

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
March 20, 2008

Kenny Hicks (Chair)
Bill Adams
Anne Dailey
Terry Harwood
Rebecca Stevens
Carrie Holtan

Dave George
Nick Zilka
Bill Ryan
Brian Spears
Randy Connolly
Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)

This summary provides the salient issues. These notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not the nuances of the discussion.

Agenda Items: Communications PFT

The TLG Chair, Kenny Hicks, indicated that during the call he would like to get comments about the Communications PFT and the recent emails regarding its leadership.

Round Table:

Dailey: Reported that OU-2 work is continuing on source analysis and that she and Nick Zilka are planning field activities. She indicated that the 2007 sediment sampling report will be posted to the web along with the 2007 water year data that is summarized (in a spreadsheet) by the USGS. Next week, she will be making a presentation at the Lower Basin PFT on Lane Marsh. For the Communications PFT, she mentioned that there were two EPA people with expertise who want to be involved on the PFT, but not as the Chair. She said that Jeri DeLange volunteered to serve as the Chair and there were no other volunteers.

Harwood: Pointed out that the Communications PFT needed to forge ahead in order to present recommendations at the next BEIPC meeting.

Dailey: Commented that she appreciated Jeri DeLange for volunteering. However, she pointed out that DeLange was a part-time employee and that she was not sure if she would have time. She suggested that if there were any other people who wanted to chair the PFT, then they should volunteer. She indicated that she agreed with some of the email comments about the TLG minutes and notes and that they would have more impact if they were sent out prior to subsequent calls.

Stevens: Introduced Carrie Holtan, the new Environmental Specialist for the CDA Tribe. She announced that Holtan will be the Tribe's other TLG representative and will also participate on some of the PFTs. She indicated that she gave Holtan a tour of the Silver Valley, Lane Marsh, around CDA Lake and other areas to help her get up to speed on the issues. Stevens then reminded everyone about the Lower Basin PFT meeting on March 27 (at the Tribe's office in CDA) and gave a brief overview of the agenda.

Zilka: Provided an update about the OU-2 work he was coordinating with Dailey and asked Harwood if he could provide an update at the next BEIPC meeting in May. Harwood agreed and said that he would add it to the agenda. Dailey also mentioned that she had a few other items to add and would send an email to Harwood.

Hicks: Said that he talked with DeLange and that she would be working on getting the TLG notes up to date in the next few weeks. He also talked with Harwood about DeLange being the Communications PFT Chair and whether it would interfere with her duties.

Dailey: Recommended that the TLG notes be condensed or bulleted as they should be the salient issues and key points. She suggested that if people want to participate, then they should be on the conference call.

Harwood: Brought up that the notes were condensed in the past, but people wanted more detail. He explained that some people are not able to participate on the call and that if the notes are too condensed, they may not provide practical feedback. The notes are also posted to the web for information.

TLG Call Notes Discussion: After further discussion, TLG members agreed that they would like to see more of a summary for the notes and less verbatim. Then if anyone has a problem, it can be discussed at the TLG meeting.

Harwood: Reported that: 1) He and Zilka worked on an erosion issue in regards to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes and a main sewer line by Osburn. People who had noticed the problem were worried that potential flooding may intensify the erosion and take out utilities. Harwood said that Zilka was taking a look at it. 2) He talked with Woody McEvers (CDA City Council member and CCC member) about the CDA City Council presentation that he was asked to make on the Basin, CDA Lake and Superfund. He noted that a lot of people do not know about Superfund and that it will be broadcast on TV. 3) He reminded everyone that the Recreation PFT meeting on March 25 had been cancelled. 4) The CDA Chamber would like to get more copies of the Lake map for distribution. 5) The Repository PFT meeting was yesterday. He mentioned that an individual (Dr. Colona) questioned the honesty of EPA and IDEQ. However, most of the people in the meeting knew about the EMF process that had been gone through. Harwood said that Andy Mork (IDEQ) dealt with the situation very well and that afterwards, the meeting went well. Issues that were discussed included the following:

- cultural resources;
- eco-remedy;
- the need for more repositories (for millions of cubic yards of contaminated soils);
- how long the Big Creek repository will last;
- what to do with commercial development; and
- what to do about flood damage to the remedy.

Regarding the Communications PFT, he indicated that no one came forward when parties were asked about the position of Chair. He explained that people need to understand that the lead person for a PFT needs to be from a responsible agency or government in order to implement the PFT. He also brought up that there was some misunderstanding from some of the people at the

repository meeting yesterday who wanted repository notes. He clarified that PFTs are not subject to open meeting laws as they only apply for the BEIPC. However, he suggested that some people want everything documented, but that it would require a change in the MOA and protocols.

Hicks: Said that he appreciated everyone's comments and that way out left or right are entitled to give comment. He suggested that it's important to get compromise.

Harwood: Agreed with Hicks about the right to give comment, but emphasized that he does not agree people have the right to accuse by computer or use email to degrade others. He feels that some of the people may not understand the email and stressed that it's honorable to talk and discuss an issue; rather than send an email to fifty people who may not have all the information.

Other Discussion: The TLG discussed other communication issues such as: 1) concern about the public not coming to meetings; 2) the CCC is a forum for citizens to talk and get involved; and 3) that if some people are disruptive, then we may negatively get exploited if they are turned away.

Hicks: Stated that he wanted to speak on his own behalf and suggested that he would like to see the BEIPC get as much work done as soon as possible before the funding runs out.

George: Remarked that he had no issue with DeLange being the Communications PFT Chair. He suggested that the timing of the TLG call notes be managed more realistically.

Zilka: Elaborated on the potential erosion issue (i.e. utilities) that Harwood brought up. He suggested that when the snow melts, the river may erode the eastern bank 14 feet from Avista's power pole. Then, if the erosion occurs farther, it may expose the main water pipe and area along the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. Zilka estimated that it may cost \$6,000 to \$8,000 to armor and fix the river bank.

Adams: Brought up that the Upper Basin sampling for spring runoff would be late April to May. He also wanted to mention the information requests (i.e. "de minimus CERCLA 104e letters") that were sent to 19 mining companies. The letters ask for financial information and also include an offer for the companies to meet with EPA's regulatory administration staff. However, he indicated that none of the parties expressed any interest in meeting with the EPA. Adams explained that EPA needed to update the financial information to see if they would pursue funding for the remedy from the potentially responsible parties (PRPs).

Harwood: Pointed out that 2 of the major PRPs (Coeur and Sunshine) had already settled, but not Hecla and Asarco.

Other Mining Related Issues: The TLG discussed other mining related issues such as liability for cleanup, liability for re-mining a site under potential new regulations regarding a proposed Good Samaritan law, active and inactive mining sites, environmental standards for discharge (i.e. NPDES permit requirements), etc.

Adams: Indicated that EPA is still working on a consent decree for Azteca that would transfer the CTP (central treatment plant) to them and provide for upgrades. He suggested that the option agreement that Azteca has with Bob Hopper for the Bunker Hill mine may be extended to May 2008. Adams said that the EPA was encouraged in working with Azteca and that it may provide for EPA's past cost and upgrades to meet current compliance with NPDES.

Harwood: Asked whether Azteca may agree with treatment of the Canyon Creek water as well.

Adams: Responded affirmatively and suggested that with the upgrades it may be able to handle 20,000 gpm maximum from its current 5,000 gpm. He also commented that he appreciated DeLange for volunteering to chair the Communications PFT.

Spears: Reported on the BEMP (Basin Environmental Monitoring Plan) and waterfowl population survey; and discussed some of the natural resource restoration activities that were going on for the Schlepp property.

Connolly: Brought up a list of potential repository sites that was shown at the Repository PFT meeting and asked about the City of Osburn passing a resolution for not building repository sites in their city. He also inquired about the condition of past repositories (i.e. if some sites were not in good condition) and suggested that the EPA and IDEQ need to start explaining repository sites better. For the Communications PFT Chair, he feels that DeLange would be good.

Hicks: Responded that the City of Osburn would like to preserve the Burns Yak area as they are looking at it from an economic development standpoint. He explained that Osburn is limited to flat buildable area, so it would like to protect more desirable pieces of ground for development.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 4/3/08.

Thank you for your participation.