
Performance Assessment Community of Practice Status and Plans

Performance Assessment Community of Practice Technical Exchange

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DOE Office of Environmental Compliance



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History and Background

- Originally envisioned and established in 2008 under DOE HLW Corporate Board
- Very DOE and EM oriented
- Sponsored 2 technical exchange meetings (Salt Lake and Richland)
- Went dormant when HLW Corporate Board was on hiatus
- Corporate Board Shifted to Office of Environmental Compliance
- Identified opportunity to make PA CoP broader and free-standing



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Initial Steering Committee Meeting

- Met Monday to develop path forward and work on charter
 - Alaa aly, Intera
 - Martha Berry, EPA
 - Jim Clarke, CRESP
 - Ginger Dickert, SRR
 - Frank DiSanza, DOE-NNSS
 - Michael Graham, LANL
 - Matt Kozak, Intera
 - Marty Letourneau, DOE-HQ
 - Chris McKenney, NRC
 - John Morse, DOE-RL
 - Rob Pope, EPA
 - Roger Seitz, SRNL
 - Ed Winner, State of Kentucky



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Our Goals for This Meeting

- PAS CoP is a work in progress
- PA CoP will evolve over weeks, or months, or....?
- The purpose of this meeting this week is a mix of content and planning for the future
 - Where do we want to go?
 - What do we want to do?
 - What topics should we address?
 - Who needs to be invited to join?

Initial Steering Committee Thoughts

- This is a work in progress. Things will change as we evolve
- DOE will “sponsor” PA CoP, but does not want it to be DOE-centric
 - Will provide contractor support and Executive secretariat function
- US-centric, but not US exclusive
- Generally, will be an open organization to anyone who wants to participate (e.g., public, interest groups, regulators, practitioners)



Initial Thoughts (continued)

- Continuing to work on new charter
 - Will be concise and non-bureaucratic
 - Focus on how it will operate and methods of functioning
 - Steering Committee
 - Sub-groups / workgroups
 - Rotating Chair
 - Monthly calls
 - Annual face-to-face meeting
- Not just shallow land burial – repositories also
- Not credible to expect PA CoP to produce official guidance
 - Proceedings
 - Fact sheets



Initial Thoughts (continued)

- PA Consistency is not a goal unto itself, however consistency can create efficiencies
- PA CoP should be beneficial to all participants
- May require use of sub-groups / workgroups (e.g., commercial sites, CERCLA interfaces, Waste determinations)
- Need to recognize relationship between performance objectives, performance assessment, and performance confirmation.



PA CoP challenges and Issues

- How to involve and address other risk assessment activities?
- Uncertainty analysis
- Eco-risk
- PA Methods
- Communication with and among the PA Community
- Communication with Stakeholders and others
- Development of a PA information repository (CRESP?)



Potential PA CoP topics

- Monthly Conference calls
 - Cementitious Barriers Partnership update
 - ASCEM update
 - NRC activities associated with unique waste streams and 10CFR61 update
 - Kentucky/Ohio site-specific issues
 - Lessons-learned from most recent PAs



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Potential PA CoP activities and Interfaces

- Need to expand membership
 - Need inaugural members to identify and introduce others from the PA community
 - Other means of communication
 - Contact key professional societies
 - Web page tags
 - DOE Facebook/Twitter feeds; PR person/media events
- Work with other organizations
 - ITRC
 - IAEA
 - Others?



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PA Community of Practice Messages

- PA CoP should not be owned by any one agency or group
- Should be self-sustaining and self-directing
- Does not bind anyone to decisions that trump regulatory obligations
- Opportunities
 - Providing PA consistency
 - Sharing of lessons learned
 - Sharing data, methods, and science (information clearinghouse)
- Could someday be as important as NCRP, INPO, etc

