



Emergency Management Issues (EMI)
Special Interest Group (SIG)

Highlights

HAZARDS ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE 06-03
WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2006; 2:00 Eastern Time

Participants:

Bud Bucci, Hanford
Larry Campbell, Hanford
Dorothy Cohen, ORISE
Bob Cornish, OST
Megan Eastment, AlphaTRAC
Jerry Gibeault, INL
Courtney Haggard, WSMS Mid-America
John Harris, DOE/OR
Reed Hodgins, AlphaTRAC
Jim Jamison, SAIC
Jeff Long, ORNL, Co-Chairman
April Martin, WSMS Mid-America
Pete Matonis, INL
Carl Mazzola, Shaw Environmental
Shana Peterson, BWXT/Y-12
Bill Possidente, NTS
Jim Powers, NA-41
Chuck Rives, Pantex, Chairman
Brad Salmonson, INL
Michele Wolfgram, WSMS Mid-America

Teleconference Highlights

I. Roll Call

Chuck Rives conducted a roll call and acknowledged that 20 individuals from eight DOE/NNSA locations, involved with the Hazards Assessment Subcommittee (HAS) were present.

II. Administrative Matters

There were no administrative matters that required discussion.

III. Action Items

	<p style="text-align: right;">Emergency Management Issues (EMI) Special Interest Group (SIG)</p>
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Chuck Rives and Jeff Long led a discussion on the four active action items.

AI 06-01: During previous teleconferences, Chuck Rives discussed a power point presentation on consequence assessment that he placed on the HAS list server on January 10, 2006. A second draft is presently out for review and comment. Chuck indicated during this teleconference that he has done additional work on it including incorporating some content from Bruce Turner's 1994 version of "Workbook on Atmospheric Dispersion Modeling Estimates". The goal of this task is to make this presentation an HAS product to be used by all DOE/NNSA sites, where the target audience is professionals with minimal background in the technical topic. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

AI 06-02: During previous teleconferences, Chuck Rives discussed the crosswalk of all hazards assessment interfaces with the December 20, 2005 draft Emergency Management Guides (EMGs) product; a quick reference document for identifying customer expectations. Each element in the crosswalk contains a statement describing an action that needs to be performed. HAS members, including Wayne Davis, Michele Baker, Carl Mazzola, Jeff Long, Jerry Gibeault, Bob Cornish, Diane Standovich, and Susan Vosburg are participating in this effort. Chuck indicated that many segments have been completed and that new segments were received since the last HAS teleconference. Chuck will poll the contributors to determine when they expect to finish their work. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

AI 06-03: During a previous teleconference, Jeff Long discussed the hazards assessment screening of water treatment chemicals that exceeded the 5-gallon threshold quantity, since at ORNL they are having trouble screening out some of the water treatment chemicals that are in 250- to 500-gallon containers. Several HAS members offered additional suggestions through the list serve and Jeff mentioned that DOE/OR has resolved this issue. One additional step that needed to be taken was for DOE/OR to contact the vendors to determine concentrations of certain proprietary chemicals. Per his request, Jeff will provide a list of the substances to Jim Jamison who assists Jim Powers, NA-41, in screening criteria development. **ACTION CAN BE CLOSED.**



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AI 06-04: Carl Mazzola and Larry Campbell reported on the work that they and four other professionals are performing in the process of evaluating the HOTSPOT code for inclusion as the 8th model into the DOE Central Registry toolbox as a safe harbor code. The report is virtually complete and it is still uncertain whether HOTSPOT will be accepted in the toolbox since it has many gaps in the gap analysis. However, all the Central registry codes have gap analyses that have to be eventually closed. The final report is expected out in January 2007. John Harris stated that it would be a problem if HOTSPOT did not qualify for the toolbox since so many DOE/NNSA sites use the code for EPHAs and other radiological release evaluations. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

There was additional discussion on whether NARAC would soon undergo an evaluation as the next toolbox code. Although it involves widespread usage in DOE/NNSA, it is classified as a back-up to the site's primary consequence assessment system and according to Debra Sparkman, DOE/EH Central Registry, it will be unlikely that it will undergo evaluation as a toolbox code. Gerry Gibeault brought up two valid points for discussion: (1) NARAC contains EPICODE 2.0, yet EPICODE 7.0 is the most recent version. Is this a problem? Carl Mazzola stated that the only difference between the EPICODE versions is the multiplier on the pool evaporation algorithm. In addition, EPICODE will ultimately undergo a future evaluation by the Central Registry to close the gaps in the gap analysis, as well as the other safe harbor codes; and, (2) NARAC does not permit the DOE/NNSA sites to use the code locally. Code usage is under the control of NARAC staff at LLNL. Carl Mazzola responded that this was one of the reasons why NARAC may not undergo evaluation as a toolbox code.

IV. New Business

AI 06-05: Jeff Long led a discussion on the use of "case books" for pre-determined inputs for initial worst case plume models in the EOC/TSC during drills and exercises or actual events based on EPHA worst case scenarios. Larry Campbell shared that at Hanford, they have analyses that are available which provide a library of all potential source terms which can be used in the EOC during exercises and real events. Brad Salmonson indicated that at INL, there are default runs using the RSAC-6 code for each EAL number. Reed Hodgkin stated that at SNL-NM, there is a hazards assessment data base which is linked to a data base that the Consequence Assessment Team uses. Jeff Long took an action to develop a lessons learned best practice statement on the use of case books. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**

Jeff Long led a discussion on how contractors implement DOE O 151.1C, Attachment 2, Section 3.b (1)(c) "An accurate and timely method for tracking changes in operations,


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processes, or accident analyses that involve hazardous materials (e.g., introduction of new materials, new uses, significant changes in inventories, modification of material environments) must be established and maintained for each facility/activity. Jeff indicated that the method must allow sufficient time for emergency management personnel to review the EPHA and modify plans and procedures, as necessary. Bud Bucci mentioned that at Hanford there are processes in place for documenting changes that may impact EPHAs. All new projects are required to show, through configuration management, how they will impact the functions of the site, inclusive of emergency preparedness. Carl Mazzola stated that the Terms & Conditions of the contract can be used as a vehicle to ensure compliance. There was some discussion on whether NNSA/DOE should go to a real-time chemical inventory tracking system. Many felt that this was too cumbersome and expensive. Carl Mazzola suggested that perhaps a graded system would work where only very toxic or extremely hazardous chemicals would be tracked in real-time to make this important effort more manageable.

AI 06-06: Megan Eastment discussed the survey of hazards task that she is performing for DOE NA-41 (i.e., Support-Chemical Inventory System Evaluation). The scope of the task is to: (1) produce inventory system analysis results that can be used by DOE sites to improve emergency planning processes; (2) identify lessons learned across the complex, uncovering strengths and weaknesses of systems and how sites have dealt with problems in their systems; (3) produce a set of best practices for inventory system set-up and management, as well as the adaptation of existing inventory systems and data for application to emergency management; and, (4) establish a mechanism for information sharing among field sites by identifying specific points of contact for solutions and best practices. Megan will be canvassing 15 sites and will be e-mailing questionnaires to these sites. There will also be site visits to BNL, SRS, SNL-NM, PNNL, and LANL. Information gathered from this effort will be analyzed to establish an inventory configuration best practice for all sites and a mechanism for sharing chemical inventory information. **ACTIVITY PROCEEDING.**



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Chuck Rives discussed the question of anticipating whether the issue of protective actions for pet owners might drive the needs of hazards assessment customers and the way hazards assessments are performed. Chuck stated that this is a post-Hurricane Katrina/Rita issue where Congress has stated that a person's relationship with pets is an obstacle to evacuation, and therefore, an obstacle to saving lives. Chuck was interested in whether protective action pre-planning would be affected since exposure levels for pets would be different. Carl Mazzola mentioned that this is likely to be a state and local emergency response agency issue as the DOE/NNSA emergency response organizations would only make protective action recommendations. These protective action recommendations would not change, but state and local agencies may be updating their emergency plans to address this new consideration.

AI 06-07: Gerry Gibeault inquired as to how a hazards survey can demonstrate that the site is appropriately implementing applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Chuck Rives mentioned that he would place this on the agenda for the next HAS teleconference.

V. Round Robin Discussion

Chuck Rives led the round robin discussion:

Pantex: Presently performing a hazards survey database project.

INL: Also performing a hazards survey database project.

Hanford: Attempted hazards survey database project, but did not find it useful.

VI. Next HAS Conference Call

Chuck Rives indicated that the next HAS conference call has been scheduled for **Wednesday, February 21, 2007 at 2:00 pm Eastern Time.**



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VII. Adjournment

The teleconference was adjourned at **3:05 p.m. EDT**. Chuck and Jeff thanked everyone for their time and their contributions.

VIII. HAS Action Item (AI) Status

Three new action items were opened and one action item was closed as a result of the discussions in this teleconference.

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.