WM2011 Conference Panel Report

PANEL SESSION 59 – Energy Facility Contractors Group Knowledge Portal Review

Co-Chairs:Joseph Yanek, Fluor Government Group;
Susan Stiger, Bechtel National, Inc.Reporter:Mark W. Frei, Longenecker and Associates

Panelists Included:

- Joe Yanek, Fluor Corporation
- Sue Stiger, *Bechtel National*
- Bob Miklos, Idaho National Laboratory
- Tony Umek, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
- John McDonald, Washington River Protection Solutions
- Mike Mason, Bechtel National
- Tim Flake, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
- Kevin Kostelnik, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
- Jack Anderson, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

On average, approximately 35 to 45 people were present to hear this session. Following introductions by the Chair of the EFCOG Board of Directors, **Joe Yanek**, he provided an overview of the EFCOG – including organization and history, summary of recent accomplishments through the 13 Working Groups, best practices, future plans, challenges, and opportunities. Five panelists then followed Pam and Joe by addressing some key initiatives from their respective Working Groups.

Bob Miklos described the efforts of the Project Management Working Group in supporting DOE in its issuance of DOE Order 413.3B, Program and Project Management for the Acquisition of Capital Assets, and of the revision to Project Reporting and Assessment System (PARS), and in its activities devoted to putting in place corrective actions to address findings from DOE's root cause analyses of poor performance of projects and contracts. In addition, he provided a summary of other ongoing PMWG activities planned for the balance of FY2011.

Tony Umek described the efforts of the Environment, Safety, and Health Working Group in supporting DOE in its ongoing Order directives reform initiative. His Working Group provide reviews of numerous existing Orders, made recommendations to DOE, and prepared revisions for DOE's consideration. The plan is for the DOE RevCom review process to conclude in March 2011.

Jack Anderson provided an overview of the Contractor Assurance Working Group's efforts to develop a methodology for the identification and application of leading indicators to improve contractor performance and oversight. He described the 11 month effort of his Working Group to develop guiding principles and a guidance document for development and implementation of leading indicators that was distributed DOE wide. He also described the Working Group's efforts on supporting other elements of a sound contractor assurance system for use across DOE by its contractors.

John McDonald presented for the Integrated Safety Management and Quality Assurance Working Group's efforts on the safety culture project, including the outcome of the pilots run at various DOE (and NNSA) sites to determine a consensus set of principles and implementation practices (and associated attributes) that would take worker safety to a higher level. He also described the focus areas and assessment tools that resulted from this initiative; a new subgroup in this Working Group will continue to lead the effort to help other contractors in DOE adopt the safety culture project outcome.

<u>Mike Mason</u> presented the status and plans of the joint supplier evaluation project in the Integrated Safety Management and Quality Assurance Working Group. 20 audits were performed across the DOE complex using one standard procedure developed by this Working Group initiative. He then described the path forward and schedule for continuing this initiative across DOE, and the benefits of adopting this project's elements.

<u>Tim Flake</u>, also of the Integrated Safety Management and Quality Assurance Working Group, discussed the work controls and planning initiative that has been underway during FY 2011. This initiative is useful for contractors for all hazardous planned work at DOE sites. Five focus areas form the foundation for this effort and have provided tangible benefits to date.

Kevin Kostelnik presented the efforts he has focused on as Deputy Director of the Joint DOE-EFCOG American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Team. Working closely with DOE's Office of Environmental Management, EFCOG has focused on lessons learned and best practices from the various activities funded by the ARRA within EM's cleanup program – mainly D&D of excess facilities, waste disposition, and soil and groundwater cleanup activities. A forum was established for the exchange of this information, using three focus areas: Health and Safety, Worker Training, and Workforce Transition. In the months ahead, as ARRA projects (and funding) wind down, the focus will be more on the workforce transition piece.

Sue Stiger, Vice-Chair of the EFCOG Board of Directors, provided a summary of what was presented by Joe Yanek and the panelists, and opened the session up to questions. There were no discernable questions from the audience following the panelists' presentations.

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