

**Special Meeting of the  
Technical Oversight Committee (TOC)  
Tuesday, October 19, 2010**

**South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406**

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**TOC Representatives:**

Garth Redfield, TOC Chair, SFWMD  
Stacey Feken, FDEP (by phone)  
Sean Smith, USACE

Mike Waldon, Refuge  
Nick Aumen, NPS/ENP  
John Barkett, Special Master (by phone)

**Note:** This meeting was recorded by a court reporter and copies are available for purchase; contact Florida Court Reporting (561-689-0999). Handouts and presentations are also available on the TOC website ([www.sfwmd.gov/toc](http://www.sfwmd.gov/toc)).

10:10 a.m.      **TOC Meeting Called to Order by TOC Chair**

10:15 a.m.      **Agenda Item #1a. Everglades Restoration Transition Plan – Phase 1**

Susan Conner and Donna George, USACE

Susan Conner presented an overview of the Everglades Restoration Transition Plan and a water quality analysis of the current regulation schedule and three alternatives. Modeling results indicate that the selected alternative, 9E1, would not result in an increased number of exceedances over the long-term limit. The USACE is waiting on a biological opinion from the USFWS and then will publish a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) in the Federal Register by the end of the year, followed by a public meeting period in January, and a final EIS and Record of Decision in Spring 2011.

Following the presentation, several points were raised for clarification. This included a disagreement of whether lowering the regulation stage in WCA-3A will result in increased water in WCA-3B and Everglades National Park over the long term. Additional data from the USACE 2x2 model run was requested and are available on the USACE's public FTP site.

11:05 a.m.      **Agenda Item #1b. Water Quality Analysis of ERTTP Alternatives**

Donatto Surratt, ENP

Donatto Surratt presented his team's review of the USACE ERTTP modeling results. The presentation included an overview of Bill Walker's model and its caveats. His analysis found that alternative 9E1 would tend to result in higher annual flows, annual TP loads, and annual flow-weighted mean TP when compared to the current regulation schedule.

11:30 a.m.      **Agenda Item #1c. Discussion**

The discussion that followed focused largely on what role the TOC has in the next stages of ERTTP development. While the TOC can make recommendations, it cannot control the decisions.

12:30 p.m.      **Break**

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1:30 p.m.      **TOC Meeting Called to Order by TOC Chair**

**Agenda Item #3a. PSTA Field Scale Demonstration Update**

Ron Jones, Portland State University and Robert Medlock, USACE

Ron Jones presented an update on the PSTA demonstration project at STA-1E. Regional droughts have limited the amount of information that has been collected from the project, so only data collected since February 2010 were presented. The best results were associated with cells B and C, which used limestone material from the site's internal levees as a substrate. Data also indicated that most phosphorus removal occurred in the first 1,000 feet after the inflow point.

Robert Medlock presented the USACE's schedule for making a decision regarding whether to continue the project. He also reviewed the timeline for decommission if that option is chosen.

2:10 p.m.      **Agenda Item #3b. STA-1E PSTA Demonstration Project Summary and Analysis of Results from 2008 and 2010**

Mike Waldon, Department of Interior

Mike Waldon presented the results of Dr. Robert Kadlec's analysis of the PSTA data. The analysis calculated the most optimistic settling rate of phosphorus from the water column was 8.0 meters per year. Using this figure, it was calculated that building PSTA projects would require significantly more land and be far more expensive than building additional typical STAs. Questions regarding the analyses should be directed to Dr. Kadlec at [rhkadlec@chartermi.net](mailto:rhkadlec@chartermi.net). Mike Waldon ([mike@mwaldon.com](mailto:mike@mwaldon.com)) should be copied on these emails.

A discussion of the STA-1E PSTA projects followed the presentations. The USACE and Refuge staffs were urged to work together to identify differences in their calculations and assumptions that contributed to the different results. The USACE was also asked to provide the necessary support to produce a report detailing the results of the Flying Cow Road PSTA Mesocosm studies.

3:05 p.m.      **Public Comment**

Sean Smith, USACE, thanked the TOC representatives and public attendees for their comments and discussion. He felt they were very productive contributions for the USACE's next steps and decision making for both the ERTTP and the STA-1E PSTA.

3:10 p.m.      **Meeting Adjourned**