

Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America

Technical Forum

July 22, 2010

9:00 – 4:00

Research and Technology Needs for Deepwater Development Addressing Oil Recovery and Effective Cleanup of Oil Spills

Participants,

Thank-you for helping to assure that today's RPSEA technical forum is a success. The purpose of this document is to give you some guidelines, a feel for what to expect and some insights. Your active participation throughout the day is strongly encouraged.

Agenda

0900 – 0930	Registration and Coffee
0930 – 0940	Welcome, introductions
0940 – 1000	<i>The Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America: Refocused and Responsive</i> Dr. Steve Holditch, Chairman of the RPSEA Board of Directors
1000 – 1030	<i>Keynote: Observations from The Deepwater Horizon Incident</i> Dr. Edward Overton, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Environmental Sciences, Louisiana State University
1030 – 1100	<i>Special Congressional Discussion – Update from Washington D.C.</i> Congressman Kevin Brady, District 8, Texas
1100 – 1115	Break
1115 – 1245	<i>Panel Discussion – What's Going On? What Else Can Go Wrong? - Hearings, Briefings and Other Items</i> Tom Williams/Nautilus: <i>The U.S. Department of Interior's Response</i> Paul Martin/MMS—Retired: <i>History of the TA&R Program</i> Quenton Dokken/Gulf of Mexico Foundation: <i>Valuation of Ecosystem Services</i> David Dietrich/AcuSea, Inc: <i>Oil Spill Modeling</i> Greg Anderson/Moody International: <i>Creating A Culture of Well Control Safety</i> followed by other items and discussion/brainstorming session
1245 – 1255	<i>Overview of Breakout Sessions</i> There will be three simultaneous breakout groups – one for each of three areas (preventive technologies, response technologies, ecosystem monitoring/valuation). Two sessions will be held to allow participants to have input into more than one area.
1255	<i>Boxed lunches distributed – to be taken with you to Breakout Session I</i>
1300 – 1400	<i>Breakout Session I – Defining the Needs</i> – first brainstorming round to identify needs and prioritize.
1400 – 1415	Break
1415 – 1500	<i>Breakout Session II – Prioritizing the Needs</i> – review the needs and confirm prioritization.
1500 – 1545	<i>Plenary Review of Breakout Sessions</i> (Breakout Session Reports)
1545 – 1600	<i>Where do we go from here?</i> Recapping the Day

Objective of the Meeting

As Dr. Steve Holditch will cover in his remarks, RPSEA is in the process of responding to the Deepwater Horizon incident. This forum is an integral part of the process. The objective of the meeting is to enable technology developers, researchers and scientists discuss and debate the needs to address critical issues and priorities related to deepwater development. The forum will focus on identifying and prioritizing research and technology development required in four main areas:

- Enhance Technologies to Minimize Incidents – What is needed to prevent incidents from occurring?
- ‘What else can go wrong’? in Ultra-Deepwater.
- Identify, Develop and Improve Proactive and Reactive Response Procedures and Processes – What is needed to minimize the time to respond to an incident? What is needed to minimize the environmental impact?
- Develop Understanding of the Value of Ecosystem Services and Identify Locations of High Value in a Seasonally Dynamic Ecosystem – what is needed to understand the movement of marine life/wildlife that may be affected by an incident? What is needed to understand the impact on ecosystems? What is needed to understand the value of ecosystems at risk?

Expected Outcome

The outcome of the forum will be a series of lists of potential projects related to technology development and research related to deepwater development. We are not identifying funding sources or determining how RPSEA should use their research dollars. We are identifying ideas that RPSEA or other funding organizations may consider.

There will be four lists developed during the afternoon breakout sessions:

- Preventive Technologies
- Response Technologies
- Ecosystem Monitoring/Valuation
- Other

Keynote Speakers

To help frame the discussions, we are pleased to have two keynote speakers. First, Dr. Ed Overton will discuss his observations concerning the Deepwater Horizon Incident and the resulting impacts. Then, we are honored to have Congressman Kevin Brady (District 8, TX), to discuss what is happening in Washington, D.C.

Panel Discussion

In addition to the various background materials distributed prior to the forum, we will have a panel discussion to discuss the needs for various technology development and research programs. Each panel member will be given 10 minutes (timed) for opening remarks. All panelists will speak prior to the Q/A session. The audience will be asked to write question(s) to the panelists down on a card that will be collected. In addition, the audience will be asked to capture any technology development or research ideas on the large post-it note stickers that they received during registration. These ideas will be the starting point(s) for the afternoon breakout sessions.

Facilitated Breakout Sessions

Boxed lunches will be distributed for participants to take with them to the breakout sessions. Facilitators have been selected for the afternoon breakout sessions. The facilitator will be responsible for giving a 10 minute report of the breakout session topic during the Plenary Review of Breakout Sessions (see agenda: 1500-1545). This report should be based on a seriatim ranking of ideas identified in the breakout session.

Breakout Topics: There are three breakout topics:

Preventive Technologies: What technologies are needed, what research needs to be performed to prevent incidents from occurring in the first place? What technologies are needed, what research needs to be performed to improve safety, protect the environment, and ensure wellbore integrity of offshore operations? What are the technology gaps and future research needs?

Response Technologies: What research is required to minimize response time to an incident, so that environmental impact is minimized? What technologies are needed, what research needs to be performed to address the following?

- Prevent the spill from moving onshore
- Reduce the environmental impact
- Speed the degradation of any unrecovered oil while minimizing the harm on the ecosystems
- Mobilize rapid well intervention/containment standby equipment

What are the technology gaps and future research needs? What modeling expertise needs to be developed?

Ecosystem Monitoring/Valuation: What technologies are needed, what research needs to be performed to develop an understanding of the value of ecosystem services and location identification of high value in a seasonally dynamic ecosystem? What technologies are needed, what research needs to be performed to determine the value of ecosystems? What research needs to be performed in the deepwater, coastal regions and Gulf Coast wetlands, in order to identify high value areas to place monitoring and early warning devices? What work needs to be done to develop monitoring and early warning devices? What are the technology gaps and future research needs?

Breakout Sessions: There are two separate breakout sessions.

Recommended steps/timing for the first breakout sessions:

1. Review the objective of the session. ***The objective of the first session is to identify the needs and select the top three priorities within the group's assigned topic.***
2. Assign a recorder – someone that can write neatly on a flipchart.
3. Allow participants to stick post-it notes with ideas onto the wall, group like ideas together. (These first three steps should take about 15 minutes)
4. Brainstorm for 20 – 30 minutes about gaps – what is missing? What needs to be done?
5. Take five minutes to have participants vote using their voting stickers. Each participant will have four stickers to vote with – so, they can vote for four different items.
6. During the last 10 minutes, go through the top three vote-getters, having the recorder write these on the flip chart. (Remember – the facilitator will present the results at the report-out.)

Recommended steps/timing for the second breakout sessions:

1. Review the objective of the session. ***The objective of the second session is to identify other opinions about priorities, identify gaps, and record other topical issues.***
2. Assign a recorder – someone that can write neatly on a flipchart.
3. Review the top three vote-getters from the first session with the group. (These first three items should take about 15 minutes.)

4. Allow participants to take 10 minutes or so to walk around the room and review other items that were identified. Let them add post-it notes to the wall if there are items that they believe should be included.
5. Call participants back together. In the remaining time:
 - a. Revisit the top three vote-getters – agree? Record other priorities on a second flip chart.
 - b. Discuss gaps – what is missing?
 - c. Go around the room reviewing the other items that have been identified. If they are related to the breakout topic, record them on a third flip chart. If they are not related to the breakout topic, record them on a fourth flip chart that is entitled ‘Parking Lot’.

Plenary Review of Breakout Sessions

This review is scheduled for 45 minutes. Each facilitator will have 10 minutes to present the flip chart, followed by 5 minutes of discussion.

Tools

Each participant should have received the following at registration:

- Name Tag
- Pen
- Index Card – to be used during Panel Discussion to write down any question(s) that the participant would like to ask of a panel member.
- 3 Large Post-it note stickers – to capture ideas related to technology development and research
- 4 voting stickers (dots) – to be used during the first breakout session.

Breakout Session Locations:

