

DRAFT SUMMARY
GIEC HSRA Workgroup Teleconference
July 15, 2004 / 2 – 2:45 p.m.

Participants: Darahyl Dennis, Georgia Power
Tom Dolan, Kerr-McGee
Joe Gennette, Norfolk Southern
Emilia Olivarez, Georgia Power
Larry Neal, GIEC
Debbie Phillips, GIEC
Holly Hill, Troutman Sanders
Bob Mowrey, Alston & Bird
Russ Schlecht, RMT
Chet Tisdale, King & Spalding

D. Dennis, HSRA Workgroup Chair, who facilitated the teleconference, reiterated the purpose of this teleconference:

To determine response to EPD's June 30 proposal to cancel 2004 HSRA Roundtables (Aug 24 and Nov 9) and to instead meet in Early 2005 to decide on the roundtables' future

He suggested there be a discussion on what teleconference participants thought about EPD's request and, if we could agree to cancel this year's roundtables, determine what HSRA issues remain for GIEC and what might be the best forum to work on them (e.g., roundtables, mediation, legislation, etc.).

Discussion ensued.

Delineation to background remained a significant issue to many. At least one thought the lawsuits were being used as a red herring by EPD so that we couldn't discuss this issue and that if we were to wait for the end of the lawsuits, we will likely wait at least two more years.

Aside from the delineation issue, D. Dennis said he felt we've gotten to the point in the HSRA discussions that required examples of real cases that could substantiate any further arguments with EPD on HSRA reform. He feels without them we will keep arguing the same points, not getting anywhere because EPD can refute there's a real problem. While many agreed gathering examples is an excellent idea, it was noted that it will likely be very difficult to get parties to actually provide the detailed information that would be needed.

It was a view of at least some that the threat of a legislative fix is what got EPD to the negotiation table to begin with. If we wait until early 2005 to meet again with EPD, we will lose that possible advantage.

Consensus was reached by the participants on the phone: To respond to Marlin Gottschalk with something like, "We are sympathetic to EPD's resource and workload pressures and so agree to cancel this year's roundtable meetings. We would, however, like to keep the previously-scheduled November 9 date for an abbreviated meeting (no longer than two hours at EPD offices) among stakeholders to discuss views on roundtable accomplishments to date, the future of the roundtables, a re-evaluation of what substantive issues remain, and other possible forums that may be more productive."