

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

DATE: NOV 30 1987

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: RW-223

SUBJECT: Commitment Status Report

TO: Distribution

In response to Commitment No. 19 from the October 1, 1987, DOE Meeting with States and Indian Tribes held in Dallas, Texas, a meeting was held November 12, 1987, in Seattle, Washington, to discuss plans for future States and Indian Tribes Meetings. The attached November 24, 1987, memorandum from James C. Bresee to S. Kale is a summary report of that meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact me on (202) 586-8320.



Judy A. Leahy
Economic and Intergovernmental
Analysis Branch
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Attachment

88144537

WM Project: WM-1

PDR w/encl

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

WM Record File: 109

LPDR w/encl



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PDR WASTE

WM-1

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11/30/87

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11/30/87

memorandum

DATE: NOV 24 1987

REPLY TO:
ATTN OF: RW-22

SUBJECT: Plans for Future States/Tribes Meetings

TO: S. Kale, RW-20

On Thursday, November 12, 1987, John Anttonen and I met with Terry Hussemann and Ron Halfmoon in Seattle to discuss plans for the 1988 States and Indian Tribes (S/T) meetings, currently scheduled every four months beginning in late January. There were two separate issues to review: (1) specific plans for the January meeting and its relation to the SCP plenary workshop, and (2) general plans to improve the effectiveness of future meetings. The following are our recommendations.

With regard to the January meeting, we agreed to recommend that it be principally devoted to the SCP plenary and be held in Denver immediately after the Monday and Tuesday, January 25 and 26, 1988, LSS meeting (possibly at the same location), since there will be some carryover participation in both meetings. Because the States and Tribes (and DOE) will need at least a half-day to prepare for the S/T meeting, the meeting can begin at noon, Wednesday, January 27th. Terry and Ron felt that the first afternoon should be used for general S/T business such as a review of prior commitments and the status of grants. The SCP plenary could begin on Thursday morning and continue into Friday for as long as is needed. We agreed that many participants would choose to depart at noon on Friday, but those who were still interested in the details of the SCP would be able to continue that afternoon.

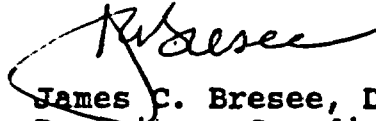
In connection with general ways to improve the effectiveness of the meetings, we agreed that there would be advantages to some type of social function at the meetings for all participants when the schedule permitted. Thus in January, an informal reception might be arranged for either Wednesday or Thursday evening before dinner. We felt that the S/T meetings should be continued and that their general purpose should be to discuss "global" issues which affect all participants. Thus only a limited amount of time should be assigned to site-specific reports by the participants, with perhaps an hour each meeting devoted to reports from the grants programs. Further, Terry recommended against lengthy "slide shows" which could equally well be shared through circulated written reports. This latter admonition obviously does not apply to the SCP workshop when slide presentations may be the most effective way to provide much of the information.

We spent a fair amount of time talking about ways to improve the setting of the agenda. All agreed that issues which appear on the agenda at the last minute detract from the success of the meetings since preparations and participants will generally be inadequate. As a general plan for the future, we recommend that DOE send out a draft agenda over your signature approximately one month before the meeting. Within two weeks, the States and Indian Tribes will return a coordinated response with suggested changes and additions. Then, in a recommended new role for our facilitator, Eva Patten would spend the next week negotiating a final agenda with all participants and distributing it, electronically if necessary, no later than one week before the meeting. In that way, the various project managers would be able to determine the attendance required by the agenda and prepare for adequate discussion. This plan would not, of course, abrogate the need for the introduction at the last minute of "emergency" issues brought on by rapidly changing circumstances.

In further discussions of the facilitator's role, we agreed that her position of true neutrality should be maintained with great care, which suggests that she should either participate in both preparatory meetings before the S/T or neither. The choice should be unanimous. We talked briefly about locations for meetings after January and concluded that rotation through the three States should continue. Meetings at the project sites should be scheduled but should not preclude periodic meetings at other major cities in the States. The issue of public participation was touched upon; the true lack of interest or the requirement for greater publicity was discussed with no conclusions reached.

We spent some time talking about the frequency of meetings and agreed that there were too many. Yet there was no agreement that the S/T meetings should become semiannual. Instead Terry observed that the ISCG spent much time discussing the same issues of socioeconomic, financial assistance, and outreach which command the interest of the S/T. Yet, the attendance of senior policy-level staff has decreased because of the crowded calendar. He suggested, and the group endorsed, that we attempt to combine the two meetings, thus reducing the current number of individual meetings from six to three annually. A possible format is as follows. The ISCG might meet all day Tuesday and half of Wednesday. Wednesday afternoon could be devoted to caucusing and preparations for the S/T. Then at the Thursday S/T, reports and recommendations from the ISCG could be on the agenda with the

possibility of policy recommendations or decisions resulting. Senior participants might only attend the last day-and-a-half. If this recommendation were accepted, the December 1, 1987, ISCG would be followed by a late May or early June combined ISCG-S/T meeting.



James C. Bresee, Director
Repository Coordination Division
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

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WM Project 1

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