

Environmental Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2004

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Environmental Steering Committee (ESC) was called to order at 1:13 pm (EST) on June 24, 2004 by James Biasco, Chair.

Present:

Steve Aoyama

James Biasco, Chair

Doug Clark

Roger DeRoos

Matthew Dixon

Robert Drummond

Gary Gefroh

Peter Nachod, coordinator

Glenn Tsingine

Rick Wermers

NOTE: voting members are shown in bold type.

A. Old Business

Membership

- Several Committee members will be retiring in the next year or two; several others have been members of the ESC for longer than 5 years. New members will be needed and Peter is currently working a plan to identify potential members. ESC guidelines have specific criteria for how the membership is to be distributed throughout the levels of IHS.
- **ACTION ITEM:** A request for nominations for facilities members will be sent out to Area facility managers and for EH members to HQ-Environmental Health division directors. A list of nominees will be compiled and then submit to ESC vote (if necessary) for new membership. It is desired to have the new members in attendance at the next ESC meeting in August.

Pending PSD Project Clarification Request

- From the previous ESC meeting, five (5) Environmental Remediation and three (3) Demolition PSD were not approved for funding and the ESC requested that each Area submit follow up documentation for clarification. The ESC agreed that if ESC received the clarification documentation in time for review at this meeting, then these PSD projects could still potentially receive funding. All eight

- (8) PSD project clarification documentation was submitted by the Areas to the ESC on time to enable them to be discussed at this meeting.
- Each PSD clarification documentation was reviewed and discussed by the ESC.
 - The ESC recommended funding the following Environmental Remediation Fund PSD proposals:
 - Alaska – Y-K Regional Hospital Asbestos Remediation - \$108,720
 - Navajo – Old Shiprock Hospital - \$341,000 (NOTE: \$ reduced from initial request of \$350,000 per Area request)
 - Navajo – Tuba City HCC - \$184,780 (NOTE: \$ reduced from initial request of \$321,407 per ESC decision to fund only abatement and NOT tile replacement)
 - The ESC recommended NOT funding the following Environmental Remediation Fund PSD proposals:
 - Albuquerque – Albuquerque Indian Hospital Lead Abatement – The ESC was not convinced that this is an environmental remediation project. The ESC felt that while the water pipe does have leaded joints, no evidence that the lead is leaching into the water system has been documented. Leaded joints in old cast iron or other piping is not considered to leach significant amounts of lead into the water. Furthermore, replacement of old leaded joint pipes is not required by EPA in the lead material ban.
 - Oklahoma – Area-wide replacement of CFC equipment – The ESC did not feel that this was an environmental remediation project and was not eligible to receive environmental remediation funding for this type of work.

The ESC strongly recommended that for these two PSD projects, the respective Area re-submit them next month for the FY2005 Environmental Remediation Funding cycle along with additional justification, documentation or assessments which may increase the likelihood of possible funding for these PSDs.

- The ESC recommended funding the following Demolition Fund PSD proposals:
 - Navajo – Kayenta HCC - \$75,000 (NOTE: \$ reduced from initial request of \$150,000 per Area request)
 - Phoenix – Riverside Clinic - \$75,725 (NOTE: \$ increased from initial request of \$60,000 per Area request)
 - Tucson – Sells Hospital Quarters - \$55,000

Project Closeout Documentation

- Final project reports are necessary to validate the program, need and funds expenditure. Peter will continue to compile a list of all past funded Environmental Remediation and Demolition projects as well as final report status. Once complete with this, he will send out to all Areas with Final Report samples and guidelines.

- Project closeout report format to be reviewed. CAPT Roger DeRoos will forward a copy of possible report format to be used.

Summary

- The ESC funded ten (10) Environmental Remediation projects and six (6) Demolition projects for the FY2004 cycle. Two (2) proposed Environmental Remediation projects were not funded this cycle. The total funded amounts are \$1,361,132 in Environmental Remediation projects and \$296,445 in Demolition projects.
- The ESC will start following the Environmental Remediation Program Calendar as shown in Appendix A – Chapter 75.1 Guidelines for the Environmental Assessment & Remediation Activities Process of the Technical Handbook.

B. New Business

FY2005 Funding Cycle

- The ESC will send out a request for FY2005 PSD proposals for Environmental Remediation and Demolition funding to all Areas NLT July 2, 2004. A one page cover sheet will be attached to request. Cover sheet will be used by Area submitting projects to address rating/risk factors.
- ESC membership will receive all submittals approximately three weeks prior to the August ESC meeting.

C. Agenda for Next Meeting

Items which will be addressed at the next Environmental Steering Committee meeting include:

- Membership – Announce new membership.
- Review and approve list of submitted projects for FY2005.
- Project Closeout list of previously funded projects.
- Technical Handbook Chapter updates for Environmental Remediation Funds Steering Committee and Demolition Funds Steering Committee.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm (EST) by James Biasco. The ESC agreed to tentatively schedule the next general meeting at 1:00 pm (EST) on Thursday, August 19, 2004 via Conference Call. Peter Nachod will coordinate and send out meeting conference call agenda/dial-in information as well as all pertinent information which ESC members will need for the next meeting.

Minutes submitted by: Peter T. Nachod

Approved by: James R. Biasco