

Environmental  
Restoration  
Contractor

**ERC Team**

---

# ***Meeting Minutes Cover Sheet***

**096061**

Please find attached the Open Meeting Minutes from the Groundwater/Vadose Zone Integration Project of January 7, 2002.

If you have any comments or changes to these minutes, please reply to this email and your comments will be incorporated into the next meeting minutes.

Environmental  
Restoration  
Contractor

# **ERC Team**

---

# **Meeting Minutes**

**096061**

---

**SUBJECT** GROUNDWATER/VADOSE ZONE INTEGRATION PROJECT MEETING -  
JANUARY 7, 2002

**TO** Distribution

**FROM** Michael J. Graham, Groundwater/Vadose Zone Integration Project Manager

**DATE** January 29, 2002

**ATTENDEES**  
See Attached List

**DISTRIBUTION**  
Attendees  
GW/VZ Distribution List  
Document and Information Services H0-09

---

**NEXT GW/VZ INTEGRATION PROJECT OPEN MEETING:**

Next Meeting: Monday, February 4, 2002 – 1-3 p.m.  
Location: Bechtel Hanford, Inc., Assembly Room (Badging Required)  
Local Call-In Number: (509) 376-7411  
Toll Free Call-In Number: (800) 664-0771

**MEETING MINUTES:**

A Groundwater/Vadose Zone (GW/VZ) Integration Project Open Meeting was held on January 7, 2002, in Richland, Washington, in the Assembly Room at the Bechtel Hanford, Inc. (BHI) Building.

**PROJECT REPORT:**

**Transition Update (Moses Jarayssi)**

The date for the project to be turned over to Fluor is July 1, 2002. A draft of the transition plan will be out at the end of January 2002. That transition plan will be reviewed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and approved for implementation by the end of March.

**QUESTION:** Is there much discussion of what is going on at the working level for functions such as System Assessment Capability (SAC) or does the transition involve just upper management?

**ANSWER:** Basically, it's a change in upper management as far as SAC is concerned. The primary focus of the first transition plan is remediation in the Central Plateau. The focus of the second transition plan is on remediation on the river. We are making sure we are aligning and integrating our efforts with the Office of River Protection (ORP). It's not a big change, just tweaking some activities so they are all in focus.

QUESTION: What about the SAC model? What will happen with that work?

ANSWER: It will continue. The arrangement that currently exists between Bechtel Hanford, Inc. and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) will be maintained between Fluor and PNNL. The strategy still has the DOE stamp of approval.

QUESTION: How and when will analysis of whole site system start guiding the work?

ANSWER: There is a Clean-up Challenges and Constraints Team (C3T) formed to look at the decision roadmap for the site and how SAC would support these decisions.

### **S&T Workshops (Mark Freshley)**

The meetings will be at the main Washington State University (WSU) campus, not in the library building. Signs will be posted providing directions. The room number is 252.

The first day will be a look back on what has been accomplished. We will discuss the review comments provided to us by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and discuss the initial SAC results. The purpose is to establish the linkages with the core projects, like the tank farms and remedial action.

The second day will consist of breakout sessions. The focus will be to update the activities defined in the roadmap. The breakout sessions will be broken it into two sessions. In the morning, issues will be identified. The afternoon sessions will be to define the technical part of those issues.

The third day we will be reporting back from the breakout groups. There are several opportunities for stakeholders, regulators, and the tribal nations to make comments. It will be an opportunity for you to state what you think is important. The purpose of workshop is not to get a final draft of roadmap, but to gather input. It's a good opportunity to engage the external community.

There will be another workshop in February to develop the soil and groundwater remediation technical element of the roadmap.

### **IPEP Report (Moses Jarayssi)**

The tenth panel meeting was in September 2001. We just received an electronic copy of their report. We can make copies today, if you want to see it. I reviewed the report. There are no major concerns. The main focus of the September meeting was the initial SAC assessment. Most comments were complimentary on the effort, with some input on what needs to be done with the major issues we encounter in the initial run.

QUESTION: What was the ballpark of the much quicker release of technetium 99?

ANSWER: I cannot answer that. We will defer this question to Bob Bryce.

We want to match what we actually see in our monitoring system as much as possible.

QUESTION: How will you go about answer the question, "Why the difference?"

ANSWER: We are going to go back and look at the details to see if something was assumed that wasn't correct. Our scientists are taking care of these specific points that SAC needs to focus on before we do the

next run.

QUESTION: The importance of technetium release.

ANSWER: It has to do with the inventory itself and where it is. Physical changes seem to cause a significant slowing of the vertical movement. The big problem is reducing uncertainty in the inventory. There are various studies going on to figure out where the technetium actually is.

In our next meeting, we could focus more on all those studies on the re-running of SAC Rev. 0

There won't be an IPEP meeting this spring. We've had discussions and the next meeting will be in the August timeframe after Fluor takes over. The panel will be reconstituted. It will probably be smaller and may include different members. We anticipate a more focused approach and format. We are in the process of brainstorming with existing panel members and DOE to see what kind of re-format would be best. We hope to finalize the effort by the end of February.

### **Central Plateau Risk Framework (Moses Jarayssi)**

We wanted to establish an agreement with the regulators on what sort of risk framework can be used on the Central Plateau. We started discussing time frames, land use and risk scenarios with all the programs on the Central Plateau, so the same set of parameters are used. We discussed land use timeframes and parameters (geographic zones), and our latest discussion was about groundwater. We have not finalized these discussions. The proposed initial agreements are very basic. For example, we agreed that for the next 150 years, we have to assume no one will use the groundwater on the Central Plateau and to the Columbia River. In calculating risk, therefore, it doesn't make sense to include exposure to groundwater. A drinking water standard may be met in 150 years and the groundwater standards will be met at that parameter and outside the Central Plateau. If new technologies come up, we can consider them as they come up.

QUESTION: When you say "risk", are you talking about the risk of not meeting regulations? The drinking water standard or from a safety standpoint?

ANSWER: We are talking to the regulators about standards as well as risk and safety. All will be put together in one document, a primary document which will be made available for public review. It will be implemented throughout the Central Plateau.

### **200 Areas Remediation (Bruce Ford)**

We are in negotiations on the 200 Area operable units. There was an implementation plan issued in 1998. There are 23 operable units on the Central Plateau. The three parties are re-negotiating the sequence and how the operable units are to be grouped. We are trying to coordinate with tank farms as well. The negotiations are to be concluded by the end of this month with a new Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Change Package.

Three work plans have been completed and submitted to the regulators for review on three operable units.

**UPCOMING EVENTS (Moses Jarayssi)**

One item that is not included on the calendar is the Site Specific Advisory Board meeting in Savannah River, starting January 31, 2002. That meeting is to discuss different groundwater issues.

QUESTION: Why groundwater issues?

ANSWER: I don't know. Those that set up the workshop decided on the topic. You'd have to ask the Site Specific Advisory Board.

COMMENT: It seems DOE put a lot of money into it and it's something that isn't necessary.

ANSWER: It's to compare how different sites are treating their groundwater issues. There are big differences.

One more item I wanted to mention is the SAC update. The group has just started receiving their new hardware and is going to be getting ready to run again in the next few weeks.

QUESTION: How many parameters have you distributed?

ANSWER: Quite a few.

QUESTION: How did you develop those distributions?

ANSWER: Bob Bryce will have to address that.

**NOTES:**

GW/VZ Web Site location: <http://www.bhi-erc.com/vadose>

If you have questions or comments, please contact Barbara Howard (509-372-9236) or Alison Bryan (509-372-9192).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1) GW/VZ Integration Project Four Month Look Ahead Calendar

**ATTENDEES:**

Martin Bensky – Tri-City Caucus

Alison Bryan – BHI

Mark Freshley – PNNL

Mary Harmon – DOE-HQ (by phone)

Kathy Huss – SAIC (by phone)

Moses Jarayssi – BHI

Edye Jenkins – ERC

Sandra Lilligren – Nez Perce

John Morse – DOE-RL

Ted Repasky – CTUIR

Gordon Rogers – HAB

Sue Safford – Oregon Office of Energy (by phone)

Mike Thompson – DOE-RL

Rob Yasek – ORP

*GW/VZ INTEGRATION PROJECT*  
**JANUARY 7, 2002 – APRIL 1, 2002**  
*FOUR MONTH LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR*

<b>January 7</b>	GW/VZ Project Open Meeting (1-3 p.m., BHI Assembly Room)
<b>January 8-10</b>	S&T Workshop for Existing Roadmap Technical Elements (WSU Tri Cities)
<b>January 15-16</b>	HAB Task Force Workshop - 100/300 Area Remediation (Columbia Basin Advanced Technology Center, Pasco, WA)
<b>January 31</b>	Site Specific Advisory Board Meeting (Savannah River)
<b>February 4</b>	GW/VZ Project Open Meeting (1-3 p.m., BHI Assembly Room)
<b>February 7-8</b>	HAB Full Board (West Coast Hotel, Kennewick, WA)
<b>February 13-14</b>	S&T Workshop for Soil and Groundwater Remediation Technical Element (Red Lion Hotel, Richland, WA)
<b>March 4</b>	GW/VZ Project Open Meeting (1-3 p.m., BHI Assembly Room)
<b>April 1</b>	GW/VZ Project Open Meeting (1-3 p.m., BHI Assembly Room)