

**MCR Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Taskforce
Questions Re: Taskforce Operations**

The Regulatory Workgroup (i.e., Corps, EPA, OR DEQ, OR DLCD, and WA DOE – Water Quality & Coastal Zone) continues to be interested in your feedback regarding taskforce operations. A few individuals provided feedback on the first taskforce meeting, but we would greatly appreciate additional feedback from other participants. If you have input to share, then please complete the following questionnaire with responses directed to the Corps of Engineers. Alternatively, you can bring your completed questionnaire to the next taskforce meeting. Thank you for your time.

(1) Most feedback at the first taskforce meeting seemed to indicate a preference for more informal meetings. We would like to confirm that this is the preference of the overall taskforce. Should the overall format for taskforce meetings be:

- (a) less formal (e.g. roundtable), X
- (b) more formal, _____
- (c) continue as at the first meeting? _____

Please explain:

The first meeting was “informal” because there is no minutes or meeting record. However, I believe that the seating structure was not conducive to productive activity. A roundtable seating structure would be better. Furthermore, it was difficult for members of the taskforce to give relevant input when they had to wait to be recognized by the Corps or EPA, who were not quick to recognize individuals wishing to speak. In addition, I would like future meetings to be recorded. The suggestion of video taping the meetings was a good one and I think everyone could agree that an accurate, unbiased record could be achieved this way for very little cost.

(2) The Regulatory Workgroup will provide the agenda, overheads presented at the meeting and brief summary of the issues addressed. Some members expressed a concern about having formal meeting notes while others seemed to want more informal meetings all around. Please indicate your level of concern about having detailed meeting notes and share any additional ideas you might have on this subject.

I would like to see the meeting have a roundtable seating arrangement. I would like everyone in the Taskforce and the Regulatory Workgroup to take turns speaking and listening though one of any number of standard procedures without the need to be formally recognized by a Corps or EPA employee. I would like to have a video and audio record of the meetings. If a dispute arises at a later date regarding what was said or agreed upon at a meeting, it is important to have a record.

(3) The taskforce will meet at least annually. Additional meetings are expected, especially during the first year or two of this process. Please indicate how often you expect you could attend taskforce meetings given your individual situation:

- (a) No more than 2 per year, _____
 - (b) 2-4 meetings per year, _____
 - (c) Other, X
-

As many meetings as are useful and productive. I would attend numerous useful and productive meetings with tangible results. I do not have the time to attend meetings that are not useful, not productive, and have tangible results.

(4) We did not set a date for the next meeting of the taskforce. The Regulatory Workgroup is now proposing another taskforce meeting in early June so we can discuss primarily the 2000 dredging season (not discussed at the first meeting). If taskforce members would prefer to avoid travelling to Portland for this meeting, then we could distribute and discuss information regarding the 2000 dredging season via e-mail. Any comments or preferences regarding the proposal for a meeting in early June?

I would be willing to attend a June meeting. If the group decides to use e-mail to discuss information, I ask that all participants receive copies of each participant's comments.

(5) At this time, the Regulatory Workgroup expects that most taskforce meetings will be held in Portland. However, the location of taskforce meetings could alternate if that best serves the taskforce membership. A few taskforce members seemed to be interested in having meetings outside of Portland. Please indicate your preference for taskforce meeting location:

- (a) Portland, _____
- (b) Other: (please specify below)

My preference would be Astoria, Oregon. However, Longview, Washington might be a good compromise location for both Washington and Oregon personnel. I would be willing to come to Portland if the majority of the group felt that this was the best location.

(6) The Regulatory Workgroup wants the taskforce members to be satisfied with how meetings are run and how agenda topics are selected. Would you like to see a taskforce representative selected to assist the Regulatory Workgroup with meeting procedures & agendas? *yes*

Any volunteers? I would be willing to serve. I would also be satisfied with any one of several other people in this role. I think that the group as a whole should agree on the person to serve in this capacity.

Comments? _____

(7) Some taskforce members expressed concerns about the balance of presentations to group discussions at the first taskforce meeting. Please indicate your preference for:

- (a) more presentations? *no* _____
Of what nature? _____

(b) more time for open discussions? *no* _____

(c) other ideas?? *I think that time could be spend productively if members of the Regulatory Workgroup were to update the Taskforce on the status of the agreement between*

those entities and the relationship to the Taskforce. Written documents should be distributed by mail or e-mail before the meeting so that everyone has the opportunity to read them before the meeting. It is difficult to know what topics for comments or discussion the Taskforce might have which would have a productive result if the structure and responsibilities of the Regulatory Workgroup and the Taskforce are not clear.

(8) Would people prefer that we plan to order in lunches, i.e., either as a working lunch or just to shorten the time needed to get to, order, & eat lunch? (Please note that participants would still have to pay for their own lunches. Financial resources are not available to provide paid lunches.)

(a) Yes, _____

(b) No, _____

It doesn't matter to me.

(9) Any other questions or comments you would like to share regarding the taskforce?
I would like to see the individual responses of the members of the Taskforce to this survey.
