

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?**

