

National Geothermal Collaborative Coordination/Communication Work Group

OBJECTIVE:

In its January meeting, the National Geothermal Collaborative Steering Committee elected to pursue three areas for the third year workplan (Land Use Planning, Outreach and Communication/Coordination). The Coordination/Communication Work Group will focus on program awareness and agency coordination and communication, and facilitate an effective revision of the MOU between BLM/USFS on geothermal development.

GOALS:

- *Increase geothermal-specific knowledge (substantive and procedural) inside of and across land management agencies with programmatic interest in or jurisdiction over geothermal resource development (BLM, USFS, DOE).*
- *Lay the groundwork for creation of a network of geothermal experts across a number of agencies who can work together to create a more effective, coordinated approach to geothermal project leasing and permitting.*
- *Facilitate coordinated efforts among federal agencies and interested outside parties to improve geothermal siting and permitting processes to enable appropriate development-where geothermal power is environmentally, economically and politically sustainable*

HOW:

There will be a three prong approach to accomplishing the goals of this work group. The three tasks include:

- A. Briefings - development and delivery
- B. Interagency working group to update and/or develop an MOU and Flow Chart that captures decision-making inside and across BLM and USFS
- C. Education and role clarification of managers/field personnel through panel discussions at conferences, and interviews with professionals (including other fuel technologies) to inform revisions of the MOU/Flow Chart (see B above).

The following are draft work group actions to be taken under each task:

A. Briefings – to be completed by December 2004.

1. Review, modify and ratify work plan
2. Revise briefing materials for each opportunity – individuals or conferences
3. Revise the list of key personnel appropriate for briefings
4. Attend briefings
5. Review identified existing opportunities to deliver briefing at regularly scheduled meetings

B. MOU & Flow Chart – to be completed by September.

Work has already begun on this project. Gordon Hansen, BLM, and Janine Clayton USFS, have pulled out the existing MOU and Flow Chart....

1. Review, modify and ratify workplan
2. Identify key personnel in USFS and BLM responsible for creating the MOU/Flow Chart and with implementation/authority responsibilities
3. Create milestones for production of draft documents
4. Examine/Revise existing documents (*the expectation is this work will be completed in a one day fact-to-face work group meeting*)

C. Education/Role Clarification and MOU/Flow Chart interviews

RESOLVE staff and work group members will attend and if possible get on the agenda at the GRC annual meeting and the BLM Fluids Conference (if it is in 2004). At these meetings they will interview selected stakeholders. Following the interviews RESOLVE will write a report of their findings and distribute that first to interviewees for review and comment, and then to the Steering Committee.

1. Identify conference panel topic and panelists
2. Identify stakeholders attending GRC or BLM conference to be interviewed
3. Revise interview questions
4. Where possible, integrate report findings into the MOU/Flow Chart

Meetings and Timeline (*subject to change*)

The workgroup will have two to three conference calls and one to two face-to-face meetings.

May 2004 - conference call will:

1. Review, modify, and ratify the work plan
2. Attend Briefings
3. Identify key personnel
 - a. Briefings – identify stakeholders in agencies and existing opportunities
 - b. MOU & Flow Chart Task - identify key personnel in USFS and BLM responsible for creating the MOU/Flow Chart and with implementation/authority responsibilities
 - c. Education/Role Clarification – identify key personnel who will attend the BLM Fluids conference for interviews on the MOU & Flow chart
4. Education/Role Clarification – Establish a panel topic and identify appropriate panelists for GRC annual meeting

June 2004 – face-to-face meeting will:

1. MOU & Flow Chart – Critically examine existing MOU & Flow Chart
2. Education/Role Clarification - Develop questions for the interviews at the BLM fluids conference.
3. Attend conferences to gather feedback on the draft MOU & Flow Chart

August – conference call

1. MOU & Flow Chart – revision process

September 2004 - Face-to-face meeting will:

1. MOU & Flow Chart –
 - a. Add timeline, or other recommended elements based on interviews/feedback
 - b. Analyze each step to determine if each step is necessary or if some could be eliminated