



Highlights

BWG Teleconference

February 18, 2009

Participants

Frank Roberto
Cliff Glanz
Deborah Newby
Dina Matz-Siegel

Jim Powers
Diane Rodi
Sam Biggers
Michael Hietcamp

ABSA Alliance Agreement

On Jan 22, Frank emailed Joe at U of Chicago. Frank has "pinged" him, but has not yet received a response. Ball is in ABSA's court. The ABSA newsletter has referenced that the alliance is nearing completion.

DOE Policy Making Effort 434.xx

There is a redline version, DOE is asking for concurrence on Revcom. Frank thanked Jim for making sure that the emergency management role in SA and toxin work was addressed. Discussion included the level of oversight of other federal agencies, whether the Regional Biocontainment Laboratory would fall under the policy, and a reiteration that the policy does provide for oversight of building and operations of any DOE BSL-3 Select Agent laboratories. Frank asked if we could provide a unified statement of concurrence as the BWG. Also discussed was the make up of the biosurety working group; Frank sent a copy of the charter to the BWG by email.

Presidential Executive Order

Before he left office, President Bush established a special commission to look at biological lab security. It is probable that this is the outcome of the transfederal task force. The commission has six months to generate a report with recommendations to the new president.

456.1 Safe Handling of UNP

Dina went over the notice, and the possible issues and concerns faced by those sites working with UNP. We appreciated Dan Marsick letting us know, and keeping us informed of interagency meeting proceedings.



Biosafety Training Modules at Argonne

Di is willing to share INLs biosafety training modules with the working group. They have:

- Four types of bloodborne pathogen training. (OM, ER, custodian, and one for researchers).
- A BSL-1/biosafety awareness training module for non-bio personnel.
- Training in accordance with NIHs OBAs training requirements for recombinant DNA. (provided to IBC members, then researchers)
- Routine training of IBCs on critical issues.
- Set of training slides for web based. Practical training session.

Email drodi@anl.gov if you would like a copy.

Round Table Discussion

SCAPA meeting May 4-9 in San Francisco. Be thinking of what sort of topics to present at that meeting, and when the BWG can meet.

ABSA meeting in October in Miami. Call for abstracts is now open. Consider whether we will be able to meet.

Discussion of USAMRIID /Fort Detrick inventory issue.