



Highlights

HAZARDS ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE 08-04

Wednesday, August 20 2008; 2:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Participants:

Bob Cornish, OST
Gerry Gibeault, INL (Chairman)
John Harris, DOE/OR
Jim Jamison, SAIC
Vicki Locklear, NA-43
Jeff Long, ORNL
Steve Lockett, NA-41
Carl Mazzola, Shaw Environmental
Mike O'Keeffe, NTS
Shana Peterson, Y-12
Bill Possidente, NTS
Jim Powers, NA-41
Brad Salmonson, INL
Kerry Ward, INL
Louise Wyatt, ORISE
Ken Young, LLNL

Teleconference Highlights

I. Roll Call

Gerry Gibeault conducted a roll call and noted that sixteen (16) individuals from six (6) DOE/NNSA locations involved with the Hazards Assessment Subcommittee (HASubC) were present.

II. Administrative Matters

The highlights from the June 18, 2008 meeting were accepted as presented.

III. Action Item (AI) Update

No open AIs were carried forward from the last teleconference.

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IV. Old Business

AI 08-04: Hazards Assessment Subcommittee Website: The HASubC website hosted by ORISE is no longer password protected, as are other websites (e.g. Subcommittee on Consequence Assessment and Protective Actions, and DOE Meteorological Coordinating Council). Gerry indicated that much of the information on the website is dated (e.g., 10-12 years old) and modernization is needed. Gerry will contact Cliff Glantz who modernized the SCAPA and DMCC websites for ideas on how to upgrade it.

Implementation of SharePoint: At the last teleconference, Dorothy Cohen discussed how the HASubC can use the SharePoint system to exchange information which enables collaboration for remote discussions between groups. However, only a few HASubC members have e-mailed Dorothy to get a user ID to participate. Gerry mentioned that a good SharePoint application is to request HASubC assistance to a draft document or to request assistance with a generic issue. Jeff Long stated that the web site is good for general information, while SharePoint is good for conversations.

Potential Issues: At the last teleconference, participants were asked to identify specific issues that may be of broad interest to the community. Gerry provided an update on each of these issues.

AI 08-05: Mixed hazardous waste: *How should emergency planning hazards assessments (EPHAs) analyze the nonradiological hazardous materials component in mixed hazardous waste?* Jim Jamison was asked to share his work in progress on this specific issue but declined since it is still under review by his client. He indicated it would be ready for the HASubC to look at within 1-2 months.

Biological hazardous materials: *Emergencies associated with the airborne release of biological materials are categorized as operational emergencies that do not require further classification. Should airborne releases of biological materials be addressed in an EPHA, and if so, how?* Gerry has spoken with Frank Roberto who is addressing this question for the SCAPA Biosafety Working Group. Jim Powers mentioned that EMG Volume V provides clear guidance on this.

Friable asbestos: *Should friable asbestos be addressed in an EPHA, and if so, how?* Carl Mazzola stated that asbestos is regulated under the Clean Air Act (CAA) and is the

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responsibility of the Environmental Safety and Health (ES & H) organization at DOE/NNSA sites. Therefore, it is “below the radar” for emergency preparedness and response.

AI 08-06: **Cadmium metal:** *Cadmium metal has a relatively low boiling point. Should it be addressed in an EPHA, and if so, how?* Jeff Long and Shana Peterson both indicated that if it is in a solid form and is monolithic, it can be screened since it is non-dispersive. However, Brad Salmonson stated that in a fire accident scenario, the cadmium metal would volatilize into a cadmium oxide vapor which cannot be screened out. Brad would like to know what a reasonable Airborne Release Fraction (ARF) is for this scenario for an evaluation he is conducting under DOE STD-1027.

V. New Business

AI 08-07: Gerry Gibeault mentioned that Jeff Long had recently learned that DOT 6m drums, 20 WC containers, 21 WC containers will no longer be authorized for Type B shipments after October 1, 2008 (i.e., 69 FR 3632-3698). However, it is believed that this ruling should not have an adverse effect on EPHAs or hazards surveys. John Harris opined that we need to find out why containers are decertified (e.g., a worst-case aircraft crash can total these drums). In addition, once the drums are decertified, it is hard to recertify. Mike O’Keeffe stated that NTS still takes credit for Type B containers. It was concluded that more information on this subject was needed to bring this issue to resolution.

VI. Round Robin Discussion

INL: **Gerry Gibeault:** (1) The INL annual exercise was completed last week and everything went well; and, (2) Alpha-TRAC is updating the EPHAs and hazard surveys.

ORNL: **Jeff Long:** HS-63 is at the site and in the middle of a 2-week data acquisition period. They are presently doing a Limited Scope Performance Test (LSPT). No big issues have been raised so far. One pending question is where do you draw the line when you have co-located multiple containers?

Y-12: **Shana Peterson:** (1) EALs, hazards surveys and EPHAs are being updated; (2) spot checks are being conducted of the emergency management program at the facility level; (3) quarterly self-assessments are being performed; and, (4) preparations are underway for a site-wide security audit.



**EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
ISSUES**

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

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NTS: Mike O’Keeffe: All NTS facilities (e.g., U1a) are being transitioned to NSTec from the national laboratories.

OR: John Harris: Recently attended the HS-63 debrief. The focus was on emergency services and public information.

OST: Bob Cornish: Engrossed in a series of exercises in which the new manager has keen interest.

LLNL: Ken Young: (1) LLNL had its annual exercise the same day as INL; (2) An HS-63 visit is scheduled for the October-November timeframe; (3) The ERO has been converted to comply with NIMSIMS; and, (4) Further integrating CHEMTRAC relative to emergency response criteria.

VII. Adjournment

The teleconference was adjourned at **3:00 p.m. EDT**. Gerry thanked everyone for their time and contributions.

VIII. Next HAS Conference Call

The next HASubC teleconference will be scheduled on **Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 2:00 pm EDT**.

IX. HAS Action Item (AI) Status

Four (4) specific new AIs were opened as a result of the discussions in this teleconference, and there are presently four open AIs. AIs are not opened for simple tasks such as transmittal of information from one party to another.

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

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