

U.S. Department of Energy
Quarterly Teleconference on Implementing
Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Requirements
July 28, 2005 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (EDT)

TOPICS

- Demo of the BEES software to help us evaluate the life-cycle environmental and economic performance of products including biobased carpet
- Walk through *Federal Green Construction Guide for Specifiers*

PARTICIPANTS:

DOE HEADQUARTERS PREFERRED PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS: Emile Boulos, Mark Decot, Richard Langston, Don Lentzen,
DOE-HQ Other: Kevin Groppe, Bev McCloskey

OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES:

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive: Dana Arnold, Juan Lopez
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Alison Kinn-Bennett

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Kathleen Nawaz

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Office of River Protection: Gae Neath

Ohio Field Office: Allan Harris

Richland Operations Office: Tom Ferns, Jenise Connerly

Hanford Site: Joe Coenenberg, Ed Foss, Tom Lazarski, Candice Marple, Bob Moore, Michael Royack, Frank Russo, Nancy Ware, Dick Weldon

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant: Bob Prentiss, Judy McLemore

FOSSIL ENERGY: Lindsey Ferris

Strategic Petroleum Reserves: Terry Heaton

NUCLEAR ENERGY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Idaho National Laboratory: Anne Dustin, Jennifer Morton

SCIENCE

Ames Laboratory: Dan Kayser

Brookhaven National Laboratory: Peter Pohlott

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory: Renee Jewell

Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education: Erskine Gray

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory: Tom McGeachen

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory: Sandra Cannon, Wayne Larson

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS

Albuquerque Service Center: Anne Howe

Los Alamos National Laboratory: Monica Witt

Nevada Test Site: Al Karns

Pittsburgh Naval Reactors: Greg Sawl, Ann Magdic, Bob Marheska

Sandia National Laboratory: Sam McCord

Y-12 Site Office: Jan Gilbert Jackson

Y-12 National Security Complex: Anne Ostergaard, Aprell Patterson

OTHER

Karen Edmond (Michigan Department of the Environment)

Karen Edwards (United Soybean Board)

Bobbi Lippiatt (National Institute of Standards and Technology)

Barbara Matos (Veterans Administration)

Linda Mesaros (Mesaros Associates, Inc.)

Sueanne Pfifferling (United Soybean Board)

Jim Pollach (Omni Tech USB)

Jim Zuber (Ohio Office of Energy Efficiency)

MINUTES

Welcome and Buy Bio Construction Product Update - Mark Decot (DOE-HQ Buy Bio Project Lead)

USDA Proposed Biobased Products

- Hydraulic fluids for mobile equipment – requires minimum of 24% biobased content by weight
- Lubricants, penetrating – 71%
- Diesel fuel additives – 93%
- Urethane roof coating/sealant – 62% [Needs to also meet Energy Star rating requirements. Single biobased roof coating presently on the market has an approved EnergyStar rating.]
- Water tank coating/sealant – 62%
- Bedding, bed linens, towels – 18% [Must be at least 18% by weight eligible commodity. Eligible commodity excludes cotton and wool because they are already mature markets. Bedding may be a blend of eligible commodity (wheat, corn, soy, etc.) AND cotton/wool but cotton/wool may not be counted as biobased per Section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act.]

Submit Comments

- Proposal now out for comment – 60-day period
- Comments must be received by September 6, 2005
- Should your site envision difficulty with purchasing any of the proposed products with biobased content, please send your comments directly to USDA

(see in e-mail we sent July 11) with a copy to Don Lentzen (donald.lentzen@eh.doe.gov).

When Products Designated

- All designated products must be given procurement preference by Federal agencies purchasing \$10,000 or more of that type of item.
- The \$10,000 level is defined in the statute as an agency wide purchasing level not just a single site level.
- The Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) specifies that such products should be acquired and reported by DOE management contractors and, in some circumstances, by their subcontractors, such as construction subcontractors (see DEAR 970.5223-2).
- DOE will discuss the designated products in detail at our October 28 teleconference
- For those of you already using biobased products, we would appreciate receiving a copy of the text you have in your contracts that specifies the biobased content for each product you purchase. We want to post this text on our website so other DOE sites can avoid reinventing such contract language.

Today's Teleconference

- Focuses on more environmental construction products, some of which have biobased content, such as carpet, caulking, insulation, and roofing sealant – call if you would like DOE's info on these
- Juan Lopez (Office of the Federal Environmental Executive) will give us a brief introduction to *The Federal Commitment to Green Building*
- Bobbi Lippiatt (National Institute of Standards and Technology) will walk us through the BEES software. We hope you have successfully downloaded it already on your computer. The two products we will be looking at today are two biobased products evaluated by NIST: carpet with biobased backing and transformer oil. To be aware of when purchasing carpet, commercial nylon carpet is readily available on the market at a cost competitive price with recycled content in the facing and biobased content in the backing by numerous suppliers. One carpet line has the reverse: biobased facing and recycled content backing.
- Alison Kinn-Bennett (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) will walk us through the *Federal Green Construction Guide for Specifiers*

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive Update – Juan Lopez (OFEE)

Link to *The Federal Commitment to Green Building: Experience and Expectations*
(www.ofee.gov/sb/fgb_report.html)

- 2003 Report to assess sustainable building performance published 26 recommendations to help agencies promote sustainable business practices
- This report assesses what the Federal government is doing in policy and practice to make its buildings more environmentally sustainable, and provides recommendations for how the Federal sector can make even greater progress.
- OFEE recommended the creation of a senior interagency team to "provide strategic direction to Federal agencies and identify the tools needed for them to effectively develop and implement green building strategies." Out of this recommendation, OFEE and several Federal agencies now work together in the form of the Federal Green Building Council.
- The top 5 priorities of the recommendations are as follows: 1) Develop a standardized definition of "sustainable building," 2) Establish policy that links construction to O&M Budgets, 3) Identify metrics for a proposed Memorandum of Understanding on Federal leadership in high performance sustainable buildings 4) Establish a clear federal policy for using LEED, and 5) hold a White House sponsored summit/conference on Federal Sustainable Buildings (scheduled for January 24-25, 2006 at the White House Conference Center

Questions

Question: Who is representing DOE on the council?

Answer: Bev Dyer and Mark Ginsberg

Demo of BEES Software – Bobbie Lippiatt (National Institute of Standards and Technology)

- BEES quantitatively measures a products environmental and economic performance. It reduces complex, science-based technical content to decision-enabling results and delivers them in a visually intuitive graphical format.
- BEES measures the environmental performance of building products by using the life-cycle assessment approach specified in ISO 14000 standards, and the economic performance of products using the life-cycle costing approach specified in ASTM E-917.
- The software has 12 categories of environmental impact and over 400 different "flows" which are translated into impact.
- The presentation consisted of a walkthrough of an example product: nylon carpet with recycled facing and biobased backing.

Note: BEES 3.0 runs on Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, and XP personal computers with a 486 or higher microprocessor, 32 Megabytes or more of RAM, and at least 110 Megabytes of available disk space. A printer must be

installed. Download is available after registering at
<http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/oe/software/bees/registration.html>

Questions

Question: Is BEES related to LEED?

Answer: While LEED addresses product issues, it measures performance at the whole building level. BEES, on the other hand, measures performance at the product level.. U.S. Green Building Council is currently considering incorporating life-cycle assessment in its scoring system.

Question: Do you have plans to make it web-based?

Answer: Yes, but most likely not until next summer.

Question: Could zip codes or major cities be added to make distance calculations easier?

Answer: That is a good idea.

DOWNLOAD AND RUN BEES 3.0 SOFTWARE

Register for software at

<http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/oe/software/bees/registration.html> (no cost involved):

- Fill out registration form
- Click submit

To install BEES 3.0d:

- Download bees30dzip.exe, a 14.6 MB self-extracting file. (If prompted during the download, choose to save the file).
- From Windows Explorer, double click on bees30dzip.exe to start the self- extraction process.
- When prompted, choose a folder to unzip the file to and click Unzip.
- Using Windows Explorer, go to the folder you specified in Step 3, double click on Setup.exe and follow the directions on the screen. You will need to choose a folder in which to install BEES 3.0d. This folder must be different from the one you specified in Step 3.

To run BEES 3.0d:

- Select Start->Programs->BEES->BEES 3.0d

OR

- Go to "My Computer" or wherever you can see all folders and files on your computer. Do not try to open the BEES exe file from a software application, such as Word.
- Go to where you stored the BEES files (probably in a folder labeled "BEES")
- Open the BEES30d.exe file
- Go to "Analysis" at top of window
- Go to "Define Parameters"

Federal Green Construction Guide – Alison Kinn-Bennett (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Lead)

Link to *Federal Green Construction Guide for Specifiers* (<http://fedgreenspecs.wbdg.org>)

- The *DRAFT Federal Guide for Green Construction Specs* is being developed by EPA to help Federal building project managers meet various green mandates as established by statute and Executive Orders, as well as, EPA and DOE program recommendations.
- The latest version of the guide is under review and incorporates public comments.
- The guide contains 16 general divisions.
- Alison Kinn Bennett walked the listeners through an example of specifications for Doors and Windows..
- Specifications can be downloaded as a Word or PDF file.

Questions

Question: How often will the guide be updated?

Answer: No target has been set. It is intended to be a “live” document.

Open Discussion of Technical Issues

Tom McGeachen: Hydraulic elevator bio-oil is performing well.

Next teleconference

- Date – October 27, 2005
- Other potential topics for the next teleconference. Please share your ideas. Some suggested so far are
 - Life cycle comparisons of products with seeming conflicting environmental qualities, such as recycled and zero VOC paint, solid plastic recycled and chipboard clipboards
 - Green Purchasing in Environmental Management Systems
 - Tracking systems

Adjourn

SEVEN NEWLY DESIGNATED RECYCLED PRODUCTS

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by May 1, 2005

- Blasting Grit
- Furniture - Office
- Pipe – Non-Pressure
- Racks - Bicycle
- Ramps – Modular Threshold
- Roofing Materials
- Vehicle Parts – Rebuilt

Web Info: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products.htm>

SIX NEWLY PROPOSED BIOBASED PRODUCTS

Submit comments to fb4p@oce.usda.gov, including RIN number 0503-AA26 and "Proposed Designation of Items" on the subject line before September 6, 2005

- Lubricants, penetrating – 71% biobased content by weight
- Diesel fuel additives – 93%
- Urethane roof coating/sealant – 62%
- Hydraulic fluids for mobile equipment (tractors, etc.) – 24%
- Bedding, bed linens, towels (User Housing Facilities?) – 18%
- Water tank coating/sealant – 62%

Web Info: <http://www.regulations.gov/freddocs/05-12978.htm>

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

DOE's "Environmentally Preferable Products Program" website for access to the reporting site, annual report, teleconference agenda and minutes, and sources of helpful information

U.S. Department of Energy's RCRA 6002/Executive Order 13101 home page
<http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/default.htm>

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Executive Orders, Regulations, Guidelines

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
<http://ofee.gov/gp/gp.htm>

What Is Green Purchasing, Anyway?

Office of Personnel Management
www.golearn.gov (Free Catalog Section, then Legislatively Mandated...Topics)

GENERAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

Environmentally Preferable Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/database.htm>

Alternative Fuels/Vehicles

U.S. Department of Energy
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/federal/>

Biobased Products

U.S. Department of Agriculture
<http://www.biobased.oce.usda.gov/public/index.cfm>

Energy/Water Efficient Products

Federal Energy Management Program
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eeproducts.cfm>

Recycled Products and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/index.htm>

Materials Exchange Products

(especially chemicals, equipment, and hazardous materials) at other DOE facilities

Log on with user name (erhquser) and password (erhqdoe)

DOE Complex Wide Materials Exchange

<http://wastenot.er.doe.gov/DOEmatex/index.html>

Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html>

SPECIFIC PRODUCT CATEGORIES

Carpet

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Select “carpet” at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/carpet.htm>

Suppliers

Green Seal “Choose Green Report: Carpet”

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/Carpet_CGR.pdf

Cement/Concrete

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/cement.htm>

Cleaning Products

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Select “concrete” at

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

Suppliers

Green Seal “Choose Green Report: Industrial and Institutional Cleaners”

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/CGR_I&I_cleaners.pdf

Construction Materials and Products

Contract Language

U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.pnl.gov/doesustainabledesign/> , see “Letters of Intent, Construction Contracts”

Paint

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/paint.htm>

Suppliers

Green Seal "Choose Green Report: Architectural Paints"

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/CGR_Paints.pdf

Toner Cartridges

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/toner.htm>