

Minutes of the NARSTO Executive Assembly Meeting

March 8th & 9th 2000

The NARSTO Executive Assembly meeting was opened at one o'clock on Wednesday, March 8, 2000. Members present introduced themselves, and a 2000 NARSTO status report was presented by Jake Hales, the NARSTO Management Coordinator.

George Hidy reported the current status of the NARSTO Ozone Assessment document. The document is in the final stages of preparation and completion is expected in June. NRC provided a review late last year for the document, and Committee Chair Milton Russell reported the findings. Several areas suggested for improvement include:

- The need for more focus on policy relevance
- The need for a three-nation balance
- The need for a conclusions and recommendations section, especially a research agenda link with better decision making.

Discussion about the document and 'lessons learned' ensued.

Don McKay led a continued discussion of the document, stressing the importance of getting the information into the hands of policy makers. Instead of allowing the assessment and all of the research that went into it sit on shelves in libraries, there needs to be a way to disseminate the knowledge gained. Several suggestions were made:

- Present it one on one.
- Bring the policy community together and 'sell' the document.
- 'Translate' the document for lay people.
- Get the document presented as an agenda item on the state commissioner's meeting.
- Make a formal announcement in the Gazette.
- Write an abstract and/or create a Power Point presentation and put it on the Web site to make it available for use by any presenter. The need for uniformity and distillation was stressed.
- Develop a press release about the completion of the document.
- At a later date, take a poll or survey to see if the document is a useful and effective tool.

Jake Hales presented the draft of the NARSTO Science Plan for Suspended Particulate Matter. This was followed with a presentation by Marjorie Shepherd of NARSTO's Fine-Particle Assessment Planning. Marjorie stressed the project needed an Executive Assembly consensus that NARSTO would support the effort, and suggested a meeting as soon as possible. Items about the PM Assessment for the Executive Assembly's approval were listed as:

- Inclusion of coarse, as well as fine particulate matter
- Including a health-impacts overview for context
- Including linkages to O₃ and other co-pollutants for context
- Applying a three-phase approach, with completion by the end of 2002
- Including a small number of White Papers on specific, related scientific subjects
- Budget

Following the discussion of Assessment planning, the Executive Assembly addressed some key actions regarding Executive Steering Committee makeup. Howard Feldman formally replaced Steve Cadle as ESC Private-Sector Co-Chair, and Jim Meagher was confirmed as the new Public-Sector Co-Chair - Elect. Jim will replace Don McKay when Don's term expires in early 2001. In addition, John Elston was selected as the Public Sector "Co-Chair- Elect -Elect," an action taken because of the very close election results for John and Jim during the ESC's recent selection process. If all goes according to plan, John will replace Jim when Jim's term expires in 2003.

The Executive Assembly confirmed several changes in the membership of the Executive Steering Committee. New ESC members include Tim Belian of CRC, Janet Joseph of NYSERDA, P. K. Misra of Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and Susan Wierman of MARAMA.

The Assembly was dismissed at 5:30 PM, Wednesday, March 8, 2000.

The Assembly reconvened at 8:30 AM, Thursday, March 9, 2000.

Don McKay led further discussion on the Fine Particle Assessment. The Assembly agreed that the Assessment should be supported and that 'hard financial support' from the membership is needed. Don McKay and Howard Feldman will develop a definitive document so the membership can respond to the need. Several contributors were identified who will support travel to the next planning meeting, which will be held in Washington during late May.

Regarding the Assessment, the Executive Assembly formally resolved the following items:

- We will do an assessment.
- We will have a May workshop.
- The Assessment Team should consider the first two pages of the plan as the core of their charge.

Alan Hansen's presented a status report on the NARSTO model inter-comparison, indicating that Phase 1 will be completed as planned, but that Phase 2 will need another group to complete the study. There is need for a meeting of policy makers and scientists to present the Phase 1 information. Don McKay and Jake Hales will coordinate setting up this workshop.

NARSTO "Active Project Briefings" continued throughout the day. A list of the briefings can be found in the NARSTO EA/ESC Meeting Agenda posted at the end of this document.

Following the briefings, Jake Hales requested an Executive Assembly resolution on a modification of NARSTO's Infrastructure Fund policy. Current policy is to release these funds totally at the discretion of the combined Executive Steering Committee and Science and Resource Planning Group (ESC and S&RPG). Jake suggested that this policy be modified to allow donating members, at their option, to " earmark " specific uses of the funds. Under this revised policy the ESC and S&RPG would still have valving control on all expenditures via the traditional polling process, but would be mandated to direct respective moneys to specific applications if stipulated by the donating member organization(s). The Executive Assembly passed this resolution.

The future of NARSTO was discussed as one of the closing topics.

- NARSTO was originally chartered with a life span of 10 years. As programs have been extended, should NARSTO be extended also?
- Should there be established criteria for acceptance into NARSTO?
- As programs that are already established expand, should the off-shoot programs apply as separate entities?
- What "extra value added" has NARSTO contributed?
- Should the archives of NARSTO be preserved? (e.g. The Web-site information will vanish if the site discontinued.)
- There is a need to advertise the nature of the Quality Systems Science Center, (QSSC).
- Organizations should be encouraged to take on NARSTO membership to increase the data base.
- Should documents be stored in hard copy form somewhere?
- With the coming change in the Presidential Administration, how can we promote our 'presence'?
- There is a need to market NARSTO: distribution of a pamphlet on the assessment document?

In closing, the Assembly expressed thanks to each of the members for their strong support of the NARSTO organization. Thanks was also expressed to the Synthesis Team for their many hours of work. A thanks also went out to Jake Hales for his efforts in coordination of all the programs and people involved in NARSTO.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM, Thursday, March 9, 2000.

NARSTO EA/ESC Meeting Agenda

White House Conference Center 8-9 March 2000

Time	Schedule for Wednesday March 8
1:00-1:30	Welcome: 2000 State of NARSTO Summary

1:30-2:40	<p>Review of Ozone Assessment Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Report by NRC Committee Milt Russell b. Report on current status George Hidy c. Lessons learned: Future operating paradigms: Group discussion George Hidy, Chair
2:40-3:00	BREAK
3:00-3:30	Review of NARSTO Science Plan for Suspended Particulate Matter Jake Hales
3:30-4:30	<p>Review of Fine-Particle Assessment Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Current status Marjorie Shepherd b. Timing, targets, and scope: Group Discussion Marjorie Shepherd and Pete McMurry, Chairs
4:30-4:45	Installation of Private-Sector Co-Chair and Public Sector Co-Chair Elect Steve Cadle and Don McKay
4:45-5:15	Review of ESC Membership and Infrastructure Pool Status
Time	Schedule for Thursday March 9
8:00-8:30	Coffee and Rolls
	Active Project Briefings Don McKay, Chair
8:30-9:00	Networks and Coordination with Health, Exposure, and Atmospheric Research Jim Vickery
9:00-9:20	Status Report: EPA Research Centers John Vandenberg
9:20-9:40	Mexico Fine-Particle Conference Sylvia Edgerton
9:40-10:00	BREAK
10:00-10:20	NARSTO Model Intercomparison Alan Hansen
10:20-11:00	NARSTO Quality Systems Science Center Les Hook and Sig Christensen
11:00-11:20	Reactivity Research within NARSTO Robert Wendoll

11:20-11:40	Southern Oxidants Study Ellis Cowling
11:40-12:00	Texas 2000 Cyril Durrenburger
12:00-12:40	CATERED LUNCH
	Active Project Briefings (Continued) Howard Feldman, Chair
12:40-13:00	British Columbia - Pacific 2001 Don McKay
13:00-13:20	California Fine-Particle/Ozone Study Bart Croes
13:20-13:40	SCOS97-NARSTO Bart Croes
13:40-14:00	NYSERDA Aerosol Emission Study Janet Joseph
14:00-14:20	PROPHET Bill Brune
14:20-14:40	Philadelphia Study Russ Philbrick
14:40-15:00	BREAK
	Active Project Briefings (Continued) Howard Feldman, Chair
15:00-15:20	SEARCH & ARIES Alan Hansen
15:20-15:40	MARCH Atlantic Peter Mueller
15:40-16:00	Future NARSTO Activities: Selection and Acceptance Criteria Don McKay
16:00-16:20	Continuity of NARSTO and NARSTO Archives: Group Discussion Jake Hales, Chair
16:20-adjourn	Special Guidance to ESC and Management Coordinator from Executive Assembly Howard Feldman and Don McKay, Chairs

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