

RALF MEETING 2/20/07

Proposed Talking Points

1. Today's Discussion (Slide 1 - project photo intro) - we'll be talking about:

- a. Strategy document distributed to at least some and on disc – one copy per agency - here today
Stat doc reviewed timing and staffing and procedures and includes recommendations on streamlining permitting
- b. Will discuss major Elements of the Permit Strategy
- c. Especially the Permit Forum

2. Need for a Permit Strategy Document (Slides 2 - 11)

- Project needs (30 (confirm #) different types of permits, and name the different agencies)
- Streamlining permitting where possible
- Tight timeframe – project schedule and concerns for facility safety
- Need to streamline current permitting processes
 - review and preparation of permit materials in parallel to NEPA/SEPA/Section 106 and ESA evaluations;
 - tie permitting to EIS work; and
 - intent is that ESA and Section 106 work will be complete before applications are submitted)

3. Major Issues Addressed by Permit Strategies - Conclusions and Summary (Slide 12 – each item comes into slide as named)

- a. Nine broad categories of strategies
 - Use of interagency agreements to provide dedicated agency staff
 - Managing timing in submittal of permit applications
 - Creative and interactive management of permit processes and timeline
 - Close coordination of permitting staff with construction and compliance processes
 - Documenting permit process and decision-making
 - Coordination with permitting agencies through project closeout
 - Use of quality control and assurance measures
 - Use of change/adaptive management systems
 - Use of risk management processes
- b. Can't discuss all here today, but review a little more closely

4. The Strategies (Slide 13)

- Risk management, change management plans, and QA/QC to prevent delay and assure quality environmental project components on our end
- a. implementation plans are being developed.
 - b. Risk management and change management will address potential problems and anticipated solutions during design and construction.
 - c. QA/QC will address permit documents and processes.

5. Strategies (continued) (Slide 14)

- Use of interagency agreements to provide dedicated agency staff
- existing agreements (WSDOT currently has USACE, Ecology, WDFW & SDOT has NMFS and USFWS
 - develop new if needed (for City in particular).

6. Strategies (continued) (Slide 15)

Managing timing in submittal of permit applications – see slide

7. Strategies (continued) (Slide 16)

Creative and interactive management of permit processes and timeline – see slide

8. Strategies (continued) (Slide 17)

- Close coordination of permitting staff with construction and compliance processes – see slide
- also obtain permits contractors might usually obtain – timing and consistency, and develop processes for contractors to use when they do obtain their own permits (especially City permits)
 - if project changes during construction so that additional permitting is required – change mgmt - consistent with previous work and permits and changes documented

9. Strategies (continued) (Slide 18)

Documenting permit process and decision-making – see slide

10. Strategies (continued) (Slide 19)

Coordination with permitting agencies through project closeout – see slide

11. On-going Permitting Roles and Responsibilities of Project Staff (Slides 20 and 21 – org charts)

IPT – Fig 1 - Mike Rigsby Dep Proj Dir

provide design information needed to prepare applications and evaluate impacts and info from permitting feeds back to design or other processes where needed, mit/comp, construction mgmt

Fig 2 – Permit Strategy Team, interagency advisory group. Helped develop strategy. Will continue. May assist in peer review of applications and permit conditions and identify and help resolve policy issues.

Project Permit Team - Jesse Halsted, Carl Kassebaum, me, Sandy managing, preparing applications, preparing and providing technical information to the regulatory agencies

12. Perhaps the Most Important Strategy Component (Slide 22 each item will come onto slide as named)

These strategies had one thing in common – need for close coordination with regulatory agencies to help the project meet the proposed schedule

- Use of interagency agreements to provide dedicated agency staff
- Managing timing in submittal of permit applications
- Close coordination of permitting staff with construction and compliance processes
- Documenting permit process and decision-making
- Coordination with permitting agencies through project closeout
- Creative and interactive management of permit processes and timeline
- Need for a Permit Form

13. Anticipated Role of the Permit Forum (Slide 23)

- a. Similar to MAP Team
- b. Point of contact for a given agency and providing internal coordination with that agency
- c. On-going project development and pre-application meetings via regular established process
- d. Review of project design submittals and plans (over the shoulder) to review project design as it proceeds and help assure env conditions are integrated to project design
- e. Conducting early review of permit applications, and notifying the group working on the applications of the need for changes or additions prior to completion of environmental review
- f. Guidance on SEPA/NEPA mitigation measures and conditions integrated into permits
- g. Providing draft conditions and/or permits for review prior to issuance to allow resolution of potential conflicts
- h. Working collectively to assure an efficient permitting process with no conflicting permit conditions
- i. Conducting on-going site visits as needed to personally review project components and impacts.

14. Permit Forum Issues to Resolve (Slide 24)

- a. Options for staffing - current RALF representatives?
 - Initial concept for those responsible for permit writing to be on Forum
 - Importance of staff ability to coordinate previous and ongoing agency EIS work and knowledge with permitting actions
 - need for speed/dedicated staff – project schedule and complexity
- c. How often to meet - possibly monthly meetings/ tag along to RALF
- d. How Project Permit Team will support and interact with them
- e. How the group will operate - Charter

15. First Meeting(s) of the Permit Forum (Slide 25)

- a. Develop the charter
 - Mention that we'll provide a draft for them to consider prior to the meeting
 - Charter will need to address: organizational decisions such as staffing, how often, when, and where to meet, and structure of the meetings including agreed-upon purpose and role of the group, etc