

**General Meeting Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable
June 5, 2008**

ABSTRACT

**Streamlining Records of Decision and
Baseline Ecological Risk Assessments**

Most regulatory-driven reports are required to provide comprehensive information that is both highly technical and legally/scientifically defensible, while at the same time, remaining accessible to a broad-based and often non-technical audience. These potentially conflicting objectives sometimes result in technical documents that may become cumbersome, redundant, and difficult to interpret by the audience they are intended to reach. This presentation discusses an approach with the goal to improve regulatory-driven documents using streamlining tools and information technology with a tiered presentation approach. Consistent with the Presidents Management Agenda, this approach is intended to create an improved technical document that complies with regulatory requirements and guidance, strives to reduce redundancy, can be more easily understood by a broad audience, and presents supporting data in a detailed, but intuitive and user-friendly format. The tools applied to these regulatory-driven documents were developed as a result of the joint initiative between the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Defense Streamlining Task Force, and applied appropriately is expected to produce a higher quality document, significantly reduce the document size, and minimize regulatory review time, thus leading to a potentially more cost effective deliverable. The presentation will focus on the case study application of this concept to the completion of Navy Environmental Restoration Site Record of Decision and a Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment. Challenges and solutions identified by the project teams during the development of these electronically enhanced documents are also presented. These and similar innovative approaches can be successfully applied to a variety of technical reports.