

Minutes of NSLS Environmental Management Review Meeting for 2003

9/2/03

Present: Steve Dierker, E. Johnson, J. Murphy, C. Kao, R. Casey

This review was conducted as a part of a two-day retreat held by the NSLS Chair to review performance on all key NSLS objectives during FY 03. Environmental management was encompassed with the scope of NSLS Performance objective # 7 which stated:

**Objective 7 - Ensure operational excellence in ESH and waste management programs.**

**Strategy (stated in part):**

... The tenets of ISM and ISO 14001 will continue to be implemented, with on-going emphasis of work planning, training, pollution prevention, and compliance with BNL ESH regulations. ...

Casey began with a review of progress on Performance Objectives and Targets established for NSLS in FY 2003, and summarized the measures that were tracked. He noted that all targets had been addressed, and that performance indicators were positive for the year. He reviewed the environmental management system at NSLS, including a review of NSLS Significant Environmental Aspects and associated work activities.

Casey reviewed compliance with hazardous waste regulations in the 90-Day area and the Satellite Accumulation Areas as indicated through the self-assessment program. He noted that compliance in general was excellent. No infractions had been found in the internal Tier 1 program.

Casey reported 2 independent audits during the year by the BNL Environmental Services Division – one on spill response and one on tank storage. Neither assessment reported non-compliances with the NSLS programs. The Spill Response made 2 observations – one related to minor changes in the NSLS Spill Response Procedure, and one related to the training requirements for one of the NSLS spill responders. There were no NSLS observations in the tank assessment. Casey also noted that the Process assessments for NSLS activities had been updated during FY03 and that no non-compliances were identified.

Casey reported the efforts in pollution prevention/waste minimization for the year. A significant effort to reduce generation of waste oils has also been initiated which would be extended into FY04. This effort seeks to confirm that the use of synthetic oils would result in less frequent change-out and less generation of waste oils. A direct comparison of vacuum pump oils of several types is underway. In addition, product substitution continues as a part of an on-going effort to eliminate unnecessary products in the work

place. was an important effort that was initiated. Waste minimization efforts over the past several years had resulted in a continuing decline in the waste generation rates at the NSLS.

Other issues discussed at the meeting included: Stakeholder Issues, Costs, NSLS Environmental Strengths, and NSLS Plans for the next year.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Casey asked those present to comment on the following 3 questions:

1. Is the NSLS EMS effective in achieving environmental policy commitments?

Response: There was concurrence that the program was effective.

2. Is the NSLS EMS effective in achieving performance objectives and measures?

Response - Yes - there was consensus that the EMS has been effective at achieving its objectives and targets.

3. Is the NSLS EMS adequate in terms of:

- Identifying significant environmental aspects and impacts?
- Resource allocations?
- Information systems?
- Organizational issues (e.g. staff expertise, procedural requirements)?
- Performance Objectives and Measures?

Response - Yes - There was consensus that the EMS has been effective.

It should be noted that the location of this meeting prevented other organizations from directly participating in the review. The material was reviewed with the NSLS Environmental Compliance Rep prior to the presentation and comments were factored into the material. Copies of the presentation were distributed for comment to other members of the BNL Environmental Services and Waste Management Division.