

From: Kitch, Harry E HQ02
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 7:18 AM

Subject: Interim Guidance for PCX's to Proceed with Model Certification

Importance: High

Attachments: 4 Q After Action Reviews.ppt; PMIP-CenterHill.doc;
PMIP-10-28-05.doc

Folks,

Here's some much anticipated guidance on proceeding with Model Certifications in the absence of our formal PMP.

Although it has been slower than we had hoped, we have finally made substantial headway this FY in our efforts to start certifying planning models, per EC 1105-2-407. The draft protocols for certification (attached, also see Groove site) provide a solid basis for conducting and documenting our certification process. We currently have two pilot certifications underway (as Levels 1 or 2), under a contract being directed by IWR. And we have also received an excellent prototype certification package (as Level 3) prepared by the Nashville District and the Flood Damage PCX for a regional simulation model (attached, also see Groove site).

Recognizing that there is a substantial backlog of demand for certifying models, we now feel confident that we can move forward with the PCX's to begin model certifications under interim conditions described herein. Ultimately we will still need to develop a PMP among the PCX's to fully implement our certification process, but these interim procedures will allow us to make progress in certification while we learn by doing. This will help us to define a process that works well for the Planning CoP and can eventually be captured in the certification PMP.

The interim process will largely follow the process in the EC and the draft protocols, but will have a few more check points with HQ. As you will recall, EC 1105-2-407 identifies seven steps in the Certification process: <http://www.usace.army.mil/publications/eng-circulars/ec1105-2-407/entire.pdf>

By necessity, each Certification action will require a customized certification plan akin to a PMP, both for billing purposes and for delineation of the scope of review. The certification plan should fulfill Steps 1-4 from the EC (and by following the draft protocols), as well as provide a cost estimate to the proponent. Under interim conditions, the PCX will submit each certification plan to CECW-P for approval prior to initiating the review.

Upon receiving direction to proceed from CECW-P, the PCX will implement the review process as described in Steps 5-6 from the EC. Under interim conditions, in Step 7 the PCX will submit its recommendation for certification to CECW-P, but the determination of certification will be made by HQ.

Finally, under interim conditions an AAR in MG Riley's four-question format (attached) will be completed after each certification process so we can capture our lessons learned and share them among the full PCX team.

Action: Please submit a list of known model certification requests to Margaret Johanning (and post to the groove work space) prior to the PCX phone conference scheduled for 27 September. (We received a similar list about a year ago, so you can start by updating that list). For the call on the 27th, be prepared to discuss the potential for your PCX proceeding with any/all of these certification requests, as well as to discuss questions or comments you may have regarding these interim procedures.

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