

# National Geothermal Collaborative

## Final Meeting Summary

### Impediments to Siting on Federal, Tribal, and DOD Lands Workgroup

March 11, 2003

Conference Call

#### In attendance:

Jessica Alcorn – White House Task Force on  
Energy Project Streamlining  
Gordon Bloomquist – Washington State Univ.  
Susan Norwood – Department of Energy  
Paul Dunlevy - BLM  
Karl Gawell – Geothermal Energy Association

#### RESOLVE Staff:

Kathleen Rutherford – RESOLVE Inc.  
Jody Erikson – RESOLVE, Inc.

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#### Decisions Made

Number	Decision
1.	Remove Decision #8 from the 2-28-03 Meeting Summary.
2.	The Findings document will not use the term ‘tribal historic lands.’
3.	Section 106 issues will be address under tribal values on Federal lands.
4.	When the Findings document is complete, all the impediments complete, members of the work group will fill in the illustrative elements/examples for each impediment.
5.	Accepted the February 28 <sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary as Final (with suggested/accepted changes).

#### Meeting Summary

The group reviewed the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting summary. The discussion clarified that the term Tribal Historic Lands will not be used because it is too broadly defined.

Section 106 could be utilized to define a preservation impediment. The group decided that this could be addressed through the sections on tribal values. Tribal values are discussed in both the Federal lands and the Tribal lands sections, but the Section 106 issues are only applicable to sacred sites on Federal lands because on Tribal lands the Tribes are the permitting authority.

#### Access Section

There was a discussion regarding case studies and how the meeting summary reflected the conversation about fair representation of perspectives. The group looked at rephrasing the statement with the words “value judgment.” Several options were discussed:

1. Rephrase: ‘in a balanced manner.’ Some felt that the term ‘balance’ implies evenness which is not always the case.
2. Rephrase: ‘fairly represent them as they are presented (true to the original source).’
3. Rephrase: ‘fairly and factually’ this rephrasing represented the need to present each case as it was presented and describing a case with no judgment only relating the facts.

In the February meeting the group listed six possible cases from which illustrations of specific impediments can be pulled. Kathleen requested the group give guidance on which aspect of a case best illustrates each impediment. She stressed that how the document represents the impediment and the example that illustrates it is important.

**AGREEMENT:** When the document is complete, all the impediments complete, members of the work group will fill in the illustrative elements/examples of each impediment.

There is a write up of the case in Hawaii (USGS “Tapping the Earth Natural Heat”, p. 44-45). The case PUNA case would be valuable because the debate is complete. History and time gives greater clarity and a more unbiased perspective of the description of the case.

**AGREEMENT:** Add the Puna (Hawaii) case to the list of cases in the meeting summary.

**AGREEMENT:** Accept the meeting summary with the changes suggested.

### **Environment Representative**

Kathleen reminded the group that there has not been an explicitly environmental perspective applied to this document. While this is a Steering Committee membership issue, the ramifications for broader acceptance of this document are important. Karl Gawell suggested contacting the board member of Sierra club that spoke at the GRC conference in Reno.

**Action Item:** Karl will get Kathleen the contact information of the Sierra Club Board member with whom he worked in Reno.

### **Next Steps**

- ? March 16<sup>th</sup> – Member will send all necessary materials and comments to Kathleen.
- ? March 27<sup>th</sup> – RESOLVE will integrate materials and comments and disseminate the next iterative draft of the Impediments document.
- ? ~~March 28<sup>th</sup>~~ – This is not the date for a GEA meeting to discuss changes to the Geothermal Steam Act.