



**ECOS-DOD Emerging Contaminants
Task Group
Meeting Summary
March 14, 2008
San Diego, California**



[Notes compiled by Stateside Associates]

In attendance:

Mark Anderson, Stateside Associates
Mary Cooke, U.S. EPA
Shannon Cunniff, Department of Defense
Malcolm Garg, U.S. Army
Jake Hegeman, Stateside Associates
Janice Hulla, Army Corps of Engineers
Matt Jones, ECOS
LaRae Landers, Navy
Richard Mach, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment)
Anita Meyer, Army Corps of Engineers
Rick Moss, California Department of Toxic Substances Control
Eric Noack, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Monsoor Rashid, Army National Guard
Jennifer Roberts, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Dania Rodriguez, ASTSWMO
John Russell, California State Water
Walt Sandza, Navy- NAVFAC Southwest
Monica Sheets, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Scott Sudweeks, Centers for Disease Control
John Tesner, U.S. Army ODASA (ESOH)
Melinda Trizinsky, Navy- NAVFAC Southwest
Michael Wade, California Department of Toxic Substances Control
Paul Yaroschak, Department of Defense
Baha Zarah, Air Force Western Regional Environmental Office

Meeting Summary

Task Group co-chairs Eric Noack (Nevada DEP) and Shannon Cunniff (DoD), welcomed the Group to San Diego and gave a brief overview of the Task Group's activities since the last meeting in June 2007.

Following the introduction, the Group spent the remainder of the day discussing the Resource Triggers Issue Paper, the EC Resolution, and next steps for the Task Group.

Issue Paper: Initiation of Emerging Contaminants Characterization and Response Actions for Protection of Human Health

This paper explores the situations where DoD action may be taken requiring the use of funds, especially for actions not previously identified in budgets or where it is not yet clear what concentration may trigger site characterization or cleanup. It also examines some key conditions, considerations, statutory authorities, or criteria that could be used to

evaluate potential response actions with a related expenditure of funds. This issue was identified as a priority research area for the Task Group at the November 2005 Groundwater Forum.

Development of the paper was initiated in February 2006 and was led by a team of State, EPA and DoD representatives. At this meeting, Paul Yaroschak (DoD) and Mary Cooke (EPA) presented the Group with the latest consensus version of the paper as well as comments received from several states and DoD. The Group reviewed the comments and made several revisions to the document before agreeing to a final version. This version will now be circulated to the ECOS membership and will be one of several EC Task Group work products discussed in a briefing by Shannon Cunniff at the Spring ECOS Meeting. Once the Commissioners' review of the paper is complete, the paper will be posted on the ECOS website. The paper is also referenced in the Task Group's draft resolution (discussed below).

Proposed ECOS Resolution: SUPPORTING WORK ON EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

The Task Group continued the meeting with discussion on the draft ECOS resolution in support of the Task Group's Work Products. The resolution is expected to be considered by the ECOS membership at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Branson, Missouri. The resolution affirms the support of the ECOS membership for the Group's work to-date and encourages States, DoD and USEPA to use the products to address future EC issues. The resolution will be available for review by the ECOS Commissioners at the Spring Meeting this April.

Task Group Next Steps

After addressing the Task Group's ongoing work, discussion shifted to what work items should be undertaken next. The Group recognized that many opportunities exist, but identified the following three items as actionable in the near term:

- Develop issue papers examining natural resources, ecological risk, beneficial use, and anti-degradation issues that may trigger response actions on emerging contaminants conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP); the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); related state cleanup laws; and parts of other federal/state laws that may involve characterization and cleanup of sites.
- Examine the successes, challenges and lessons learned in implementing previous Emerging Contaminant Task Group work products
- Revisit the Emerging Contaminant Forum priorities and determine if further action is desirable