

FINAL

[These ISCORS subcommittee meeting summaries result from interagency discussions. The Sewage Subcommittee is composed of representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the State of New Jersey, and two Publicly Owned Treatment Works. The Subcommittee summaries have not been approved by the respective agencies and organizations and do not represent the official position of any participating organizations at this time.]

ISCORS SEWAGE SLUDGE SUBCOMMITTEE: FEBRUARY 22, 2000, MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: February 22, 2000

TIME: 0900-1300

LOCATION: NRC RPDC-8th Floor
White Flint, MD

ATTENDEES: DOE: Jim Bachmaier
EPA: Robert Bastian, Mark Doehnert, Dale Hoffmeyer, Loren Setlow Behram Shroff
EPA/NAREL: Dave Saunders
NRC: Duane Schmidt, Tom O'Brien, Lee Abramson
NRC contractor: Dale Condra
POTWs: Thomas Lenhart, Kevin Aiello

AGENDA: General Issues
- January meeting minutes
- ISCORS Webpage
- FACA issue
Survey
- Status of samples/analysis effort
- Disposal of pilot samples by ORISE
- Data Management/Analyses
- LANL Interface
- November Data Review
- Agreement State Licensees lists
Guidance Document
- ISCORS Conference call
- Federal Register Notice
- Comments-incomplete sections
Dose Modeling

SUMMARY:

GENERAL ISSUES

- The January Subcommittee meeting minutes were reviewed and finalized.

- Duane Schmidt discussed the status of the ISCORS webpage. It was suggested that a List Serve be developed for the Subcommittee's page for notifying the public meeting attendees, interested groups, as well as the Regional and State Program Coordinators of the Subcommittee's activities. It was emphasized that the documents identified during previous Subcommittee meetings (ie., the finalized meeting summaries, final report on the nine test sites, list of POTWs that received the survey questionnaire, a general writeup from earlier materials and the public meeting overheads) needed to be made available on the new web page.
- Duane Schmidt and Behram Schroff discussed the status of responses being prepared to a UniTech Services Group e-mail and a letter from Senators James Inhofe and Bob Smith regarding whether the Subcommittee's activities are subject to FACA. OMB's directive concerning two local POTW authority representatives serving on the Subcommittee, as well as unfunded mandates and FACA exclusions were discussed. The Subcommittee also discussed the desire to hold more open public meetings in the future. It was pointed out that the EPA SAB meeting in April, where the dose modeling protocol will be discussed, will be an open public meeting and that the full ISCORS committee would likely hold another open public meeting in June 2000.

SURVEY:

Status of Samples/Analysis Effort: Dale Condra and Dave Saunders summarized the status of the ORISE and NAREL efforts to obtain and analyze samples. Problems encountered to date were discussed and solutions discussed; this included a discussion about false positive readings and how findings of elevated readings would be handled. The need for disposal of pilot samples by ORISE due to space limitations and the age of these samples was also discussed and approved.

Data Management/Analyses: The Subcommittee again discussed the flow of survey data from ORISE and NAREL to the Los Alamos Lab (LANL) and attempted to verify if the data sets from the nine test sites had been successfully sent to and received by LANL. The Subcommittee agreed that the data sets from October and November should also be sent to LANL for entry into the database. Mark Doehnert again noted the need to develop a survey data management plan to supplement the Lab's QAPP and agreed to resend example materials from some EPA documents for the Subcommittee to consider using in developing the data management plan. Jim Bachmaier discussed his initial draft Data Analysis Plan concepts that involved four levels of analyses. He noted that he estimated there would be ~24,000 data points generated by the survey effort.

LANL INTERFACE: The Subcommittee discussed in detail with Lee Abramson the need for more active involvement by LANL with the Subcommittee in helping to develop the data management plan in analyzing and summarizing the full survey data. Bob Bastian described the discussions he and Rosemary Hogan had with the LANL project staff and managers to help clarify LANL's role in the survey effort. Lee Abramson agree to further clarify the resources and capabilities at LANL that will be available to the Subcommittee.

November Data Review: The Subcommittee reviewed the data previously e-mailed to everyone on the November sample results in an attempt to identify any outliers or other data problems that need further clarification by the labs. One question was raised concerning two sets of uranium and thorium results on one sample. The second set was a quality control sample, and it was agreed that the labs need to clarify this type of information to LANL.

Agreement State Licensees Lists: Tom O'Brien discussed the status of the efforts to work with the Agreement States to obtain lists of licensees in specific groups to include in the survey questionnaire database and help with the selection of POTWs for sampling

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT:

ISCORS Conference Call: Bob Bastian described the results of the conference call involving the ISCORS Committee members and Subcommittee chairs that was held on February 16, 2000. The ISCORS members agreed that they should address the release of the final Revised Draft Guidance Document at their next full meeting on March 27, 2000, and that the Subcommittee should plan to get the final version to them by March 13, 2000. He noted that ISCORS was also receptive to providing the Subcommittee with references that would be helpful in addressing the problems that some POTWs have had with landfill alarms being set at or near background levels, and that the CRCPD representative agreed to gather information and guidance materials on this subject from the states and present it at the next ISCORS meeting.

Federal Register Notice: The Subcommittee discussed the need for a *Federal Register* Notice for the release of the Revised Draft Guidance Document and the pros & cons about doing this as a joint NRC/EPA Notice.

Comments-Incomplete Sections: Bob Bastian lead the Subcommittee through a review of the areas noted as requiring further work in the latest draft of the Revised Draft Guidance Document previously e-mailed to the members by Duane Schmidt. Subcommittee members agreed to provide Duane with the materials they agreed their final input in time for a final review session on March 7, 2000, at NRC in order to have the document in final form to send to ISCORS by March 13, 2000.

DOSE MODELING:

Dale Hoffmeyer summarized the status of the Dose Modeling Workgroup and plans for briefing the EPA SAB at their April meeting on the basic components of the protocol document. Bob Bastian emphasized that he and Dale will also be briefing the full ISCORS Committee at their next meeting in March 2000 on the dose modeling document and to seek their input on any unresolved issues. During his description of the planned dose modeling effort, Dale stated that the contractor will be using the PRESTO model for all exposure scenarios and that RESRAD will be used as a confirmatory model for the On-site Resident scenario only – an approach that was acceptable to all those present.

ACTION ITEMS:

Bob Bastian will seek ISCORS approval to issue the Revised Draft Guidance Document for public comment at the next ISCORS meeting scheduled for March 27, 2000.

Jim Bachmaier will continue to serve as a focal point for gathering ideas for the data management plan to supplement the survey QAPP

Mark Doehnert will resend example materials from some EPA documents related to the development of the data management plan

Lee Abramson will work LANL, Rosemary Hogan, and Duane Schmidt to help clarify what LANL resources and capabilities are available to assist the Subcommittee efforts and their role in evaluating the survey data

Subcommittee members agreed to provide Duane with the materials they agreed their final input in time for a final review session on March 7, 2000, at NRC in order to have the document in final form to send to ISCORS by March 13, 2000.

Dale Hoffmeyer and Bob Bastian will be prepared to brief the ISCORS Committee on the dose modeling protocol document at their next meeting in March 2000