

# REGIONAL TECHNICAL FORUM MEETING NOTES

September 14, 2004  
Northwest Power and Conservation Council Offices  
Portland, Oregon

## ***1. Greetings and Introductions.***

The September 14, 2004 meeting of the Regional Technical Forum was held in the Portland offices of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Chair Tom Eckman led a round of introductions and a review of today's agenda. The minutes from the RTF's September meeting were approved with a few minor changes.

The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made at this meeting. Anyone with questions about these minutes should contact Eckman at 503/222-5161.

## ***2. Presentation, Discussion and Decision on Final Draft RTF Standards for PTCS Service Provider Equivalency.***

Bruce Manclark emphasized that this is a proposal for utility QA Exemption. He distributed a document titled "Proposed Requirements for Utility QA Exemption," a summary of the discussion at the last two RTF meetings. Manclark noted that, since the last meeting, the RTF's PTCS subgroup has gone carefully through this document, making a number of changes. He then spent a few minutes going through these changes. At today's meeting, Eckman pointed out that Section 3b is incorrectly worded; it should read "...in its original condition," rather than "...without regard to its original condition." One participant suggested that the PTCS specs be amended to include a paragraph similar to 3b, because they do not currently contain one.

Adam Hadley said that, in his opinion, the newly-revised "Proposed Requirements" document is too simplified – it lacks the detail included in the original BPA proposal. If we have to change the spec, said Charlie Stephens, then I would suggest that we table this discussion until the new spec is in place, which will likely be January. The group reviewed the applicable sections of the PTCS Duct System Diagnostic Field Guide, Program Standards, Testing Procedures and Reporting Forms document, offering a series of clarifying questions and comments. After a few minutes of discussion, Manclark suggested that Section 3 of the "Proposed Requirements" document be deleted, because this topic is already addressed in the existing specs. Section 3 of the "Proposed Requirements" document will now simply read "Meet the specs."

Do we want to attempt to change the specs at today's meeting? Eckman asked. It was agreed to ask the PTCS subgroup to revise the current spec, and to bring its recommended language back to the RTF at a later meeting.

Eugene Rosolie said he wanted the record to reflect that he objects to the 100% inspection requirement for leakage-to-outside; he said he doesn't know a single utility that is currently doing 100% inspections, and the issue is, there are some utilities that won't be willing to sign off on that requirement? Manclark agreed. The group devoted a few minutes of discussion to this topic; ultimately, Rosolie reiterated that he simply wanted his objection noted for the record.

Manclark moved that the RTF adopt the "Performance Tested Comfort Systems – Existing Duct Systems Proposed Requirements for Utility QA Exemption" document; Jay Himlie seconded the motion. The motion passed with one "nay" vote, from Rosolie.

Next, the RTF took up the draft "PTCS Provider Standards" document; Manclark thanked everyone who participated for hanging in through a series of lengthy and difficult conference calls. The group reviewed the changes that have been made to this document, in Sections 3.D., covering quality assurance and quality control, 5.0, "Training Curriculum," 7.0, "Technician Certification," 8.B., "Written Exam," 8.C., "Technician De-Certification," 9.0, "Registration of Technicians and Certification of Individual Systems," and 10.0, "Quality Control and Assurance Systems." The bulk of the changes were made to Section 10.0.

The group offered a series of clarifying questions and comments, as well as a few specific wording changes, which Eckman incorporated. It was agreed that an Alliance presentation on the Energy Star program, as it relates to PTCS, would be a helpful adjunct to a future RTF meeting. Ultimately, it was agreed to vote on this measure, despite a general recognition that it is flawed and will require further refinement. Stephens moved that the RTF vote on this document, as written; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The discussion then moved on to the format for the database; Eckman briefly demonstrated this tool using the overhead projector. It was agreed to add two columns to the spreadsheet: "Pre-seal" and "Post-seal." Stephens moved and Manclark seconded that the RTF adopt the revised PTCS Service Provider Equivalency standards, including Appendices A-C as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Next RTF Meeting date.** The next meeting of the Regional Technical Forum was set for October 29th.

#### *4. Attendance List*

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dan Cote         | CSG                                |
| Tom Eckman       | NWPCC                              |
| Bruce Manclark   | Delta-T                            |
| Charlie Stephens | ODOE                               |
| Mark Johnson     | Bonneville Power Administration    |
| Eugene Rosolie   | PNGC                               |
| Lavelle Perin    | Climate Crafters                   |
| Lori Sanders     | Energy Incentives/City of Richland |
| Adam Hadley      | Bonneville Power Administration    |
| Jay Himlie       | Mason PUD #3                       |
| Bruce Cody       | Bonneville Power Administration    |
| David Hales      | WSU - Energy Program               |
| Brady Peeks      | ODOE                               |

Meeting summary prepared by Jeff Kuechle.

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