

Department of Energy (DOE) Fire Safety Committee

Minutes of the April 16, 2007 meeting

Written by: Jim Bisker, Chairman

The meeting was held at the Advanced Photon Source lecture hall (Bldg. 402) in conjunction with the Year 2007 DOE/Contractor Fire Safety Workshop (hosted by Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois and the DOE Office of Science). The following items were discussed:

Reorganization of the DOE Fire Safety Committee:

On April 17, Jim Bisker representing the Office of Nuclear Safety and Environmental Assistance (HS-22) within the Office of Health Safety and Security (HSS) gave a brief on the proposed reorganization of the DOE Fire Safety Committee. The purpose of this initiative is to improve the committee's effectiveness and address recent DOE reorganizations that have taken place including the establishment of the Central Technical Authorities (CTAs) and HSS at DOE Headquarters. Within the next 30 days, a draft version of the committee charter will be circulated in the DOE that establishes a two tiered Committee organization: a main body comprised of fire safety representatives of DOE HQ and Field Elements and DOE Management and Operations Contractors and a second, Steering Committee, made up of representatives of the CTAs and HSS. The purpose of the steering committee will be to focus the Committee's efforts on the highest priority needs (based upon input for the main body), serve as high level reviewers of Committee products, and be a conduit to senior DOE management as necessary. This initiative was discussed at length as well as the need for providing financial support for committee activities and the need to revise committee membership. It was identified that one possible avenue for gathering financial support could be through budget commitments by members of the proposed steering committee. HS-22 will continue to support future DOE/Contractor Fire Safety meetings including providing logistical and financial support and the Chairman requested that sites wishing to sponsor next year's event to please contact him. HS-22 indicated that a request for committee participants and the draft charter will be circulated within the first two weeks of May, 2007 with a kick-off teleconference planned towards the end of the month.

Status of the Facility Safety Order Implementation Guide (DOE G 420.1-3):

On April 17, HS-22 gave a brief description of major revisions to the DOE G 420.1-3 draft. This guide is nearly complete and at the time of the meeting was in concurrence with CTAs. Because of time constraints, the complete overview was curtailed about halfway through and reinitiated in an extended meeting in the afternoon of April 18. During this meeting, it was decided that an additional coordination meeting be set up to highlight issues regarding certain features and/or that HSS would issue a technical position on Facility Safety Order items, namely more through direction on the application of new construction language required by the Order. HS-22 will also continue to work

CTA staff to address outstanding issues on the fire protection guide.. It was also pointed out that once this document is published, and then the next document under review/update (via the Committee) will be DOE-STD-1066-99, *Fire Protection Design Criteria*, followed by DOE-STD-1088-95, *Fire Protection for Relocatable Structures*.

EFCOG – Fire Protection Working Group Initiatives

The EFCOG group is collecting samples of Fire Hazard Analysis (FHA) analyses as well as examples of Maximum Permissible Fire Loss) MPFL clean-up cost calculations and High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter plugging analyses. These should be submitted to group chairman, Eric Gosswiller (egr@inl.gov)

The EFCOG group also has an ongoing effort to improve coordination of FHA and Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) scenarios as well as design assumptions. Eric is the lead for the fire community and Andrew Vincent of SRS is the lead for the EFCOG Safety Analysis Working Group. All but 2 participants supported including the DSA fire scenario within the FHA. It was suggested that a seismically induced fire also be evaluated. The white paper in DOE HDBK 1163 [add title] was discussed and it was suggested that the integration requirements should be in an Order so that integration would be mandatory.

Supplemental Committee Discussion and Possible Future Action Items

Open discussion on future needs of the DOE fire protection community was initiated with the following items identified:

HSS Staff should include a cross reference link to the EFCOG – Fire Protection Working Group’s web site from the DOE’s fire Protection web site.

The Fire Safety Committee should consider revisiting the notion of providing more definitive guidance on the Inspection Testing and Maintenance (ITM) of fire protection systems currently required by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Such guidance was previously developed by the Committee to allow deviations to NFPA’s ITM frequencies under certain provisions; however, these guidance documents were rescinded by the DOE Office of Primary Interest, since it was not developed according to the formal Directives process. Other alternatives to the past guidance methodology includes adopting current ITM provisions deemed acceptable by the Department of Defense, namely UFC 3-600 Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Fire Protection Systems.

For additional information on these minutes or the DOE Fire Safety Committee, please contact Jim Bisker on (301) 903-654 (jim.bisker@hq.doe.gov).