

Excerpts from SRRTTF MOA 1-23-2012: Attachment A - Operational & Organizational Concepts

Task Force Vision Statement for 2012 Through 2016, page 8:

The Regional Toxics Task Force will work collaboratively to characterize the sources of toxics in the Spokane River and identify and implement appropriate actions needed to make measurable progress towards meeting applicable water quality standards for the State of Washington, State of Idaho, and The Spokane Tribe of Indians and in the interests of public and environmental health.

Task Force Operating Protocols, page 17-18:

Communications

- To promote trust and respect, in our work together we agree to:
 - Respect each other in and outside of meetings.
 - Operate in good faith
 - No backroom deals
 - Respect the personal integrity and values of participants and organizations.
 - All participants in the negotiation bring with them the legitimate purposes and goals of their organizations. All parties recognize the legitimacy of the goals of others and assume that their goals will also be respected. These negotiations will try to maximize all the goals of all the parties, as far as possible.
 - Honor agreements; commitments will not be made lightly and will be kept.
 - Regard disagreements as “problems to be solved,” rather than as “battles to be won.”

- To enhance open and honest dialogue, we will:
 - Participate in discussions and will encourage each other to “explore without committing.” This frees up the group to explore potential solutions without viewing those explorations as formal proposals.
 - State interests, problems, and opportunities, not positions – positive candor is an effective tool.
 - Air problems, disagreements, and critical information during meetings to avoid surprises.
 - Commit to search for opportunities and alternatives. Group creativity can often determine the best solution.
 - Substantiate rumors at the meeting before accepting them as fact.

- To communicate clearly in specific discussions, we agree to:
 - Disclose interest.
 - Listen fully to understand.
 - Look for ways to address not only your own interests, but those of others as well.
 - Participate, share the floor, be concise.
 - Look ahead – acknowledge the past but don’t rehash it.
 - Be explicit and factual – ask for clarification if confused.

- To ensure inclusivity and transparency, we acknowledge and expect that:
 - Participants represent a broad range of interests, each having concerns about the outcome of the issues.
 - Participants commit to keeping their colleagues/constituents informed about progress.
 - Participants will not publicly represent the views of others.