



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

NOV - 8 2006

CECW-CP

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Support to Planning Centers of Expertise

1. Reference my memorandum to all MSC Commanders, dated 5 May 2006, subject: Planning Excellence Program and maintaining Planning Capability.
2. I am reiterating the important role of the Planning Centers of Expertise (PCX) and emphasizing the need for district and division support to the Centers. The Centers were established as one means to internally transform the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, placing a high value on our ability to garner and maintain world-class expertise and to be nationally recognized as Centers of Expertise. In this regard, you should notify the sponsors and other stakeholders of the role of the Centers and provide contact information for your Center.
3. The role of the Centers is increasingly important as we solidify our guidance on peer review and model certifications and continue our training of new planners through the planner core curriculum and the Planning Associates Program. As districts prepare their project management plans, conduct their planning studies, and prepare the decision documents, they should be working closely with the appropriate PCX to conduct or manage the necessary independent technical reviews and external peer reviews, and obtain model certification. The PCX have identified specialists of various disciplines who can provide technical expert consultation to the districts. Centers must be able to plan for this work, so it is imperative that they be notified early in the planning process through involvement in the development of the Project Management Plans. Remind your districts that all studies and planning work requiring independent technical review, or external peer review, will have these reviews coordinated or conducted by the Centers who then make the review plans available for public comment through the Center's web site. Enclosed is a set of metrics that we will use to track progress of the PCXs.
4. I expect you to request, justify, and allocate the appropriate general expense resources to support the Centers as a viable component of the Corps water resources development process.

CECW-CP

SUBJECT: Support to Planning Centers of Expertise

Your support to the PCX should be a high priority to further our abilities to consistently produce excellent decision documents that lead to high quality recommendations for Federal investments in water resources infrastructure.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



DON T. RILEY

Major General, USA

Director of Civil Works

Encl

a/s

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

COMMANDERS:

Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, CELRD

Mississippi Valley Division, CEMVD

North Atlantic Division, CENAD

Northwestern Division, CENWD

Pacific Ocean Division, CEPOD

South Atlantic Division, CESAD

South Pacific Division, CESP

Southwestern Division, CESWD

	Complete on 30 Sept and 1 March; entries should be incremental for that 6 month period.								
	Metric / PCX	FDR	HSDR	I-Nav	D-Nav	Eco	W Alloc.		
	POC's								
	Web URL								
	Number of hits								
	MSC FTE working on PCX								
	# people on expert roster								
	# of organizations represented w/ experts								
	Dedicated \$ available								
	\$ reimbursed for products								
	# Review Plans posted								
	# ITR underway								
	# ITR completed								
	# External peer reviews completed								
	# of models certified								
	# of R&D work units involved in								
	# outreach activities								
	# other activities completed								
	# assistance requests >2 hrs completed								
	# students trained								
	# of mentoring assignments								
	Remarks								