

**Oceania Regional Response Team
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2007 Standing Meeting
American Samoa Power Authority Satala Facility**

Introduction from Co-Chairs:

Dan Meer, U.S. EPA

Welcoming Comments:

Mr. Olo Robert A. Tagovailoa, Coordinator for American Samoa Territorial Emergency Management Coordinating Office (TEMCO) (see attached PDF)

Draft Oceania Regional Contingency Plan (ORCP): Lance Richman and Heidi Nemeth

- U.S. EPA and USCG are revising the 1993 ORCP (see Power Point attachment)

Remarks on formation planning/steering subcommittees: Dan Meer

- Dan Meer foresees developing a steering committees consisting of USCG; U.S. EPA; NOAA; state, territorial, and local agencies; and other interested parties to identify individuals within the Membership to develop MOUs/MOAs for ORCP. The first steering committee meeting take place at the June ORRT meeting.
- Lance Richman, EPA Co-Coordinator will contact individuals to begin the steering committee recruitment process.
- The steering committee will have the opportunity to update/review/develop other ACPs, CERTs, etc.
- Dan Meer and Capt. Christopher Conklin will meet prior to the June ORRT meeting to discuss the delineating response boundaries (inland vs., coastal for USCG and U.S. EPA.

USCG's American Samoa Activities: CDR Moore

- The USCG has undertaken the removal of two vessels.
- Disposal of one large vessel that could potentially release was undertaken in cooperation with American Samoa and a second vessel labeled (Lady Anna) was also addressed.
- Removing these two vessels will eliminate on of the largest threat of oil spill prior to this years hurricane season.

USCG's Hawaii Activities: **CDR Moore**

- CDR discussed the lessons learned from a response to a release in Midway where aircraft could not land due to nesting birds.
- CDR discussed the lessons learned from a private island with no access where 850 gallons of oil were removed by helicopter to a barge off-shore.
- A damaged Chinese freighter was releasing oil outside the waters out of Hawaii. The State Department, USCG, NOAA, U.S. Navy, Port of Honolulu, DOD, and all participating government entities had to negotiate with the Chinese government to balance security, operations, and the environment during the response activities. Vessel was secured off shore to protect the beaches of Hawaii while battling the rough waters during operations. The Incident Command System (ICS) was successful in incorporating all federal, state, and local agencies.

STATE AND LOCAL AGENCY UPDATES

American Samoa: **Fa'amao Asalele Jr**

- American Samoa EPA is currently focusing their energies on spill prevention issues working on with private concerns and using SPCC guidance. Additionally, they are revamping local regulations to focus on enforcement and prevention. Many facilities near the water are out of compliance, and ASEPA is providing technical assistance.
- ASEPA is building internal capacity through training.
- There is a drill currently taking place on the island with British Petroleum in which ASEPA is participating.

Guam: **Mike Gawel**

- Changes in the Guam EPA include a new administrator, Lorilee Crisostomo.
- Guam EPA is looking for training assistance with oil spill impacts on wildlife.
- A military expansion on Guam of ~8,000 soldiers should equate to almost 40,000 people moving to the island. Guam EPA welcomes input on the impact of this expansion.

CNMI: **Jim Lumibao**

- National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP): discussed exercise opportunity in CNMI with Exxon Mobil. A planning meeting will be held April 30, 2007, and the exercise will take place June 21, 2007. The objectives are to exercise NPREP's objectives and resources list, and the Marianas Islands Area Contingency Plan.

U.S. EPA activities on American Samoa: **Chris Weden**

- EPA will be in American Samoa next week to assess a scrap metal yard in Tafuna. Contaminants of concern include lead and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). American Samoa EPA will assist in locating equipment for that assessment.
- VIKANE cylinders will be removed with assistance from the American Samoa fire department. Cylinders will be vented.
- Laboratory chemicals at the high school and PCB transformers from the hospital have been transported and disposed on the mainland.

FEDERAL AGENCY PROGRAM UPDATES

DOI, GSA, FEMA, EPA R9, USCG D14 and Honolulu Sector, USCG PST

- DOI: **Patricia S. Port** discussed limited funding for travel to upcoming meetings. Additional interns will be available to help with research for the ORCP, and can assist with the development of the cultural and natural resources appendices.
- GSA: **Bob Brown** is working with Barbara Lee of the U.S.EPA on extending the EPA-GSA interagency agreement for an additional 5 years.
- FEMA: **Matt Bradley** updates the group on NIMS and the revisions to the NRP. The first comment on the new NIMS is complete. The revised NRP is delayed. No date for completion of the revised NRP has been set.
- FUDS/U.S. EPA overview: **Kathleen Shimmin** stated that UXO continues to be found on Guam and CNMI and that FOOSC should be aware that they could encounter UXO during a response. Please contact Kathleen if you need assistance or information on a specific site. (see attached file)
- U.S. EPA FOOSC Weden will be conducting a removal of abandoned repeater batteries in Guam during May/June of 2007.

Attendance List for ORRT Meeting April 24, 2007

(attendance by location; in alphabetical order)

American Samoa:

Fa'amao Asalele Jr	ASEPA
Lt. James Dupureur	Coast Guard Am. Samoa
Siva Kumar	American Samoa Power Authority / Generation Division
Sisifo Lauvao Jr	American Samoa Power Authority /Generation Division
Petti Matila	Department of Interior
Kathleen Moores	Coast Guard – Honolulu
Leilani Ripley	HSL
Olo Ropati Tagoivailoa	TEMCO

Guam:

Shawn Frohman	USCG
Mike Gawel	Guam EPA
Paul Kemp	GWA
Jim Lumibao	USCG
Patricia Murphy	USCG

Hawaii:

Jamie Andrews	U.S. Army/Joint Task Force – Homeland Defense
CAPT Chris Conklin	USCG/Planning & Force Readiness Division
David Daskam	U.S. Army/Joint Task Force – Homeland Defense
CAPT Fred Tucher	USCG/Prevention Division
E.B. Lawson – C4IT	USCG/Technical Advisor

San Francisco:

Matthew Bradley	DHS/FEMA
Robert Brown	GSA
Tomer Hasson	U.S. DOI
Janis Heple	U.C. Davis
Kathryn Lawrence	U.S. EPA
Dan Meer	U.S. EPA
Heidi Nemeth	Team 9 START
Patricia S. Port	U.S. DOI/OEPC
Lance Richman	U.S. EPA
Norwood Scott	U.S. EPA/American Samoa PIO
Kathleen Shimmin	U.S. EPA
Chris Weden	U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator