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August 2, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Oil Spill Conference Steering Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Davidson".

FROM: Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs

Michael Khonsari, EPSCoR Project Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Khonsari".

RE: Materials for August 5 Steering Committee Meeting

Based on rankings of research topics and subtopics submitted by Steering Committee members, along with other relevant information, the staff has developed a draft set of alphabetized topics and related subtopics (see attached). Please modify, delete or add topics and/or subtopics you deem to be appropriate. As you review and make changes to the preliminary recommendations, consider that the conference necessarily will include a limited number of breakaway sessions organized around topics.

We look forward to a full exchange of views on Thursday.

Preliminary Recommendations: Research Topics and Subtopics

Suggested General Topics	Suggested Related Subtopics	Steering Committee Selects Subtopics
Community/Sociological Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resiliency issues • Sociological impact of the oil spill • Workforce development 	
Economic/Business Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic impact of the oil spill • Development of economic impact assessment methodologies & models • Corporate risk & safety, including risk assessment & management 	
Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution infrastructure • Deepwater drilling and production • Engineering ecological systems • Materials sciences 	
Environmental/Ecological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems • Coastal & wetlands issues • Oil recovery from or uses of oil-contaminated sands • Wildlife & fisheries 	
Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate and long-term health effects on workers and the community • Behavioral issues and mental health • Comparative effectiveness of public health approaches to post-disaster environments 	
Oil Distribution, Dispersal & Removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization of oil and constituents • Capture and removal of oil and constituents • Mapping and modeling • Dispersants 	
Remediation & Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimal remediation methodologies, including bioremediation • Optimal monitoring strategies and technologies • Sensors and detection technologies 	