

Army Sustainability Committee (ASC)  
Meeting Minutes

31 August 2006

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

COL Jeff Phillips (ODEP) began by welcoming members to the meeting and reviewing the agenda (Enclosure 1). He noted that Mr. Tad Davis [DASA(ESOH)] would come by around 1:30 pm to address the committee and provide his vision and views on sustainability. He would probably go through the Army sustainability briefing he presented last week at the DAS Synch meeting and follow that up with a question and answer session. He would also provide some insight on how the ASC could help him to further his vision. COL Phillips then had each attendee introduce themselves since there were several new faces amongst the group. Conference call participants included Manette Messenger (SERO), Steve Nixon (ELD), and Christie Nestler (NDCEE).

Doug Warnock (ODEP) asked all attendees to mark the attendance sheet (Enclosure 2) and make necessary corrections to the listed contact information.

**Review 29 June 2006 Meeting Minutes**

COL Phillips next asked the group if any changes were needed to the minutes from the 29 June 2006 meeting. No one had any comments at this time, so the group approved the minutes with no additional changes. LMI will ensure that the final minutes are posted to the Army sustainability website. COL Phillips also noted for the benefit of first time attendees that the ASC meets on the last Thursday of the even numbered months, from 1:00-3:00 pm, at a location TBD (usually a conference room in Presidential Towers).

Other ASC members then updated the group as listed on the agenda: old business, new business, and wrap-up.

**Old Business**

**Army Sustainability Video Distribution Status**

COL Phillips noted that ODEP has submitted a MIPR for 5,001 more copies of the video (buying more than 5,000 at a time reduces the cost per copy). These new copies utilize a master with four chapters that allows you to view clips from each chapter. The Defense Visual Information Center (DVIC) will buy the videos and AEC will distribute them to Army customers. DVIC will distribute to non-military customers (having DVIC distribute saves money because DVIC pays the mailing costs).

Ed Engbert (AEC) noted that ODEP/AEC originally had about 1,000 DVDs that were initially produced by the video developer. About 700 copies have gone out to Garrison Commanders and installation staff. We waited for the SA/VCSA memo to be signed before sending them out formally. The memo and video are now available on the sustainability website, and web streaming is also available. Ed also pointed out that AEC has designed and printed full color DVD labels and jewel case covers, which he showed to the group in hard copy. The AEC Public Affairs Office wants to hold back about 2,000 copies of the latest video, and USACE would like to have 500 copies as well.

LTC Mike Speth (NGB-ARNG) asked if the State Adjutants General were included in the initial distribution of 700 videos (apparently they were not; he will distribute them to the AGs if AEC provides him the copies). AEC has prepared the formal distribution plan and will update it to include select groups of recipients, such as the USMA, and will plan to use DVIC to make distribution.

John Fittipaldi (AEPI) pointed out that Wal-mart has begun its own sustainability initiative, and that we might want to consider getting them involved along with other Fortune 500 companies. Ed indicated that we are already looking at this in the distribution plan. Lisa Trembly (ODEP) said that we also need to look at Army schools. COL Phillips noted that we are looking at ways to integrate sustainability into Army programs of instruction, and that we will also look at academia, surrounding communities, etc. as well. We may end up needing to print 10,001 more copies before we are through. He also reminded everyone that the DVD comes with a copy of the Army Strategy for the Environment, and that AEPI is currently working on a sustainability update brochure for 2006 that will also be available soon.

Richard Murphy (ODASA(ESOH)) said that we also need to look at establishing partnerships with USACE and other Army organizations to have them help by distributing the videos to subordinate units. We also need to look toward the acquisition community to make the video available on its websites to inform contractors who may bid on Army contracts about sustainability concepts and requirements. John Fittipaldi also stated that we need to provide copies of the video to state governors and congressional delegations. Where possible, we should provide copies with the full color jackets and covers because it looks more professional than plain white and projects a more positive image.

COL Phillips said that we need to reconvene the strategic video distribution campaign plan team in the next week or so to revisit these video distribution issues. After the team meets he will send the minutes to ASC members for review and additional input.

### **Army Installation Management Institute (IMI) 2007 Status Update**

COL Phillips next updated the group on the status of planning for the 2007 IMI that will be held in Atlanta, GA, from 8-12 January 2007. Attendees can register on line with the Atlanta Hilton; he recommends doing this early since they expect 800+ attendees. As with last year's conference in San Antonio, ODEP will again host a formal sustainability track. Last year we had 57-60 students representing many functional areas signed up

from around the world. For 2007 about 80 spaces will be available. The sustainability track will again consist of 32 hours of instruction, and it will offer a plug and play menu so that attendees can mix up the classes in their session schedules. The menu will include a showing of the sustainability video, a 3-hour sustainability 501 course, green procurement, facilities, low impact development, etc. Each day will have a central theme, such as facilities to discuss Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), construction and demolition waste, etc. There will also be hands-on exercises to provide students practical application of what is presented. Students will again rate each class and instructor, and this input will be used to improve on IMI 2008. A highlight of IMI 2007 will be the participation of the Fort Bragg Director of Public Works (DPW), who will talk about his program and how he has incorporated sustainability into the installation strategic plan and obtained regional participation. The final agenda should be available in October.

## **New Business**

### **Address by Mr. Tad Davis, DASA(ESOH)**

COL Phillips next introduced Mr. Tad Davis, a retired Army Colonel and former Fort Bragg DPW. Mr. Davis began by thanking ASC members for the work they are doing – we are all spokespersons for sustainability and are helping to get the word out. The IMI is a very important event and we need to link it to other ongoing efforts (Army/IMA AUSA, JSEM, USAES Engineering Conference, etc.) to ensure we are sending a consistent message. When large numbers of people come together in these forums it is good to update and engage them in dialogue and provide them current information on sustainability efforts. He noted that we have a new group of Garrison Commanders who recently assumed command; he will ship them his briefing slides as well.

Today he wanted to walk through the briefing he gave to LTG Campbell, the Director of the Army Staff (DAS), and other senior Secretariat/ARSTAF members (SES and 2-star level audience). His briefing evolved from an ESOH/ODEP effort to better engage senior Army leaders and coordinate high level Army strategic plans such as The Army Plan (TAP). If your programs and/or initiatives are not specifically mentioned in these strategic plans, they will not be considered an Army priority. Hence we need to ensure that sustainability is embedded in all these plans at the macro level to get traction at the department level. In other words, we need to get inside the wire and educate people to ensure linkage to the business transformation. We don't have a separate sustainability line item in the budget yet, so we have to work hard to embed it everywhere we can. LTG Campbell specifically asked for the sustainability briefing. The brief led off with the sustainability video, which quickly got everyone's attention. In particular, the SA/VCSA messages were important. Mr. Davis has also engaged the Chief of Public Affairs to help get the word out. He wants two full pages in each upcoming issue of Soldier magazine – one for sustainability and one for safety and occupational health issues. This will be an excellent vehicle for getting the word out to our junior officers and enlisted personnel, and will also provide a showcase for the annual SECARMY environmental awards.

Mr. Davis then went through his formal briefing slides (Enclosure 3). Key points he stressed included the following:

- We are locked in a continuing battle between declining resources and increasing demand; global natural resource scarcity has been a major contributor to every U.S. conflict over the past 50 years.
- Diminished capability to train on our installations will get worse over the next several years; we may also experience water and energy scarcity issues, as well as increasing constraints due to non-attainment of ozone standards.
- The ASE triple bottom line has been expanded to be Mission, Environment, Community, and Economy.
- Private sector companies such as Dow, Toyota, Wal-mart, and Smithfield have built solid business cases for sustainability, primarily by demonstrating savings from reduced energy consumption in production processes.
- Army installations are similarly proving the concept
  - Fort Meyer recycled 80-90% of materials from Tencza Terrace
  - Fort Bragg built "Braggdad" from solid waste and saved \$240K in disposal costs while improving operational readiness
  - Radford AAP reused process water to realize a \$975K cost avoidance
  - The Stryker was designed and built with sustainability in mind by using little to no hazardous materials
  - Fort Lewis and others are using alternative fuels
  - Hawaii Residential Communities Initiative housing uses solar cells to generate 30% of required electricity
  - West Point's energy savings performance contract saves \$1.1M annually
- We need to consider the total operational cost to the Army as we evaluate sustainability initiatives. We will likely realize different efficiencies at different organizational levels, so we need to look at both installation and Army impacts. For example, unless we look at the macro level, our cost for electricity per kWh will actually appear to go up as we increase efficiency (electricity typically costs less per kWh with increased consumption levels, thus costs per kWh will typically increase when consumption falls).
- A primary challenge facing us is to be able to roll efficiency savings back into our programs; these savings are typically swept and used to meet other requirements.
- Taking sustainability concepts to the warfighters is important; for example, demonstrating how such things as fuel oil blending, composting, and water distribution minimize waste and related management and disposal costs.

- Key challenges facing us for the future include increasing regulatory costs; costs for energy, water, and wastewater; incompatible land use; and water scarcity. Solution sets include green procurement, chemistry, and engineering; LEED; renewable energy sources; ACUB; regional sustainability plans; and related conservation efforts.
- Army Strategy for the Environment is just the beginning; the Strategic Plan for Army Sustainability is forthcoming and will be out for formal staffing in a few days. The latter focuses Army efforts on 9 objectives and 30 critical tasks.
- In moving toward implementation, we will continue the education process by hosting Darden 3 this fall at Carlisle Barracks; strategic plan implementation also begins this fall.

Overall Mr. Davis felt the briefing was very well received. He will continue to move forward and engage senior leaders across the board, and will ask the DAS to identify his policy lead for sustainability and ensure he/she attends Darden 3 (he encouraged ASC members to start thinking about who else should attend). He will brief Under Secretary Pete Geren on 14 Sep 06. He pointed out that while his briefing focused on Army strategic level leadership, we also need to continue to focus on installations, such as USAG Hawaii, Alaska, Korea, Anniston Army Depot, PA ARNG (Fort Indiantown Gap), etc.

After his briefing there was a short question and answer period. One attendee asked if we will have any displays at the upcoming OSD bio-based product event at the Pentagon. Lisa Trembly indicated that both ODEP and AEC will have displays.

In closing, Mr. Davis noted that the National Building Museum in downtown DC is currently exhibiting *The Green House* through June 2007. The display highlights sustainable design and construction techniques and does not take very long to visit. He encouraged everyone to see the exhibit.

He also pointed out that he recently held the first ESOH “huddle” at Hamburger Hamlet in Crystal City. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend future meetings, which are planned every other month throughout the year. The informal sessions offer good food, fellowship, and time to network. They start at 3:30 pm and all major Army environmental organizations can attend. The first gathering had about 70 attendees.

COL Phillips reminded Mr. Davis that the ASC is a formally sanctioned Army committee, and that we stand ready to do whatever we can to assist him with ongoing sustainability initiatives and to help spread the word.

### **Wrap-up and Next Meeting**

COL Phillips thanked the attendees for their participation and reminded everyone that the next meeting will be held on 26 Oct 06, from 1300-1500 in the same building location (Presidential Towers) with the room number to be determined.

He reminded all ASC members to be thinking about who should attend Darden 3 this fall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1500.

Enclosures:

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 – Attendees
- 3 – Mr. Davis Synch Presentation

## Enclosure 1 – Agenda

Army Sustainability Committee Meeting Agenda  
Presidential Tower Conference Room PT11100A (11<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
Presidential Towers, Crystal City, VA

Thursday, 31 August 2006  
1300-1500 hrs

Call in # 410-436-1000 (Conference Code 0915)

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1300 – 1305	Welcome/Opening Remarks	COL Phillips
1305 – 1310	Review June 2006 Meeting Minutes	COL Phillips/All
1310 – 1350	Old Business	
	a. Sustainability Video Distribution Status	Ed Engbert
	b. Jan 07 IMI Sustainability Planning Update	COL Phillips
	c. Other	COL Phillips/All
1350 – 1450	New Business	
	Roundtable discussion with DASA(ESOH)	Mr. Davis/All
1450 – 1500	Wrap-up, assign tasks/schedule, and set next meeting date	COL Phillips

The purposes of this meeting are to:

- 1) update the ASC on issues raised at last meeting;
- 2) update the ASC on distribution of the Sustainability Video;
- 3) discuss status of sustainability planning for next year's IMI;
- 4) open discussion with the DASA(ESOH) on sustainability issues; and
- 5) identify further tasks the ASC should undertake in support of installation sustainability and assign responsibility for achieving them.

## Enclosure 2 - ASC Meeting Attendees (31 Aug 06)

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