Los Angeles Region Contaminated Sediments Task Force
Sediments Thresholds Subcommittee September 25, 2001

Attendees: Paul Johansen (POLA), David Moore (MEC), Kathy Anderson (USACE), David Castanon (USACE), Josh Burnam (USACE), Tom Wang (Anchor Env), Steve Cappellino (Anchor Env), Phil Hogan (URS), Bill Paznokas (CDFG), Nick Buhbe (AMEC), Leo Rebele (Hart Crowser), Michael Lyons (RWQCB), Jessica Morton (CCC), Kari Moshenberg (EVS), Kathryn Curtis (POLA), Steven John (EPA)

(1) EVS provided an update on the status of the preparation of the CSTF sediment quality database:

- October 13 is the target delivery date;
- only 1 primary study (chemistry and toxicity) is remaining to be installed into the database;
-approximately 50% of the secondary studies have been installed into the database;
- QA of the studies and location data is on-going;
- the entire database will be QA'ed before it is delivered to CSTF;
- all 13 monitoring data (e-data) have been received by EVS
- metadata is complete for all dredging studies, still being collected for the monitoring e-data.

To address the appropriate level of integration for the database it was determined that 3 separate volumes of the database should be prepared: (1) dredging studies database (no integration); (2) integration of the data are the study level only; (3) integration of all the data (dredged materials studies, monitoring studies, etc.) across all the databases.

Documentation of the database: (1) preparation of a User Manual (general description of the database, types of data in dredging/monitoring studies, metadata); (2) Systems Manager Technical Manual (database structure; entire relationship diagram; table relationships; system assumptions, etc.).

(2) Sediment Quality Value (SQV) evaluation and development project:

Goal of the effort is to provide guidance for the use of SQVs for evaluating sediments for aquatic disposal. Project will need to consider how well SQVs "work" in southern California and identify (adapt or develop) best SQVs for Los Angeles region.

Project components include: Phase 1 – review of existing candidate SQVs; Phase 2 – document reliability and sensitivity of SQVs for southern California; Phase 3 – calculate regional SQVs; Phase 4 – develop "new/improved" SQVs for Los Angeles region; Phase 5 – optional lab studies to support/verify results. The Subcommittee will need to make a determination of what is "good" (degree of error, reliability, etc.) and what is acceptable (e.g., 85% of the values are predictive).

Corps Regulatory, now participating in the CSTF in addition to Corps Planning, initiated a

discussion of concerns of their office (and by Corps WES) about how SQVs would be handled within the Regulatory framework, as well as concerns about the substantial scientific challenges to establishing SQVs.

(3) Next Meeting – October 30, 2001, 12:30-3pm (POLA room 306). The focus of this meeting will be further discussion of issues raised by Corps Regulatory to ensure consistency between the regulations and the scope for the SQVs study. Additionally, a scope of work for the SQV project (including details on proposed activities, responsibility for specific tasks, i.e., SCCWRP, contractor) will be prepared in anticipation of drafting the RFP for the SQV project.