

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY

April 5, 2007

Participants:

Rebecca Stevens
Rob Spafford
Rusty Sheppard
Rog Hardy
Nick Zilka
Bill Adams
Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)

This summary provides the salient issues. These notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not the nuances of the discussion.

Agenda Items: None

As the TLG Chair and Vice Chair were unavailable, a suggestion was made to go into a round table discussion.

Round Table:

Adams: Mentioned that he would be making a presentation for a mine/mill update at the upcoming TLG meeting on May 1.

Zilka: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Reported that the first SEEP (stormwater erosion education program) class was held last week in Shoshone County and that it was extremely successful. She said that the participants asked a lot of questions about the ICP which were answered by Jerry Cobb (PHD). Stevens informed everyone that SEEP classes would also be held for Benewah and Kootenai counties in the next few weeks, but indicated that the one for Kootenai County was completely full. She remarked that she was very encouraged by the interest shown. Nick Zilka also commented that Jerry Cobb told him the SEEP class was very well received.

Spafford: Inquired how the SEEP classes were advertised. Stevens answered that they were publicized in various newsletters such as the NIBCA (North Idaho Building Contractors Association), CDA Tribe, etc. For anyone interested in additional information, she suggested that they go to the web site at: <http://www.plrcd.org/SEEP>

Sheppard: Asked Zilka if he knew whether the RAMP (remedial action monitoring plan) had been signed for the Trail. Zilka replied that he did not know. Sheppard then brought up that he had been working mostly on the NPDES sewer draft. He mentioned that there was an informational meeting held last night for the cities of Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, and Post Falls. Sheppard commented that the EPA is segregating the permitting for Idaho wastewater facilities and allowing Idaho nine years in order to meet the new standards for TMDLs in the Spokane River such as phosphate. He indicated that some of the new TMDLs are currently not attainable

which is why it will take at least nine years for the WWTPs (wastewater treatment plants) to implement them by phasing into research, procurement, and construction.

Stevens: Asked Sheppard if he was talking about NPDES permits. Sheppard clarified that he was speaking about the proposed drafts that have been in the works for the last two to three months for the reduction of phosphates.

DeLange: Questioned whether the new TMDL standards for Idaho were the same for Washington. Stevens responded that Washington has its own standards, but they are very similar and must also meet EPA standards. Sheppard reiterated that there is no technology to meet the new standards.

Brewer: Commented that both Idaho and Washington are faced with the same dilemma to improve dissolved oxygen levels in Lake Spokane and that new technology needs to be developed. If the TMDL standards cannot be met, then non-point sources will need to be determined in order to meet control.

Sheppard: Said that he agreed with Brewer, but asked if Washington had nine years to phase in WWTPs to meet the requirements. Brewer replied that current WWTPs would be phased in, but that new wastewater treatment facilities would have to meet the new standards. He indicated that studies were being done. Sheppard suggested that he did not believe that this was the case. Brewer responded that he would check into it. Sheppard also mentioned that Coeur d'Alene was starting studies this year.

Stevens: Informed everyone that there would be a tour of Blue Water Technologies in Hayden on April 20 and that everyone was welcome. She mentioned that Blue Water provides wastewater treatment processes, particularly for phosphorus removal.

Hardy: Indicated that his general question was in regards to whether the RAMP had been signed, but that no one had responded affirmatively. Stevens suggested that the Tribe may have signed.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 4/19/07.

Thank you for your participation.