

September 2005 P2 Conference Call
15 September 2005

1. Initiative on Unneeded Materials and Chemicals – Arnie Edelman

- The 1995 Materials in Inventory identified 900,000 tons of materials held by DOE that no longer had a defined or immediate use. A December 1999 IG study recommended the need for DOE to strengthen its management of excess materials and chemicals and accelerate their disposition.
- In June 2005 the CFO issued a memo requesting NNSA and ESE to develop budgets and strategies for disposing of unneeded materials. The strategy to address unneeded materials and chemicals (UMCs) is due by October 10, 2005.
- Materials and chemicals are unneeded if they remain idle for a period of two years after project completion or close out without a written mission-related justification by the cognizant DOE Site Manager.
- A draft strategy will be sent to SC, NE, EM, RW, and FE shortly for review. An element of the draft strategy is site development of specific plans for the management and disposition of UMCs. The site plans are to address:
 - Development and maintenance of an inventory of UMCs; inventories of existing UMCs will be in place no later than September 30, 2006.
 - Development of a site specific schedule for the disposition of the current inventory of UMC based on the complexity and size of the inventory. This schedule shall reflect intermediary goals as well as the overall goal of the Department of dispositioning all UMCs currently in inventory by the end FY 2011.
 - Annual assessment and evaluation of the need for materials and chemicals in inventory against program budget and activities for the upcoming budget year to identify any additional UMCs.
 - Development of contract performance measure(s) to prevent accumulation of UMCs and incorporation of a contract clause requiring timely disposition (within two years) of the newly identified UMCs.
 - Utilization of existing management systems, to the extent practicable, to identify opportunities for reutilization, recycle, sales, and disposal of UMCs within DOE and other federal agencies. These systems include those operated by Office of Procurement and Assistance Management [Energy Asset Disposal System \(EADS\)](#), the General Services Administration [Federal Disposal System \(FEDS\)](#), and the Department of Energy, Office of Science, [Materials Exchange](#).
- The DOE Materials in Exchange website at <http://wastenot.er.doe.gov/doematex/login.asp> lists unneeded materials suitable for use or reuse but does not have any time restrictions on how long materials are listed. The Property Management System, by comparison, gives DOE sites a 90-day window to seek materials after which GSA lists the materials for another 90 days. The DOE Materials in Exchange website is password protected; contact Arnie for a password.
- NNSA is presumed to be working on its own version of an unneeded materials strategy.

- PSOs are to annually report on their progress in meeting UMC disposition with the first report due November 15, 2006.
2. EPA's Plans Related to the Gulf Coast – Greg McBrien
 - Information on EPA's approach to recycling and disposing of debris left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina is provided at the end of these notes.
 - Minutes on the Environmental Impacts and Cleanup Workgroup (EICW) Subcommittee on New Orleans Conference Call on September 14, 2005 are provided at the end of these notes.
 - DOE will assess the feasibility of using green power in the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast utility systems.
 3. Results of IG Audit Report – Discussion
 - A concern was raised that the absence of HQ funding for P2 programs or oversight of them would diminish the role and effectiveness of P2 at sites since site management attention is gotten through such HQ involvement.
 - Several participants responded that the EMS review should be sufficient to garner management support for P2 since it is to be integrated into the EMS.
 - OA (Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance) has included EMS review in some of its audits and will do so consistently in the future.
 - EM submitted a report to the IG on the PPOAs done by EM sites but has not yet received a response from the IG.
 - A DOE order and manual on oversight are being prepared pursuant to DOE's acceptance of DNFSB (Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board) Recommendation 2004-1. The order and manual may include EMS assessments, and, by extension, P2 performance assessments.
 - EH will continue to gather information on site progress in integrating P2 in site activities. The performance measures associated with the new P2 goals are an effort to hold site managers accountable for tracking and reporting on the status of P2 at their sites.
 4. Environmental Summit/P2 Workshop for May 2006 – Josh Silverman
 - The OFEE Environmental Summit is now named the Environmental Training Conference. It will be hosted by the Department of Health and Human Services and held at the NIH (National Institutes of Health) in Bethesda, Maryland on May 2-4, 2006.
 - The Conference theme is "Sustainability" and the topical areas are: Smart Procurement, Stewardship, and Environmental Management.
 - Workgroups have begun to flesh-out the topical areas in preparation for the next planning meeting in November. Contact Josh if you'd like to become involved in a workgroup or have ideas to suggest.
 - The OFEE is still amenable to having the DOE P2 2006 Workshop run with the Environmental Training Conference but final details have not been worked out.
 5. "Best Practices" and "Green Bullet" Documents – Beverly Whitehead
 - The "Best Practices" document is still under EH management review.

- Based on the significant comments made during the TRI Focus Group review of the “Green Bullets” draft, it is being re-written to encompass a broader range of issues than it had originally.

6. P2 Goals – Jane Powers

- Most of the major comments on the new P2 goals have been resolved via conversations with the commenters.
- The P2 strategies listed in Attachment 3 of the draft Order will not be required but instead will be described as tools or methods sites should consider for applicability and appropriateness.
- A new redline version of the Order showing the responses to comments will be posted shortly on RevCom for a 10-day concurrence period. The goal is to have the new Order complete by the end of October.
- The performance measures will also be modified to be consistent with the new goals.

CORRECTION:

The August P2 Call notes incorrectly indicated that the data call deadline for EO 13101 EPP data is 7 December 2005. The correct date is **30 December 2005 for EPP data.**

EO 13146 data and best in class nominations are due 7 December 2005.

Debris Recycling and Disposal from Hurricane Katrina

As of September 13, 2005, there is little information available from EPA on efforts underway to recycle or dispose of debris along the gulf coast. At present, EPA efforts are focused on recovery of water and wastewater facilities, oil spills and leaks of hazardous materials, water and air monitoring, and household hazardous waste collection and disposal. The disaster recovery efforts are discussed on a special EPA Headquarters web page for Katrina at: <http://www.epa.gov/katrina/index.html>

The disaster recovery activities by EPA are being run out of the Region VI (Dallas) office for Louisiana and by the Region IV (Atlanta) office for the rest of the affected States. Both Region IV and Region VI have web pages devoted to the Katrina recovery effort at: <http://epa.gov/region4/Katrina/index.htm> and <http://epa.gov/region6/katrina/index.htm> The Region VI page contains the following information in their News Release for September 13, 2005: *“It is estimated that there are 160,000 residences, 360,000 cars, and tens of thousands of boats to be considered for removal and disposition.”* This is the first estimate I have seen of the potential amount of debris generated by the storm.

One of the web pages directs readers to information on debris disposal on the FEMA Region III (Philadelphia) web site at: <http://www.fema.gov/regions/iii/env/debris.shtm> This web page generally discusses disposal of debris and says open burning exceptions may be granted by the State in emergency situations. There is a brief discussion of the items that cannot be burned, but little information on alternative options like recycling.

An EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) web page does discuss recycling disaster debris at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/debris.htm> This webpage also contains a Sample Debris Management Plan from the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness: <http://www.loep.state.la.us/disrecovery/debrismgtsampleplan.htm>. The plan contains this debris estimate: *“(it is) estimated that under the worst scenario, e. g., is a Category 5 hurricane, heavy vegetation cover, heavy commercial density, and heavy precipitation, the amount of acres needed for a temporary landfill is 3,352 acres. To help visualize what 33,800,068 cy of debris looks like, picture a building occupying 1 acre ...that building would be 2,046 feet high or approximately 200 stories high”!* While the sample plan does discuss recycling, it is limited to soils, wood, and non-ferrous metals. Once again, burning is discussed as a disposal method for debris.

Finally, the EPA OSWER web page contains some information on debris recycling and some case studies on disaster debris. The OSWER guide says: *“FEMA may fund recycling of disaster debris if the local government has in place prior to the natural disaster a policy emphasizing recycling, or if the local government can demonstrate that recycling is a cost-effective debris management option.”* A case study about Hurricane Andrew in 1992 gives an estimate of 43 million cubic yards (6 million tons) of debris generated by the storm in Metro-Dade County. The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation did allow debris to be burned under a 30-day emergency order.

**Minutes on the Environmental Impacts and Cleanup Workgroup (EICW)
Subcommittee on New Orleans Conference Call September 14, 2005**

The charge for the group is to:

- Develop a high-level policy overview,
 - Identify issues that need to be raised or dealt with,
 - Identify items that need to be taken back to the larger environmental task force, and
 - Develop a reporting structure.
- Agencies on the call were invited to share what they were doing. EPA, HUD, DoD, NIH, USGS, USDA, and DOT reviewed their activities.
 - Basically, these agencies are:
 - Assessing/monitoring contamination in soils, sediments, ground water, surface water, drinking water systems, and air,
 - Establishing cleanup levels,
 - Conducting removal activities (including dead animals),
 - Working on relocating/providing housing for evacuees (and particularly those living in public housing),
 - Assisting in pest control,
 - Providing search and rescue,
 - Conducting health assessments,
 - Providing health and safety officials,
 - Identifying long-term topics and cultural sensitivities, and
 - Identifying highway/road construction needs.
 - Blaine Rowley (EM-21) told the group that DOE (EM) was not yet heavily involved, but we were there to provide expertise and assistance in environmental restoration.
 - **DOE was asked if we were going to provide assistance in developing alternative energy sources for buildings as the city rebuilds in place of the older/destroyed less efficient energy sources.**
 - **Blaine told them he would bring this request up to management-he assumes it would be an EE led effort and as such, EE should also become involved.**