

# **Army Sustainability Committee (ASC) Meeting Minutes**

**31 July 08**

## **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

COL Mike Bennett (DAIM-ISE) welcomed members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda (Enclosure 1). He noted that Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler (DASA(ESOH)) and Randy Smidt (DAIM-ODF-E) could not attend. Attendance (at the meeting and via teleconference) was taken, and is provided at Enclosure 2. Corrections to the listed contact information or revisions in the Committee distribution list should be provided to Wanda Johnsen (DAIM-ISE).

## **Review of 22 May 08 Meeting Minutes**

COL Bennett asked the attendees if there were any corrections to the 22 May 08 meeting minutes. No corrections were requested during the meeting. COL Bennett asked that any changes be forwarded to Ms. Johnsen within the next week.

## **Agenda Items**

### **EO 13423 Update (DoD Workgroup & Army implementation)**

Bob Luther (DASA-ESOH) provided an update for Ms. Gillespie-Marthaler. The DoD EO Workgroup has drafted the charter for a Senior Executive Committee (at the DAS level). The draft charter is broader than just EO 13423 and includes the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) and sustainability. The EXCOM met on 17 Jul 08 and renamed the EXCOM to the "Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management Executive Committee". The next EXCOM meeting is tentatively set for early Sep 08.

Mr. Luther also provided an update on OSD's Toxic Chemical and Hazardous Material Reduction Plan. ODS is also preparing a policy memo that will task each Service to identify three chemicals they will target to reduce, and also propose target reduction goals for each chemical (e.g. 1% per year). The policy memo should be issued in late Aug 08. The deadline to identify the three chemicals and companion target reduction goals will be Jan 09. John Fittipaldi (AEPI) asked whether OSD provided criteria for identifying the three chemicals. While the draft Plan doesn't give specific guidelines, Mr. Luther noted that DoD failed to meet the TRI goal for last 5 years.

### **Update - Staffing of draft Strategic Action Plan & FY07 Sustainability Report**

Mr. Luther reported that the comment period for the FY07 Sustainability Report has closed and DASA(ESOH) staff and AEPI are reviewing and addressing the comments. Tad McCall (AEPI) noted there were no 'show stopper' comments. John Fittipaldi reported that the final report is due to DASA(ESOH) by 8 Aug 08, then will go to the Chief of Staff and SECARMY for signature. A brochure will also be published.

Mr. Luther also reported that the draft Strategic Action Plan for Army Sustainability has been sent out for formal review/concurrence. Mr. Fittipaldi noted that Ms. Gillespie-Marthaler has extended the review period to the end of September. The action plan establishes sustainability objectives and supporting critical tasks across the Army, and will require resources to

implement. Mr. McCall suggested that if an organization thinks they won't be able to meet a proposed target in the draft action plan, their review comment should propose a revised target that their organization could meet. Mr. McCall also noted that AEPI is preparing a series of briefings slides on the draft action plan for senior Army leadership.

### **Draft OSD Sustainable Installations Policy**

In Mr. Smidt's absence, Ms. Johnsen reported on OSD's draft sustainable installations policy. The policy, drafted by the DoD sustainable design workgroup, includes broad sustainability goals but focuses on design and energy issues. The draft sustainable installations policy would require the establishment of an OSD-level Sustainability Executive Committee, with corresponding Component- and installation-level committees. Ms. Johnsen noted that Army installations already have Environmental Quality Control Committees (EQCCs) that could potentially fulfill this requirement. The draft policy also includes requirements for Components to develop Sustainability Implementation Plans (to address sustainable design, energy issues, and energy and water audits), source selection plans, contract language, and joint technical criteria to ensure "...consistent approaches to sustainable initiatives".

During staffing of the draft policy among the various DoD workgroups that touch on sustainability, it became apparent that the policy duplicates some efforts underway in the DoD EO 13423 Workgroup. We anticipate that the draft sustainable installations policy will be pulled for resolution of the overlap areas, and may be significantly revised in its next version.

Mr. Luther noted that another significant element of the policy is its targets for energy savings (per EISA). The Army 'owns' most of DoD's historic buildings, which pose a huge challenge for energy efficiency. Ms. Johnsen reported that, starting in FY09, federal agencies will be required to report to the building level for compliance with the EO 13423 goals for water and energy (which are agency-level, not building-level goals). Reporting to the building level will require significant effort for the Army, considering our large building inventory and that many of our buildings are not metered yet. GSA (the lead for this element of the EO) established a database for this purpose in FY08 and issued the reporting guidance on 23 Jun 08.

### **Army Energy Security Task Force (AESTF) Recommendations**

Mr. Luther provided an AESTF update in Ms Gillespie-Marthaler's absence. The AESTF has proposed several 'quick win' energy projects to coincide with the roll-out of the new Senior Energy Council. The projects include a large photovoltaic array, acquisition of electric cars, application of tent insulation foam in CONOPS locations, acquisition of DESC software to track fuel dispensing at forward deployed locations, and a bio-waste to energy project. The first proposed Senior Energy Council meeting was postponed, but a Deputies-level was held last week.

Mr. Luther noted that two early AESTF recommendations were not included in the final report and recommendations: an initiative to establish the Army's greenhouse gas (GHG) footprint, and an effort to identify emergency-essential functions/locations that must still stay operational if the grid goes out. Much more work will be needed to be done on identifying emergency-essential functions, and establishing a viable, secure back-up power source. DASA(ESOH) will continue to pursue the GHG initiative outside AESTF.

Ms. Johnsen noted that the AESTF focused on energy security, but the newly renamed DASA(E&P) and the Senior Energy Council will encompass all energy issues according to the

draft charters that are being staffed. COL Bennett encouraged the Commands and DRUs to stay engaged with their energy folks, since there's so much happening in this area now.

### **Sustainability Award**

DAIM-ISE is working on the next Army Sustainability Awards call for nominations, which should go out in the early fall timeframe. Ms. Johnsen asked the Committee members to send her any suggested improvements. She has received written comments from Karen Baker (HQ USACE), who served on the selection panel this year. Ms. Baker commented that the evaluation criteria were clearly written, which made it easier to evaluate the nomination packages. Ms. Baker also recommended we add a third category for 'Team'. [Existing categories are Installation/Activity and Individual.] Mr. McCall, who was also on the selection panel, echoed the recommendation for a Team category. COL Bennett asked Committee members to provide any recommended revisions to the award criteria to Ms. Johnsen before the next meeting (18 Sep 08).

### **ACOM / DRU Sustainability Planning Updates**

Damon Cardenas (MEDCOM) reported they have several Command-level sustainability initiatives focusing on their hospitals and treatment facilities. They are establishing an organizational-level EMS to assess impacts and aspects of medical facilities, and are also focusing on standardization. MEDCOM has already virtually eliminated the old X-Rays and converted to digital imaging, thus eliminating X-Ray related hazardous waste from their operations. Mr. Cardenas also reported that Ft Detrick is in the middle of their sustainability planning effort, which will be integrated into their Strategic Plan.

Antonia Giardina (IMCOM/AEC) reported they are wrapping up the sustainability planning effort at USAG Baumholder (Germany) with the action plan session next week. Planning efforts are also in progress at Ft Huachuca, Ft Riley, and Ft Drum. Ft Wainwright is next on their list. Ft Irwin and West Point will begin the sustainability planning process in FY09. Four OCONUS installations are on their list (although probably not all in FY09): USAG Kaiserslautern, USAG Vicenza, Camp Humphreys, and Camp Zama.

COL Bennett thanked Mr. Cardenas and Ms. Giardina for their reports, and noted that once the draft Strategic Action Plan is issued it should drive more sustainability planning activity.

### **Open Discussion**

MAJ Hamby (NGB) reported they are considering a sustainability committee. He also mentioned they are drafting a sustainability planning template for their states, based on the process used in California. He is also teaching a LEED class for Guard personnel. Bill Goran (CASI) noted that the USACE Savannah District, which is their Sustainable Design Center of Excellence, is leading USACE's LEED training efforts.

Mr. McCall reported on several Congressional proposals that will broaden the Army's ability to partner with other Federal agencies (e.g., USFWS, USDA) to create special purpose districts or jurisdictions to protect our training ranges. This could help prevent instances like the recent California legislation for create renewable energy districts, including a solar energy district in the Mojave Desert that could impact nearby Army operations. Mr. McCall encouraged members to pay attention to the emerging area of energy districts. He also reported that many States are running into the same budget issues as the Federal Government, so they are less able to partner with the Army on ACUB, etc.

### **Wrap-up & Next Meeting**

COL reported that the next meeting (originally proposed for 25 Sept 08) will be moved to 18 Sep 08. Ms. Johnsen encouraged members to provide suggested agenda topics. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 13:55.

Enclosures:

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 – Attendees

Army Sustainability Committee (ASC) Meeting Agenda  
DAIM-ISE Conference Room PT 9300 (9<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
Presidential Towers, Crystal City, VA

Thursday, 31 Jul 08  
1300-1500 hrs

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

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1300 – 1305	Welcome / Opening Remarks	COL Bennett (DAIM-ISE)
1305 – 1310	Review minutes from last meeting	COL Bennett / All
1310 – 1450	EO 13423 Update (DoD Workgroup & Army implementation)	L Gillespie-Marthaler DASA(ESOH)
	Update – Staffing of draft Strategic Plan & FY07 Sustainability Report	L Gillespie-Marthaler
	Draft OSD Sustainable Installations Policy	R Smidt (DAIM-ODF)
	Army Energy Security Task Force Recommendations	TBD
	Sustainability Award – review of criteria	W Johnsen (DAIM-ISE)
	ACOM Updates – Proposed Sustainability Planning for remainder of FY08	All
	Open Discussion	COL Bennett / All
1450 – 1500	Wrap-up, assign action items, & confirm next meeting	COL Bennett

**Next ASC Meeting – Thurs, 25 Sep 08**

Suggested topics:

Electronics Stewardship Update (CIO/G6)  
Non-Tactical Fleet Energy-Related Initiatives (ACSIM Logistics)  
ACOM Updates: proposed FY09 Sustainability Planning efforts  
Strategic Sustainability Assessment (AEPI)

## ASC Meeting Attendees – 31 July 08

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