180c
INTER-REGIONAL TEAM
GRANT EXERCISE

SSEB MEETING
December 9, 2015
BACKGROUND

OCT 2013

– FOUR STATE REGIONAL GROUPS 180C INTER-REGIONAL TEAM
– REVIEW SECTION 180C of the NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT
– REVIEW PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT
180c FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Financial Award: GRANT (Cooperative Agreement)
- Purpose: Funds and Technical Assistance
- Eligibility: States and Tribes 4 years prior to shipments in State or Tribal Jurisdiction
- Match: None
- Pass-through: No
- Timing of Eligibility: Four and a half years prior to first shipment
- Payment schedule: To be established
BACKGROUND

OCT 2014 MEETING IN ATLANTA

TEST NEEDS ASSESSMENT

TEST THE GRANT PROCESS
PARTICIPANTS

• TEXAS - DENNIS BROOKS

• NORTH CAROLINA - DANNY MILLS
GOALS

• To better understand how the recommendations of the 180(c) IRT will apply to the grant program
SURVEY RESULTS

3.6 OUT OF 5

• CLARIFIED “ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES”
• INCREASED STATE AWARENESS OF THEIR NEEDS
• IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF GRANT PROCESS
• IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES
SURVEY RESULTS

ISSUES

• DID NOT TEST THE FORMULA
• UNDERSTANDING OF TERMS, DEFINITIONS, AND FUNDING
• THE TIME LINE FOR THE EXERCISE WAS NOT MET
GOAL

• To gain experience and obtain feedback from Mock Merit Review Panel on the budget justification process (e.g., the level of detail required in application justifications)
RESULTS

• SURVEY  3.4 OUT OF 5
• REALISTIC EXPERIENCE OF THE REVIEW
• UNDERSTANDING THE NEED FOR CLARITY AND DETAIL
ISSUES

• SOME STATES DID NOT HAVE TIME TO COMPLETE THEIR GRANTS
• DOE’S LIMITED UNDERSTANDING OF STATES PROCESSES
• ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION OF THE REVIEW PROCESS FOR MORE CONFIDENCE IN THE PROCESS
GOAL

• To evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the communication process between DOE and the applicants and to provide feedback to DOE.
RESULTS

• SURVEY 4.3 OUT OF 5
• GOOD WORKING RELATIONS BETWEEN DOE AND STATES
• ACCOMMODATING ON STATE TIME CONSTRAINT
• RESPONSIVENESS TO QUESTIONS
ISSUES

• WEAK EFFORT ON RESPONSE TO ISSUES ON CONFERENCE CALLS
• GRANT PROCESS WAS MORE COMPLICATED THAN ENVISIONED
GOAL

• To evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the communication process between DOE and the applicants and to provide feedback to DOE.
RESULTS

• SURVEY 2.9 OUT OF 5

• HELPED IDENTIFY FUNDING NEEDS

• FORMULA NOT EVALUATED
“START TOOL”

• RECEIVED 2.3 OUT OF 5
• USEFUL IN LAYING OUT ROUTE
• NOT USEFUL IN DETERMINING TRAINING NEEDS
• DATA BASE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION
• STATE GIS SYSTEM MAY BE BETTER
ADDITIONAL ITEMS

• GOOD SUPPORT FROM REGIONAL GROUPS
• MARGINAL SUPPORT FROM DOE
OVERALL ASSESSMENT

• OVERALL USEFUL
• LEVEL OF EFFORT WAS NOT UNDERSTOOD
• MORE INSTRUCTION NEEDED ON APPLICATION
• NOT REALISTIC TO SPEND TIME ON PROGRAM 7 TO 10 YEARS IN ADVANCE
RECOMMENDATIONS

• ASSUMPTIONS ON COST OF PROGRAM ARE UNREALISTIC
• TIME REQUIRED FOR EXERCISE IS UNREALISTIC
• START TOOL NEEDS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
• THE ALLOCATION FORMULA NEEDS TO BE TESTED
CONCLUSION

• THE PROCESS OF WORKING THROUGH THE SECTION 180c SHOULD CONTINUE.

• A NEW WORK PLAN SHOULD BE DEVELOPED.
• QUESTIONS?