mazzola conducted a roll call and acknowledged that eleven (11) individuals involved in the DMCC program were present. The teleconference was called to order and Carl thanked ORISE for setting up the call.

**II. Administrative Matters**

Carl Mazzola led the discussion on three DMCC administrative matters.

**A. Previous Teleconference Highlights and Action Items**

Carl Mazzola indicated that this is the sixth DMCC teleconference, and these teleconferences will continue to be held on a once-every-two-month basis. The minutes of the September 20, 2007 teleconference have been developed and will be posted on the DMCC portion of the EMI SIG web page.

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Carl Mazzola briefly discussed the latest updated DMCC Program Action Item (AI) listing. At the time of the last teleconference, 21 action items were open, and the progress on these AIs was reported in this conference call. The existing DMCC AI list will be updated on the basis of information exchange during this teleconference and other relevant events.

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

Carl Mazzola mentioned that the 10<sup>th</sup> EP & R meeting will take place at the Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town Albuquerque, NM, on March 9-12, 2008 (see <http://cimar.mae.ufl.edu/rrsd/>). The following sessions of interest to NA-41, with respect to the DMCC program have been established and chair persons are shown in the parentheses:

1. Emergency Response Systems & Equipment (Carl Mazzola and Steve Vigeant);
2. ENSEMBLE Atmospheric Modeling/Monitoring for EP & R in Europe (Bob Buckley and Stefano Galmarini);
3. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – I (Rob Addis);
4. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – II (Brad Schrader);
5. Consequence Modeling & Assessment for EP & R – III (Doug Osborn);
6. Software Quality Assurance for EP & R (Cliff Glantz);
7. Severe Weather Planning for Key Facilities (Walt Schalk)

Carl indicated that there will also be training sessions on Sunday, March 8, 2008. These will include Chemical Dispersion and Consequence Assessment, RADTRAN, and three other topics.

Lastly, Carl mentioned that the 11<sup>th</sup> Topical meeting on EP & R has been established and is planned to occur in Knoxville, TN, sometime in March 2010.

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

**A. Pantex Site**

**AI 06-01:** Chuck Rives was not available to discuss possible DMCC support to a planned Pantex self-assessment of its meteorological program. Pantex had its last AV in April 1997. Chuck Rives may move forward with a self-assessment once the DMCC Assist Visit Guide is issued and may supplement his team with a DMCC member. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**B. Hanford Site**

**AI 06-02:** A DMCC AV may be requested some time once the determination of the upcoming bid for meteorological monitoring services is established. Carl Mazzola has been in periodic contact with Carl Berkowitz since November 13, 2006. The trigger will be based on the upcoming procurement on the Hanford meteorological program management, which has been delayed another year. Carl Mazzola will follow up in January 2008 to discuss an AV before the procurement as a baseline of the program. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**C. Idaho National Laboratory (INL)**

**AI 06-03:** Kirk Clawson, INL, had earlier indicated that he intends to formally respond to the DMCC regarding its September 2004 AV observations and recommendations. Kirk mentioned that the AV provided him a strong platform to discuss the limitations associated with the flat funding ARL FRD has been receiving since the late-1990s. DOE/ID agreed in principle to increase the funding level. Carl met with Kirk in May 2007 to discuss a follow-up AV. Kirk mentioned that he will likely have that AV in 2008. No further discussion during this teleconference. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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**AI 06-04:** Ed Forness, DOE/NV, had earlier indicated that NTS may be interested in an AV in the spring or summer of 2007. This has been replaced by an evaluation of ARL/SORD by NSTec, the M & O Contractor. Carl Mazzola reported on the objectives of the evaluation and its status. **ACTION ITEM CLOSED.**

**E. Oak Ridge Reservation: Y-12**

**AI 06-05:** Tom Bellinger had earlier indicated that he has an interest in a follow-up to the May 2004 Y-12 AV. Robert Gee will be requesting NA-41 to fund a follow-up assist visit in the March-April 2008 timeframe. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**F. Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)**

**AI 06-09:** Joel Siegel, WIPP, had earlier indicated that he has not yet had an opportunity to address the August 2005 AV observations and recommendations due to present program manpower constraints. DMCC will discuss a follow-up AV for the summer 2008 timeframe, which is the general three-year frequency for AV follow-up. No further discussion during this teleconference. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**G. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)**

**AI 06-08:** An AV was performed at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in August 2006. Scot Johnson had indicated he was very pleased with the AV and has already begun work 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. LANL indicated no need for follow-up until 2009. LANL is experiencing significant budget shortfalls. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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**AI 06-14**: A Statement of Work (SOW) to perform an AV at BNL was sent to Vic Cassella on October 15, 2006. BNL is evaluating its funding options and when it would like the AV performed. However, it is severely constrained by the CR which is resulting in BNL reductions in force. BNL is quite interested, but has no funding. Gus Vazquez may be asked to assist in the funding of this assist visit. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**I. Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL)**

**AI 07-03**: At the 2007 DMCC Meeting, Chuck Hunter indicated an interest in an AV at Savannah River site (SRS). Subsequent discussions resulted in an agreement for a monitoring program AV in summer 2008 and a consequence assessment program AV in summer 2009. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**IV. DMCC Projects**

Carl Mazzola led the discussion on the three active DMCC projects:

**AI 04-09**: At the 2004 DMCC Meeting, NNSA and DOE meteorological program managers expressed interest in providing its meteorological data for ingestion in the Meteorological Acquisition Data Ingest System (MADIS). Positive responses were received from nine DOE/NNSA sites and forwarded to Patti Miller, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), who in May 2005 indicated she would write a letter requesting information and developing protocols for ingestion. Cost for accelerated ingestion per a recent communiqué from the DOC indicates that it is prohibitive to do this at this time. Therefore, DOE will continue to wait until NOAA can handle its data, which has not been scheduled. **ACTION ITEM CLOSED.**

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**AI 06-16:** At an earlier teleconference, Carl Mazzola discussed the guideline to enable meteorological program self-assessments. This work began in mid-April 2007 and Gus Vazquez mentioned that this product would be useful for HS-64 (i.e., Office of ESH Evaluation) and HS-63 (Office of EM Oversight) to use in their oversight process. Others on the teleconference also indicated that it would be a very useful product for self-assessments and assessments involving the DMCC. A second draft has been provided to address NA-41 comments. The DMCC Self-Assessment Guide is undergoing final review by DMCC members with a November 30, 2007 deadline for comments. It will be issued in December 2007. **ACTION ITEM CLOSED.**

**AI 07-02:** 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 4, Meteorology. Steve Domotor is leading the effort. Gus mentioned that this will become a companion guide for the upcoming revision of DOE O 5400.5. The revision to this 1991 guide has been prepared and is in internal HS-20 review. It will then undergo HS-1 review and be placed on RevCom in early 2008. It should be issued in the spring 2008 through Gus Vazquez' HS-22 organization. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**V. DMCC Issues**

Carl Mazzola and Cliff Glantz led on the three active DMCC Issues.

**AI 06-12:** With respect to the SQA associated with meteorological data acquisition, DMCC interest is in the narrower area of meteorological monitoring software. Cliff Glantz will present a paper at the March 2008 topical meeting on this subject and plans to develop a separate task force to address the issue. The value of this product is to have it available if NNSA/DOE site managers request it. It will be made available to commercial suppliers to ensure that they integrate it into the new instrumentation software. It will mimic the DOE G 414.1-4 approach and focus on the most important SQA elements, which include configuration management, user's guides, and documentation, and adequate verification and validation. Cliff plans to post the paper on the DMCC web page. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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**AI 07-04:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, a need to have the National Center for Environmental Programs (NCEP) revise its Rapid Update Code (RUC) resolution was identified relative to mesoscale forecast modeling. DMCC committed to a write letter to NCEP. Walt Schalk has e-mailed Jeff McQueen, ARL/HQ, to determine the feasibility of increasing the resolution of the Rapid Update Cycle (RUC) modeling which supports NNSA/DOE forecast models. John Ciolek noted that some steps have been taken in this regard, as NCEP is delivering a 13-km resolution product. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**AI 07-09:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, Mark Miller agreed to provide an ALOHA patch so the 60-minute limitation can be overridden for non-emergency planning applications. Walt Schalk has e-mailed Mark Miller, NOAA/Hazmat with a request for this patch. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**VI. Status of Related Federal/Private Sector Programs**

Carl Mazzola led the discussion and provided an update on the following Federal/private sector program that DMCC has interest.

**AI 04-11:** Carl Mazzola discussed the status of ANSI/ANS meteorological Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCSs). Five (5) standards 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. In addition the standard 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, Cliff Glantz has accepted the co-chairman role and Carl Mazzola has asked for a path forward on the preparation of the standard. A draft for consensus review is expected by the end of the calendar year. Cliff indicated that Paul Fransioli, Matt White (Bechtel) and John Ciolek have now been involved in the process to move it along a little faster. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

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**VII. NNSA/DOE Site Initiatives**

Carl Mazzola led the discussion and provided an update on the following three NNSA/DOE site initiatives.

**AI 07-05:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, Kirk Clawson agreed to make two ARL/FRD products, the INL Wind Pattern Study and INL Climatology Update, available to DMCC members. Walt plans to send an e-mail to Kirk Clawson to request a status on whether these products are available for dissemination to the DMCC membership through web page posting. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**AI 07-06:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, Walt Schalk agreed to make NTS-developed fire forecasting tool available to DMCC members. Walt indicated that this tool is almost ready and will be available in February 2008 before the next fire season. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**AI 07-08:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, John Ciolek offered to provide the OSSE report that addressed locating meteorological towers to maximize their influence on wind field generation. John explained that the technique is based on a cumulative probability plot. Each sensor that is added to the array of sensors will reduce the error. John emphasized that this technique needs to be tested in the field and Alpha TRAC is looking for partners in this validation effort. John indicated that some of the material in the report is sensitive and he may choose to do a briefing by teleconference. John Ciolek was not available to discuss the progress. Carl Mazzola will follow up. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

**VIII. DMCC Web Page Report**

Cliff discussed the progress of the EMI SIG web page which is continually improving and covering more timely topics. Cliff emphasized that the web page looks the way it does today due to the hard work by Dorothy Cohen and her staff at the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). Carl mentioned that he just received a nice compliment from Gus Vazquez, HS-21 on its content and navigability.

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Cliff mentioned that there was some navigation difficulty in getting to the products that the web page makes available and some reconfiguration is in order. Cliff will follow up with Dorothy Cohen and will develop a home page write-up to help in the navigation, as well as better hyperlinks and human engineering. Suggested links were to the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM), ANSI/ANS standards, ALOHA download, MADIS, EPA SCRAM model page, and DMCC Annual Reports. Applicable DOE orders and guides will also be added to the web page (e.g., DOE G 231.1).

Walt will e-mail Cliff with suggested enhancements.

**AI 07-01:** Cliff Glantz asked all of the teleconference attendees to identify new publications to be posted or linked to the website, inclusive of climatology studies. **ACTION ITEM CLOSED.**

**AI 07-07:** During the 2007 DMCC Meeting, the membership requested that a DMCC blog be developed. John Ciolek plans to contribute to this activity and has indicated there is value in the following ways: (1) It would be a place to store important ideas; (2) It would be a place to document important debate; (3) It would be a great way to invite more participation in the DMCC; (4) It would be a good mechanism for searching through the DMCC body of knowledge; (5) It would be a great way to demonstrate to NA-41 what the group is involved in; and, (6) It would be a very inexpensive way to continually get collaboration on many topics without having to organize a meeting or a teleconference. John will work this outside of action item tracking. **ACTION ITEM CLOSED.**

**IX. New Business: Round Robin**

Carl Mazzola led a round robin discussion that included seven (7) participants.

**DOE/HS-22:** Gus Vazquez discussed the recent meeting that he had with Carl Mazzola on November 15, 2007 at Forrestal regarding the DMCC mission, and in particular, the AV program. Gus was impressed at the value-added from the previous eleven (11) AVs and indicated his willingness to partially support the DMCC Assist Visit program. He will bring this concept to his management after Carl Mazzola sends him information on the AV program and its past and present value to DOE/NNSA meteorological programs. Carl will also send the Self-Assessment Guide once it is released.

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**Y-12:** Tom Bellinger stated that the Y-12 meteorological program has enjoyed improved positive visibility throughout the complex. He was able to improve this visibility in many ways, but in particular, by introducing a "First Freeze Contest" on the site's meteorological web page. The first prize was a rain gauge. Tom also has also been making presentations of the program to local schools. There was brief discussion on the upcoming assist visit.

**SRS:** Chuck Hunter mentioned that Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) has just developed a new fully quality-assured, five-year meteorological data set (i.e., 2002-2006) which will withstand the scrutiny of the highest level of quality assurance. This data set is used for MACCS2 evaluations by the Integrated Safety Management organization and CAP-88PC evaluations by the Environment, Safety, and Health organization for compliance with NESHAP. Chuck also mentioned that an array of visibility sensors and a ceilometer has been installed near B-Area to assist the SRS Security Contractor's ability to make its necessary helicopter flights in inclement weather. Chuck will discuss this monitoring program in more depth at the May 2008 DMCC Meeting.

**ORISE:** Judy Ryland reminded everyone that the deadline for sending abstracts for the EMI SIG meeting is coming up fast and is January 15, 2008. Judy encouraged everyone to submit abstracts for consideration by the EMI SIG Steering Committee.

**Hanford:** Cliff Glantz related a unique cybersecurity issue that has affected the Hanford meteorological program. Since PNNL runs the meteorological program, as well as the emergency preparedness program, the 15-minute meteorological data that is needed by the consequence assessment team has to go through the PNNL firewall and Hanford firewalls. These firewalls slow data transmission, which loses valuable time during exercises and real events. Cliff is looking for a way to maintain cybersecurity without these unpleasant data transmission issues. No other DOE/NNSA site has this situation.

**NTS:** Walt Schalk mentioned that there were 40 voluntary reductions in force at NTS this month and 140 additional involuntary reductions in force are expected. Depending on the length of the Continuing Resolution, there could be additional involuntary reductions in force during the January-March 2008 period. At the present time, ARL/SORD will not have any involuntary reductions. Walt also mentioned that questions are being raised regarding the upper air meteorological data that is being monitored at the Desert Rock site, which services the needs of the local National Weather Service (NWS) office.

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**LLNL**: Richard Davis volunteered to identify the LLNL meteorologist so that the possibility of an assist visit could be discussed. Carl indicated that he thought that Brent Bowen ran that program and it resided in the environmental safety and health group.

**X. Next DMCC Conference Call**

Carl Mazzola tentatively scheduled the next DMCC Conference call for **Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. EST.**

**XI. Adjournment**

The teleconference was adjourned at **noon EST**. 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 five AIs were closed, making a total of 17 AIs (Note: 1 AI was opened during the DMCC Program Planning Meeting).

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.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Carl Mazzola*