January 6, 2005

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MINNESOTA, PENNSYLVANIA

PERFORMANCE MONITORING TO ASSESS ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM BEHAVIOR (STP-05-001)

We are providing details on a session entitled 'Performance Monitoring to Assess Environmental System Behavior (Session H08)' that is being organized for the Spring 2005 Joint Assembly of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) to be held May 23-27, 2005 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The purpose of this special session is to present the state of knowledge and practice in developing and implementing performance monitoring strategies used to assess subsurface contaminant transport in support of regulatory and decision criteria.

The session proposal was accepted by AGU in November, and the session conveners are now soliciting contributions to facilitate planning and organizing the session. AGU is planing the session to consist of a limited number of oral presentations with a larger number of poster presentations to allow more extensive interactions among the presenters and session participants. We are alerting those who may be willing to present their research and field application experiences related to performance monitoring. See enclosure for details.

Important Dates and Deadlines:

3 February 2005	Abstract Deadline (postal mail)
9 February 2005	Abstract Deadline (web submission)
20 April 2005	Pre-Registration Deadline, Housing Deadline

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 415-2325 or the individual named below:

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/RA by Dennis M. Sollenberger for/

Josephine M. Piccone, Deputy Director
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Enclosure:
As stated

Details: Performance Monitoring to Assess Environmental System Behavior (Session H08)

If you anticipate contributing to the session, we request that you contact one of the conveners with a tentative title or subject area for your planned contribution. When contacting one of the conveners, please copy Tom Nicholson at TJN@NRC.GOV on your e-mail correspondence to facilitate planning efforts. For your convenience, important meeting deadlines and URL links to AGU Web sites to facilitate registration and abstract submission are listed below. When submitting an abstract on-line, please be certain to choose "Hydrology Session H08" when prompted.

Link to 2005 Joint Assembly main page:
http://www.agu.org/meetings/sm05/?content=program

Link to session H08 conveners' contact information and session description:
http://www.agu.org/meetings/sm05/?content=search&show=detail&sessid=55

Link to abstract submittal instructions:
http://submissions5.agu.org/submission/entrance.asp

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H08: Performance Monitoring to Assess Environmental System Behavior

Sponsor: Hydrology

Session Description:

Performance monitoring is conducted to assess environmental system behavior through observation of site-specific field conditions and parameters that are indicative of subsurface flow and transport behavior for supporting regulatory or decision criteria. It also evaluates predicted system performance as simulated by numerical models including uncertainties. These models, along with the decision criteria, can be used to help identify the performance indicators (i.e., hydrologic, geochemical and biologic) to be monitored. Performance monitoring strategies link these performance indicators to the appropriate field sensors, geophysical methods, and geochemical and biological sampling techniques to understand system behavior and support decisions for ground-water remediation options, and long-term institutional controls. Real-world examples of environmental systems being monitored include hazardous waste sites (e.g., CERCLA and RCRA cleanup sites), mixed waste sites, radioactive waste storage and disposal sites, and decommissioning sites. This session will focus on the progress made in developing performance monitoring strategies and their implementation. The session will consider the selection of field sensors, geophysical methods, radiological survey methods; and geochemical and biological sampling techniques to quantify the performance indicators

ENCLOSURE

needed to understand system behavior and support decisions. The presentations will include: field monitoring programs to understand system behavior important to regulatory decisions; model testing using performance monitoring strategies; identification and analysis of performance indicators including biocriteria; and application of performance indicator data to remediation decisions.

Session Conveners:

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STP-05-001

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