Recommendations for a FRTR Path Forward

Prepared by
FRTR Present and Future Working Group

November 9, 2011
Highlights of Updated Charter

• Promote cooperation and information sharing among federal agencies to:
  – advance innovative remediation technologies
  – encourage multi-agency contributions to technical guidance

• Semi-annual meetings & website provide a forum for:
  – technology-related efforts of mutual interest
  – collective technical experience with specific technologies
  – partnerships to pursue cooperative initiatives and projects

• Benefits the entire cleanup community
  – information on demonstrations of innovative technologies
  – less duplication by Federal agencies
  – clearer, more comprehensive picture of the cost and performance of innovative treatment technologies
Member Agencies of FRTR
Any others?

- Department of Defense
  - U.S. Air Force
  - U.S. Department of the Army
  - U.S. Department of the Navy
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Interior
  - U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Formation of a Steering Committee

• Provide focus and direction from a multi-agency perspective
  – Less prominent role from EPA as in the past
  – Enhanced shared leadership across agencies

• One steering committee member from each member organization. Steering Committee Chair rotates once per year.

• Tasks include:
  – Determining common technical challenges among member agencies and identifying those on which future efforts should be focused
  – Determining if a subgroup should be established to further enhance collaboration between organizations on a specific topic
  – Providing direction on website structure and content placed on www.frtr.gov
  – Selecting the topic for the next meeting (based on input from member agencies and on new technical advancements/developments).
Member Organization Responsibilities

• Periodically provide a meeting chair, who will organize the meeting, set the agenda, coordinate speakers and materials for the presentations (e.g. Powerpoint files, handouts), and lead the entire meeting.

• EPA will provide the meeting space, preparation logistics, and technical support (e.g. IT), including loading presentations on the web (pending final decision regarding website hosting).

• Each representative to the FRTR meetings is responsible for disseminating information from the meeting to appropriate members of their organization.
Focused Approach

• Identify and collaborate on the top environmental restoration challenges that are common across the member agencies.
• Identify areas where application of new or innovative technologies/methodologies could make a broad impact.
• Leverage Tech Transfer efforts
• Establish working groups
  – Charged with focusing on a specific topic
  – Subgroup members would be knowledgeable (eg., subject matter experts, project managers with related experience, etc.)
  – Communicate monthly/quarterly to share information, resources, and lessons learned
  – Identify further collaboration opportunities (eg., conducting shared pilot studies, leveraging resources, pursuing joint technology demonstration projects, etc.)
  – Develop or assemble topic-specific information for public (post on www.frtr.gov)
Meetings

• Bi-Annual meetings with wider advanced notification of remote accessibilities
  – Reach more technical personnel at their desks

• Topics selection
  – Topic ideas solicited prior to meeting at which there will be a vote
  – Steering committee determines final topic based on votes

• Meeting committee selection
  – Collect interested participants during meeting
  – Announce committee and meeting chair (dependent on topic selected) for organizing next meeting
  – Meeting chair & FRTR steering committee chair will coordinate development of agenda

• Participation
  – Senior Management and/or Technical Experts & Site Managers
  – Annual presentation by senior policy members of the executive branch
Schedule for Input

• Charter
  – Provide comments by November 30th
  – Feedback to Mark Fuhrmann at mark.fuhrmann@nrc.gov
  – Comments incorporated and revised charter provided by December 30th
  – Consensus on charter from each member agency by January 30th

• Each agency identify member for Steering Committee by January 30th.

• Implementation – to be determined