Remedy Optimization in the Era of Performance-Based Contracting

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9 November 2011





Overview

- Traditional Remedy Optimization
 Fundamentals
- Performance-Based Contracts (PBCs) for Remediation
- Remedy Optimization in Support of PBCs
- Do PBCs Save Money/Time Relative to Traditional Optimization?
- Current USACE EM CX Evaluation of Optimization for Army





Traditional Remedy Optimization

- Long-Term Remedies
- Owner/Agency Requests Optimization of Remedy
 - ► Contractor Working under "Cost-Plus" Type Contract
- Optimization Team
 - ► Independent, Expert, Multidisciplinary
- Holistic Evaluation
 - ► Effectiveness, Cost, Strategic





Traditional Remedy Optimization, Continued

- Recommendations Accepted by Project Team, to be Implemented by Contractor
- Challenges to Implementation of Recommendations
 - ► Reluctance by Project Team, Contractor, Stakeholders





Performance-Based Contracts

- No Specific Instructions
 - ▶ Clear Objectives
 - ► Realistic Metrics to Assess Progress
 - ▶ Fixed Price
 - ▶ Payment Based on Accomplishments
- Contractor Expected to Continually Optimize Work
- Various Periods of Performance (3-10 Yr)





Performance-Based Contracts

- Success Depends on Ability to Craft Statement of Objectives, Metrics
- Poor Objectives/Metrics May Result in Unexpected Risks to Owner
- Long-Term Remedies Life Extend past Period of Performance
- Contract Shifts Risk to Contractor
 - ► Risk Increases Bids
 - ► Long Period of Performance Adds Risk







Remedy Optimization Support to PBCs

- Independent Optimization before Contract
 - ▶ "Seed" Ideas for Bidders to Consider in Bids
 - Suggest Alternative Formulation of Objectives, Metrics
- Independent Optimization after PBC Award
 - ▶ Assess Impact to Owner Risk from Contractor Approach
 - ▶ Cooperation from PBC Contractor
 - Suggest GSR, Address Stakeholder Concerns





Which Approach Provides Most Benefit?

- Question only for Long-Term Remediation Projects
- Summary of "Pros and Cons"
 - ▶ PBC Contractor Highly Motivated to Optimize
 - ► Risk Transfer Comes at a Price
 - ► Independent, Expert Optimization with Cost-Plus Contracting Avoids Risk Premium
 - ► Traditional Optimization Depends on Ability to Implement Recommendations
- Not Clear that PBCs are Most Cost-Effective

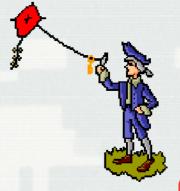




Which Approach? Continued...

- How to Test?
 - ▶ Two Comparable Sites
 - ► Get PBC Bids, then Use Traditional Contract, Compare Cost to Bids
- Difficulties in Comparison
 - ► Takes Time to Know True Costs
 - ▶ Need Statistically Valid Comparison
 - ► How Adjust for Optimization Ideas Not Incorporated?







Current Assessment of Army Optimization Opportunities

- Evaluation of Tools to Estimate Potential Programmatic Savings
- Identify and Rank Sites for Optimization Benefits
- Recommendations for Programmatic Approach to Optimization







Discussion and Questions?

- Examples?
- Questions?
- Thoughts?

