

## APPENDIX E

### Comments about the Panel and Information Sessions

This section of the report includes the abstract as originally submitted for each panel and information session, provides a moderator summary if available, and summarizes information collected from the evaluation forms that were distributed to students during each session they attended. The bar graph illustrates the responses of students to a series of questions about the appropriateness and relevance of material to their job responsibilities, as well as the effectiveness of the instructional materials.

Students were asked to respond to a series of questions by selecting from the following choices:

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

In addition, students were asked to submit written comments about various elements of the session, including: content; relevance and appropriateness of case studies; and instructional methods. The following pages present the information collected from the evaluation forms submitted for each session.

This attachment also provides pie charts that illustrate the percentages of students for each session by job title. EPA RPMs represented at least 45 percent of the students for almost every session.

---

#### Panel Sessions

Asbestos Island.....	E-1
Beneficial Use of Mining and Mineral Processing Waste.....	E-4
Best Practices for Post-ROD Community Involvement.....	E-8
Federal Facilities .....	E-11
Ground Water/Surface Water Interaction - Concepts, Field Methods, and Site Management	
Challenges.....	E-14
Institutional Controls: Current Issues.....	E-18
Optimizing Five-Year Reviews.....	E-21
OSC/RPM Interactions Synergy .....	E-25
Passing the Baton: Better Document Management During Site Transitions.....	E-28
Permeable Reactive Zones .....	E-30
Remedy Rescue .....	E-32
RPMs and CERCLIS - We Do Have a Future .....	E-35
Vapor Intrusion.....	E-39
Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia, and EPA .....	E-43

#### Information Sessions

Developments in Remedial Design .....	E-46
Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds.....	E-50
Response Support Corps - RPMs in Response.....	E-52
Technical Assistance Services for Communities and The Superfund Job Training Initiative .....	E-55
The Environmental Response Team Capabilities for RPMs .....	E-58
Virtual Connection: Tools and Strategies for EPA Employees.....	E-61

## Asbestos Island

Monday, July 7, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Moderator: Brad Bradley, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Panelists: Denise Baker, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Brad Bradley, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 David Eppler, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Dan Heister, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Julie Wroble, U.S. EPA Region 10

*Asbestos Island*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel session, presents the latest information about investigating and evaluating asbestos at hazardous waste sites. The session includes:

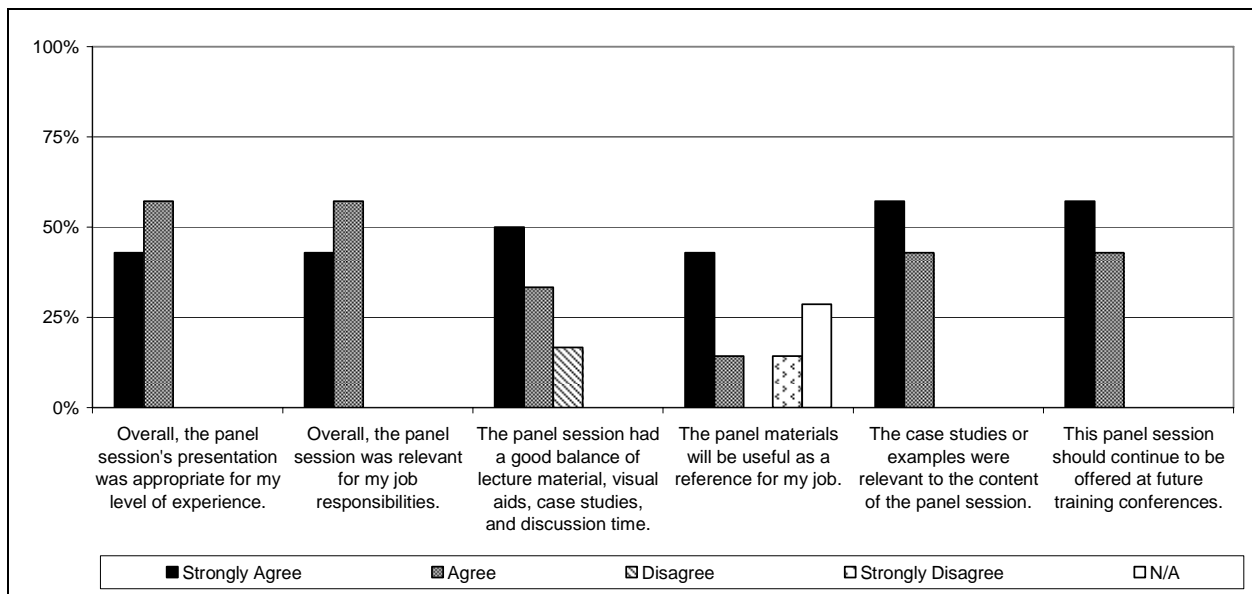
- An overview of the EPA’s Asbestos Technical Review Workgroup (TRW) and recent activities
- An open session for RPMs to identify their analytical, risk assessment, and risk management needs
- An interactive discussion of the difference between CERCLA and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS), and building demolition issues

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
18	17	8	4*

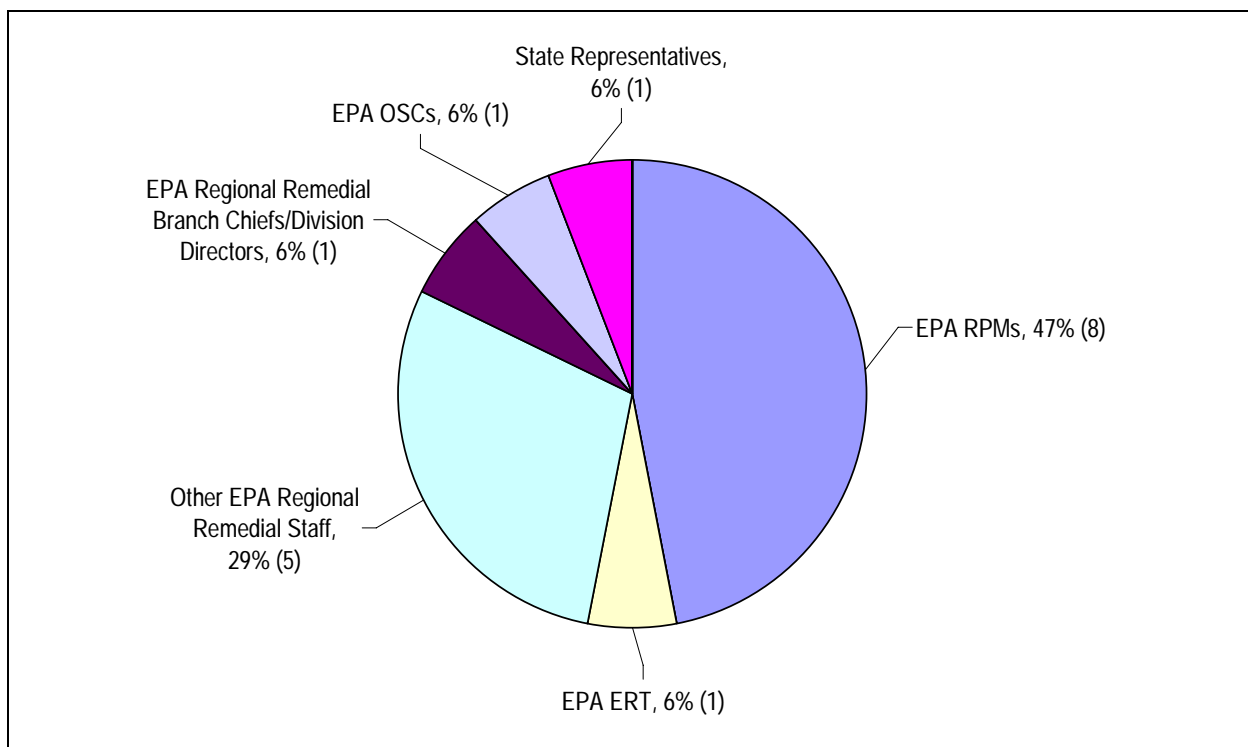
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Asbestos Island Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 47 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Asbestos Island Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### **Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Could talk all day about asbestos sites. Could use a longer session.
- Slides should have been used as handouts. (*Two responses*)

#### **Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Need more on TRW and regulatory update on Asbestos.

#### **Comments on session content**

Lengthen

- All of them
- New asbestos sampling, analytical methods, and risk assessment.

#### **Comments about the moderator**

- More discussion time needed.

#### **Additional comments**

- Liked hearing about the experiences of RPMs in other regions with respect to asbestos. Sharing experience and information is what it's all about. Good speakers too - compliments!

#### **Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Carolyn Callihan ([callihan.carolyn@epa.gov](mailto:callihan.carolyn@epa.gov))

## Beneficial Use of Mining and Mineral Processing Waste

Monday, July 7, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Moderator: Lisa Price, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Panelists: Steve Hoffman, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Shahid Mahmud, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Dion Novak, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Lisa Price, U.S. EPA Region 6

*Beneficial Use of Mining and Mineral Processing Waste*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel, explores questions about the beneficial use of mining and mineral processing waste. These materials are the result of the extraction, beneficiation, and processing of ores and minerals, and they are excluded from regulation as hazardous waste. With 1.3 billion tons generated annually, these high volume, low toxicity materials can result in the release of hazardous constituents that can and do pose a threat to human health and the environment, as is evidenced by the number of CERCLA sites associated with these materials.

EPA is working with states and mining and mineral processing industries to evaluate and encourage the productive and beneficial use of these materials in lieu of commercially available materials. Potential markets for these materials include road construction, concrete production, and levee development. The projected environmental and cost savings of the beneficial use of these materials could be considerable. An appropriate level of assurance in the environmental performance and system design, however, is crucial in order for the proposed use of these materials to be successful. Therefore, there are a range of challenges that need to be explored prior to use of these materials, including testing, liability, and use restrictions. The panel discussion explores key questions:

- Are guidelines for state beneficial use programs that rely on TCLP sufficient to determine potential release or should EPA develop more rigorous and/or material-specific testing requirements?
- Should frequency of testing be established to ensure consistency of materials?
- What level of assurance will owners/managers/users request regarding CERCLA liability?

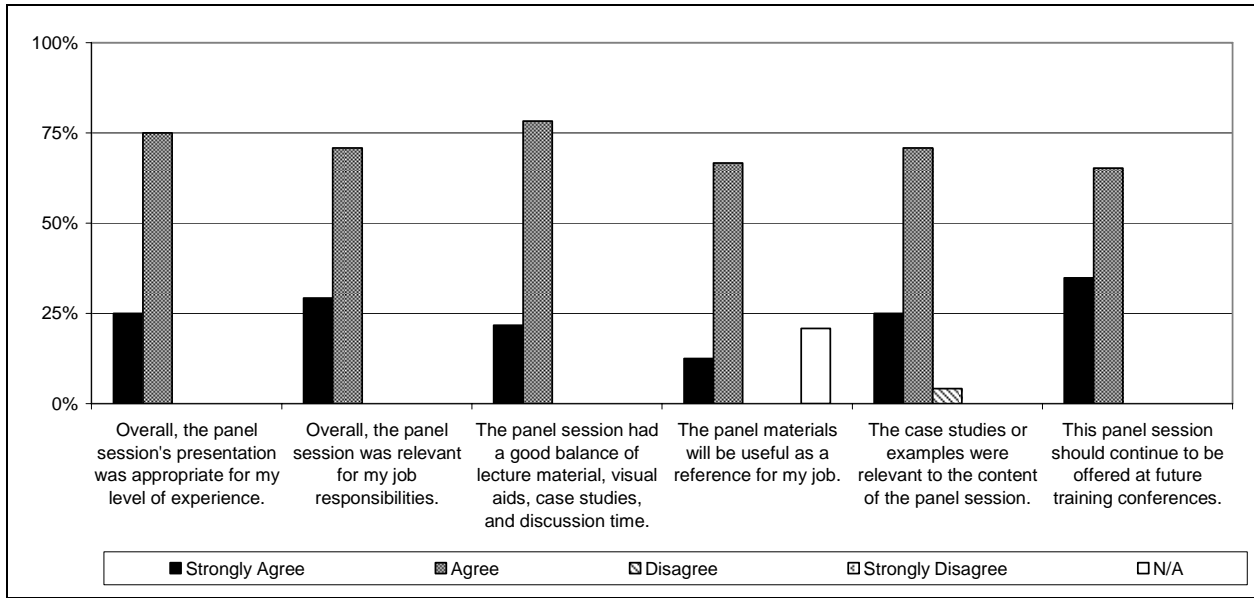
Because of the multitude of issues associated with beneficial use of these materials, this is intended to be a multi-year panel discussion. The panel promotes the formation of a national workgroup to prepare some sort of strategy for this topic, similar to the lead strategy, and serves as a vehicle to identify individuals who are interested in this topic and may want to become members of the national workgroup.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
45	42	24	4*

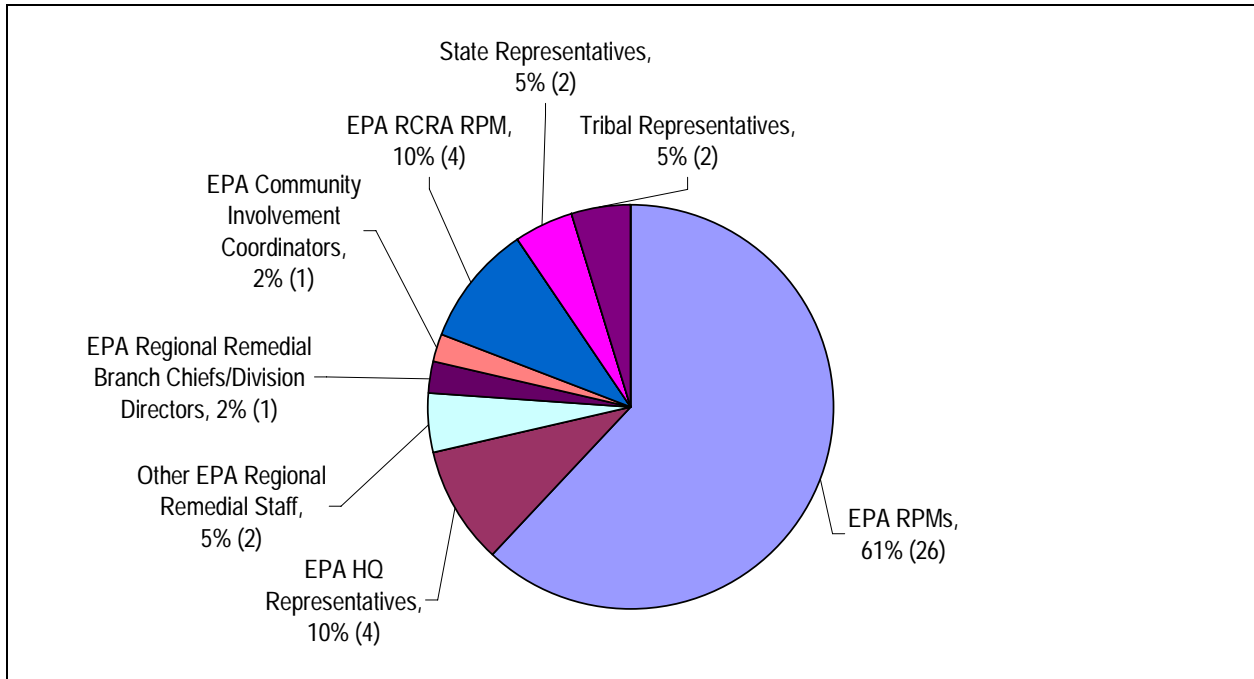
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Beneficial Use of Mining and Mineral Processing Waste Panel Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 61 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Beneficial Use of Mining and Mineral Processing Waste Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Mine sites not directly related to those discussions but useful info and contacts.
- Good mix of alternatives for treatment instead of capping.

**Comments on session content**

Add

- Downside arguments of re-processing
- BU tools/resources to inform RPMs about (ASTSWD BU Survey, Newmart BU determinations database, etc.)
- Opposing views of re-using mine waste. Opens the door for PRP's to come back to cleaned sites to remine the sites.
- Lab techniques discussion.

Lengthen

- Legal issues related to the reuse of mine waste.
- Other mine waste issues

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Not much discussion, but new issue so a lot of information needed to be presented.
- Maybe too much - not enough discussion time
- Would like handouts - Would have liked to have taken specific lecture notes. (*Three responses*)

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- May use these suggestions at my site.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- Would like more discussion on pro/cons of lab technologies.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Panel was done well - would like to see similar case studies and lessons learned.
- Would like a review of issues, policies, applications, and lessons learned.
- Panel topic should address other types of mine waste.
- Maybe every other year.
- Neutral/maybe other case studies.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Met my expectations of the course.
- Presentations were more focused on specific material than description suggested.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- A bit slow.
- Need full day to discuss all the issues and uses of mine waste, or at least a full afternoon.
- Needs to be better integrated.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Moderator set the pace very well.

**Comments on keeping session on schedule**

- Somewhat, although more time could have been dedicated to Q&A without running over.
- The panel did a great job. This is a huge topic to talk about in this time frame.
- Reduce the amount of material.
- Maybe limiting speakers.
- Great Topics and Presentation - Thanks!
- Slightly disagree - session went 10 minutes over.

**Additional comments**

- Good discussion, good material, worthwhile topics but not enough time for discussion.  
(*Two responses*)
- Was hoping for definition of "copper slag" - wasn't covered. Agree that workshop is needed and should continue.
- Companies push for reprocessing on closed sites - guarantees up front for closure.
- Very Good. Good representation of emerging applications and complexity of issues.
- Do these procedures apply to other types of mines?

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Michele Dineyazhe (dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov)

## Best Practices for Post-ROD Community Involvement

Thursday, July 10, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Moderator: Wendy Thomi, U.S. EPA Region 8  
 Panelists: Tom Bloom, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Patricia Bowlin, U.S. EPA Region 9  
 Charlie Coleman, U.S. EPA Region 8  
 Viola Cooper, U.S. EPA Region 9  
 Mike Joyce, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Sara Sparks, U.S. EPA Region 8

*Best Practices for Post-ROD Community Involvement*, a 1.5 hour panel session, explores proven techniques and best practices that can be used to conduct post-ROD community activities. Historically, post-ROD community activities have been amorphous: formless and without shape. In short, these activities have been largely undefined, vague, and unstructured. This workshop intends to define the steps and tactics for post-ROD community activities that are most beneficial for the community and the Agency.

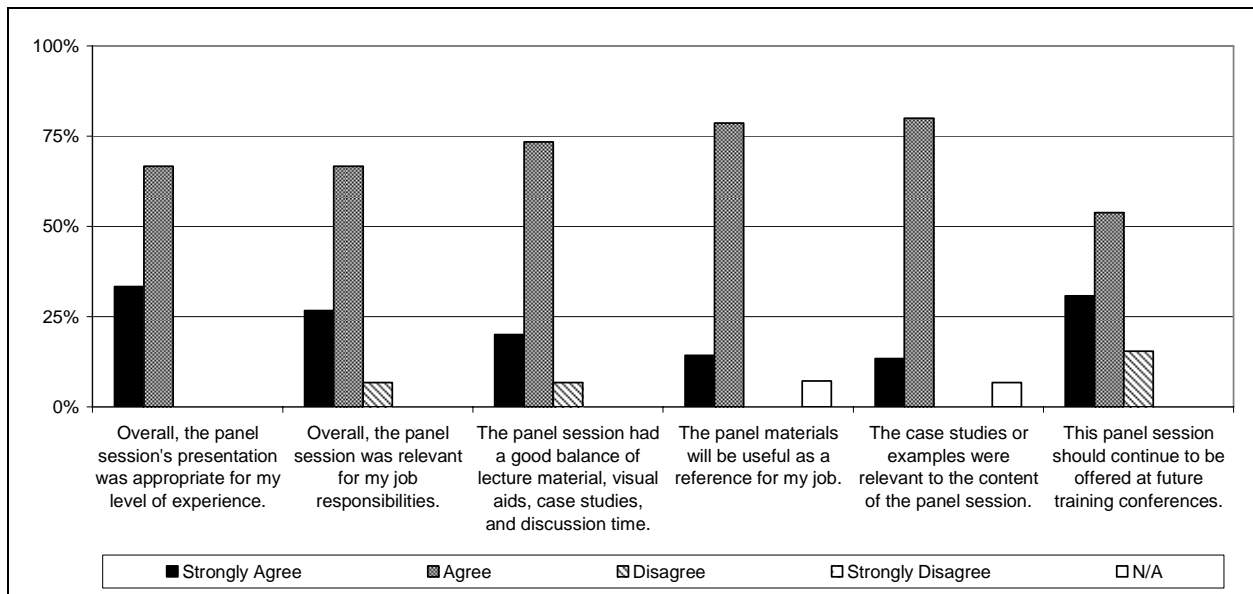
Current practices focus on major changes such as rare ROD amendments or explanation of significant differences (ESD). In addition to addressing these mandated activities, this workshop will explore other post-ROD opportunities that will help the site team maximize positive community involvement and press coverage at other more routine times: Remedial Design, Remedial Action, construction completion, re-use of the site, five-year reviews, and even de-listing.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
46	25	16	3*

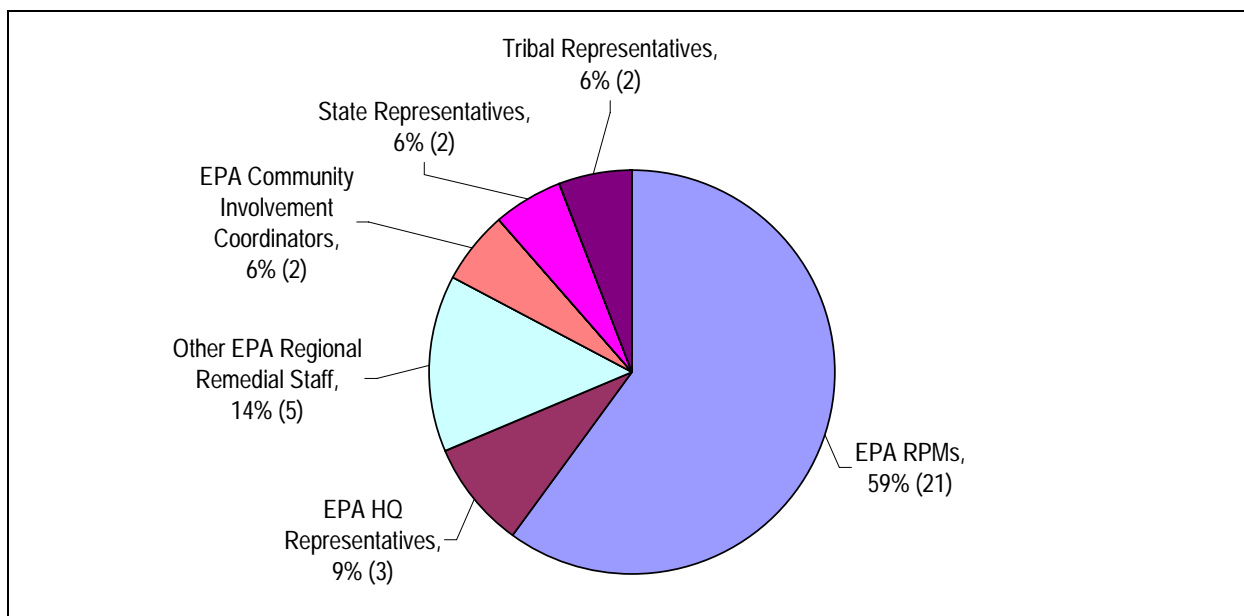
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Best Practices for Post-ROD Community Involvement Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 59 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Best Practices for Post-ROD Community Involvement Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### **Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Hard to see this kind of redevelopment at active federal facilities.

#### **Comments on session content**

Add

- Summary/points of good CI tactics.

Lengthen

- More information about megasites and how they become NPL sites.

Shorten

- Shorten or drop presentations to allow more discussion.

#### **Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Some of the panelists forgot their handouts and didn't get their PowerPoint presentations mailed in on time to be uploaded on the computer. Some type of visual aids would have been helpful and more interesting.

#### **Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- Could have more specificity tied issues to specific outreach techniques/tools.

#### **Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- There was a lot of talk about what to do but not how to do it.
- Good for brand new RPMs.
- Continue CI themed panel and/or training.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Too elementary for senior RPM.
- Abstract said "define the steps and tactics" but there was more case study discussion and ID of issues and less of specific steps and tactics.
- Turned out to be a private side redevelopment panel.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Did well considering spot after lunch time
- Moderator did a good job.

**Additional comments**

- Need handouts.
- This panel did not provide even close to what it advertised. It did not appear that the presenters had coordinated well to bring a single message or clear integration to the material. The first speaker was long-winded, laborious and dull and there was nothing new or interesting in this presentation, which seemed to give advice, in a nutshell, "make sure you do good community involvement." The other speakers were somewhat better. The course was not even particularly useful as a primer for new RPMs. Most attendees at the conference have good experience in basic community involvement approaches and issues, and this did not extend beyond that to anything new or interesting. Nor did it appear to be focused on the particular issues that arise Post-ROD, even though the case studies were post-ROD.
- Speakers should emphasize more about specific CI techniques used regarding the challenge examples provided.
- Redevelopment impacts on ROD should be expanded - what changes were required and what were communities concerns?

## Federal Facilities

Monday, July 7, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Panelists: Mary Cooke, U.S. EPA FFRRO  
 Sally Dalzell, U.S. EPA FFEO  
 Monica McEaddy, U.S. EPA FFRRO  
 John Reeder, U.S. EPA FFRRO

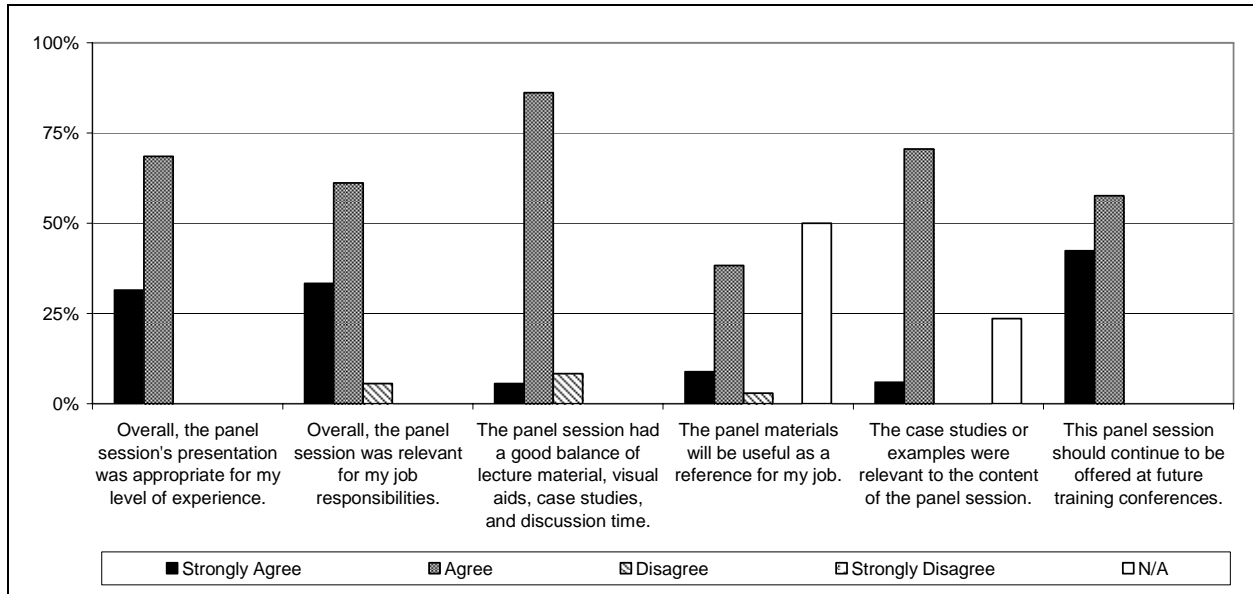
*Federal Facilities*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel session, provides an update on current initiatives and hot topics affecting federal facility sites. Managers from the FFRRO and the Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO) will provide insights into current activities and issues ongoing in the program, including relevant updates on emerging contaminants, the streamlined ROD initiative, the MMRP, EPA Headquarters' efforts to address DOE budget shortfalls, and federal facility enforcement and compliance issues. Time is provided for discussion among the session attendees about issues and concerns they are experiencing.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
57	57	36	4*

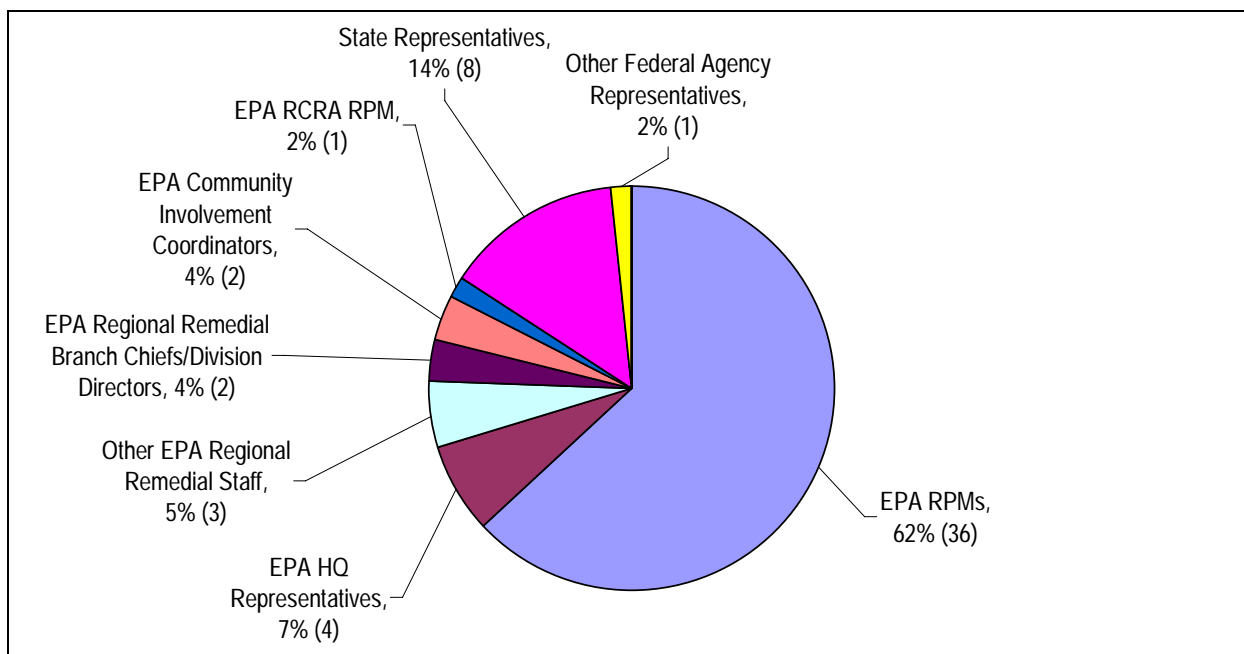
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Federal Facilities Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 62 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Federal Facilities Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level

- More DOE discussion, not just DoD. (*Two responses*)

#### Comments on session content

##### Add

- Depleted uranium - heavy metal property authority.
- DoD Authority based on EO 12580.
- More examples of specific sites.
- More info on DOE issues.
- Application of state rules.

##### Lengthen

- Needs to be a longer session - cover more issues.
- State, NPL and other federal agency agreements.
- CC
- MMRP
- More DOE information. (*Two responses*)

##### Shorten

- Munitions.

#### Comments on instructional methods and materials

- Liked the Q&A session - more useful than formal presentation.
- Only visual.

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- Good for current status; not likely to be reference material.
- Will be more useful with examples and case studies.
- Some, but not much.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- While there weren't case studies, there were good examples to make the discussions more relevant.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Yes, with some modifications.
- Comments and questions to the end; could have used 15 minutes more.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- They did try to cover the topic with a few examples and tried to cover emerging issues.
- Expected more info on DOE. (*Two responses*)
- I was interested in Federal Facilities issues. The recent enforcement actions were clarified.
- The panel covered many topics covering federal facilities.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Not enough on "Big Decisions Ahead."
- Nice to have lots of discussion time.

**Comments about the moderator**

- No formal moderator; presenters were effective in moderating/fielding questions.
- Some comments were repeated and they weren't in very specific directions that took away from addressing all of the issues.

**Additional comments**

- Liked the open forum and the opportunity to ask questions for a good amount of time.
- Should have covered more on the enforcement; a lot of energy to continue discussion on the issues.
- Didn't really cover streamlined RODs initiative.
- Large number of MMRP sites moving into RODs, etc. is increasing work load and number of sites in CERCLA, where many of those MMRP sites are not NPL listed sites. What to do when that flood of sites marches in?
- Each year the course should deal with current issues.

## Ground Water/Surface Water Interaction - Concepts, Field Methods, and Site Management Challenges

Monday, July 7, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Moderator: Richard Willey, U.S. EPA Region 1  
 Panelists: Brewster Conant, University of Waterloo  
 Denis LeBlanc, U.S. Geological Survey

*Ground Water/Surface Water Interaction - Concepts, Field Methods, and Site Management Challenges* is a 1 hour, 45 minute panel discussion. Many CERCLA and RCRA sites are located where contaminated ground water discharges to surface water. This panel presentation includes: an overview of ground water/surface water (GW/SW) interactions; a summary of site characterization methods and tools; and the significance of GW/SW and sediment interaction from a site management perspective. Time is allotted after the presentations to address questions to panel members.

U.S. Geological Survey investigators have been invited to provide a presentation featuring newer methods to delineate ground water discharges by taking continuous temperature measurements along a stream bed. Ground water discharges are often variable along the transition zone in a streambed, and that variability can make it difficult to determine: where discharges are occurring; where to focus any in-water remedial design or action; and where to monitor discharges.

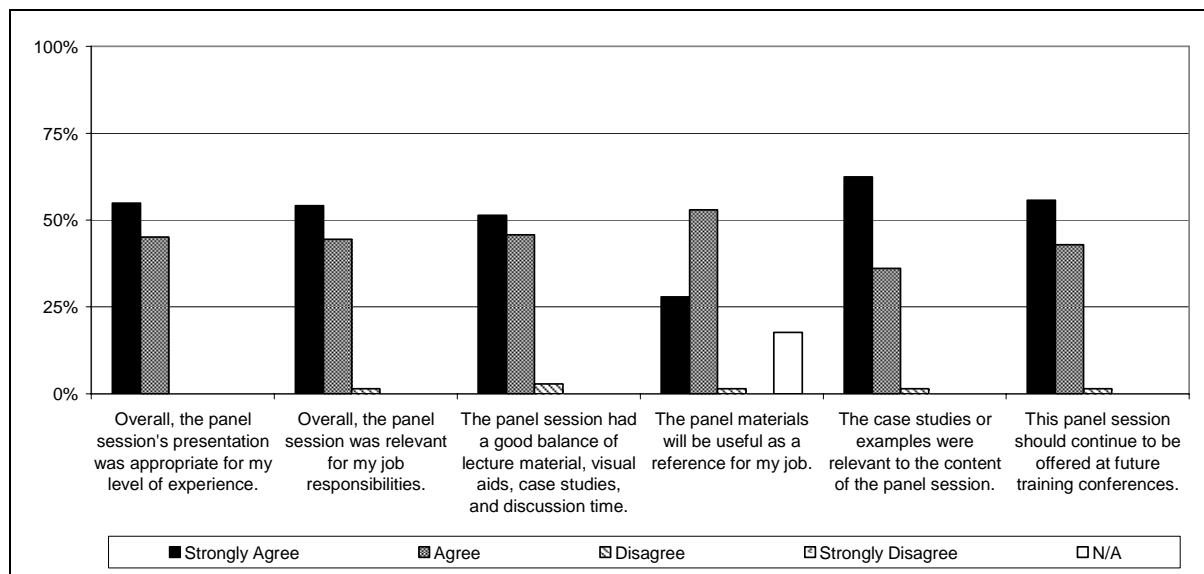
Case studies illustrating EPA experiences at selected Superfund or RCRA sites will focus on the conceptual site model, investigative techniques, risks posed to receptors, and remediation options.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
106	112	72	4*

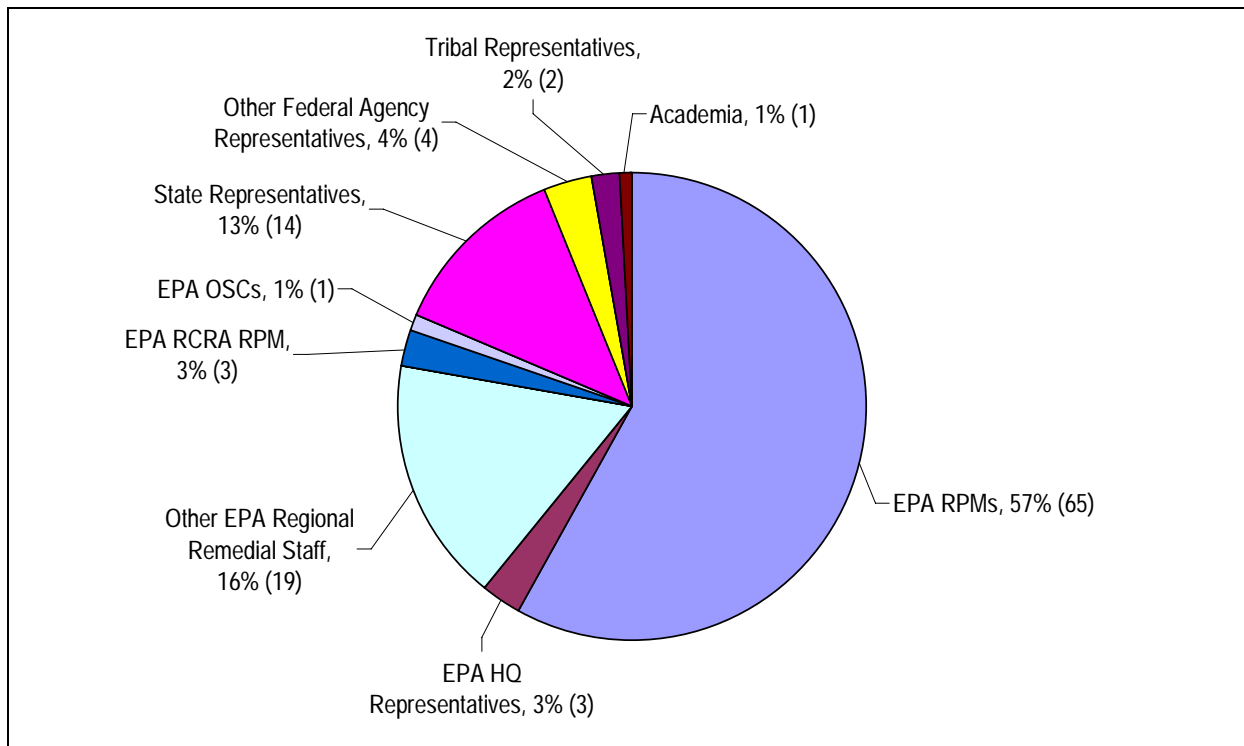
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the GW/SW Interaction – Concepts, Field Methods, and Site Management Challenges Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 57 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the GW/SW Interaction – Concepts, Field Methods, and Site Management Challenges Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level

- Brewster was over my head and figures were complicated; went too fast to understand. (*Two responses*)
- More time was needed to present the material more thoroughly. (*Two responses*)
- Provide up-front an estimate of the expected audience level of expertise.
- Excellent examples.
- Good detail presented for GW/SW Interaction.
- Anything that helps to understand ground water is relevant.

#### Comments on session content

##### Add

- Case studies were interesting; more cost numbers would be nice.
- Policy issues in non-detect as to confirm no contamination.

##### Lengthen

- Risk management decisions that were made.
- More case studies are needed to deal with DNAPL in tight clay or till ground water zones.
- Sampling methods.
- History of the site.
- Geology of the site.

- Field Methods.
- Considering the 5 questions presented by Dr. Brewster.

Shorten

- Whole session; bit redundant.
- Introduction.

Omit

- The Conant presentation was too academic.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Note-taking on handouts would have complemented the fact that visual presentations with notes on presentation benefits retention.
- Add NW site/Region X.

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- Good though - I can get them on the web.
- I need to review, but everything else was good so I expect those will be as well.
- Better to have handouts in advance or during the training for note-taking. (*Three responses*)

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- One of my sites has a high TCE concentration in the underlying till zone. A case study with that site condition would have been helpful.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Better to go slower and cover less material.
- Lessons learned to propose systematic approach for site investigations.
- It will always be applicable and we need to be continually learning.
- More relevant Superfund site cases will be useful.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Very good case studies. (*Three responses*)
- Several short presentations kept interest up and contributed to the discussion.
- Provided more info/insight into GW/SW. (*Two responses*)
- The title and subject matter were equivocal.
- This was designated a panel but it was not. This was really an "informative session". Would have been better to shorten presentations and lengthen Q&A substantially.
- I thought it was going to be an overview of the methods available.
- All of the topics were discussed.
- This session provided excellent examples of GW/SW interface concepts, field methods and site management challenges.
- Focus of all discussion was the transition of GW to SW.
- Straight forward GW/SW concepts.
- Case studies showed practical applications to other sites.
- Good technical presentation.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Excellent talk - would be good to make it longer and talk about some of the basics to support further concepts presented.
- Too technical. Can be moderately technical.
- First topic was too fast; second topic was perfect!
- Lots of information presented in too short of a period.
- It was perfect.

**Comments about the moderator**

- I was a little bit lost at the beginning (first speaker).
- Couldn't hear him.
- Great Session. I was impressed overall.

**Additional comments:**

- Needed more time for discussion; session should have been longer to allow discussion - would recommend a 3 or 4 hour time slot.
- I didn't understand how the TCE moved under and thru the pond.
- Thanks! Would have liked to hear an Ecotoxicologist about effects on the ecosystem.
- Excellent panel session! Dr. Brewster Conant did an outstanding job of presenting his material and speaking well! Both presenters did very well! (*Two responses*)
- It needs to be condensed.
- Good discussion on regulatory interaction.
- I especially enjoyed the Cape Cod session.
- Fairly good and reasonable.
- It was great as presented!
- Introduction was a little disjointed.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Ron Davis (davis.ron@epa.gov)
- Rob Weber (weber.robert@epa.gov)
- Shiann-Jang Chern (chern.shiann-jang@epa.gov)

## Institutional Controls: Current Issues

Thursday, July 10, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderators: Sheri Bianchin, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Dante Rodriguez, U.S. EPA Region 9

Panelists: Janet Carlson, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Derek Matory, U.S. EPA Region 4  
 Dante Rodriguez, U.S. EPA Region 9  
 Gregory Sullivan, U.S. EPA OSRE  
 Rebecca Thomas, U.S. EPA Region 8

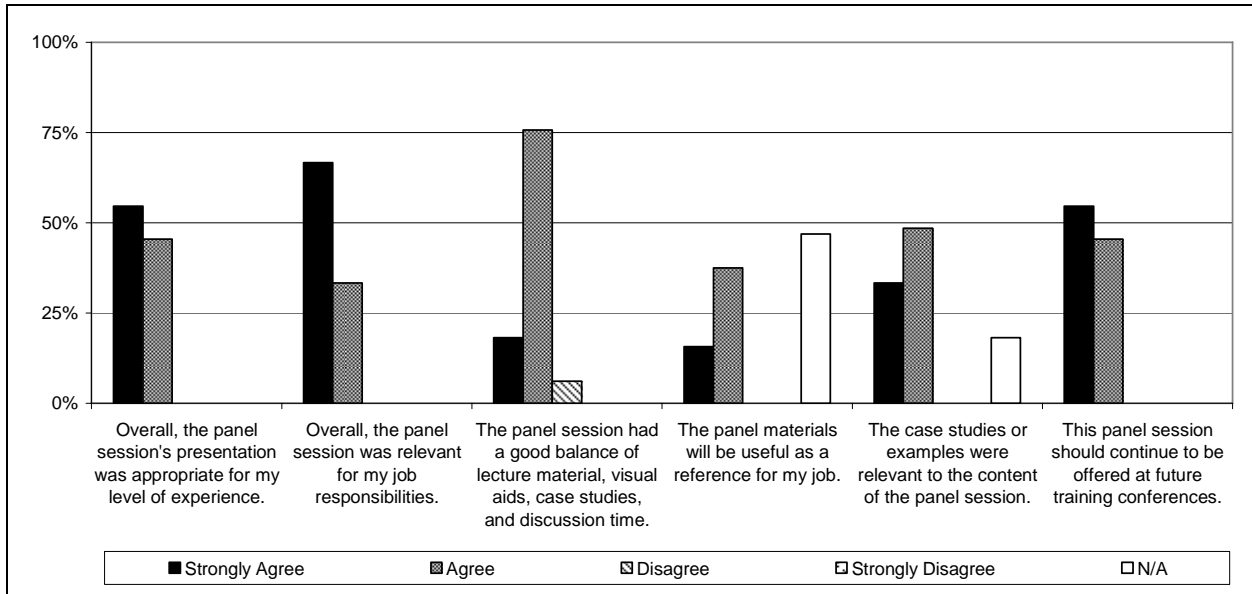
*Institutional Controls: Current Issues* is a 1 hour and 45 minute panel discussion led by NARPM members who serve on the IC Workgroup, along with national experts from around the country. ICs are non-engineered components of a remedy. Examples of ICs include deed restrictions, local city ordinances, restrictions on ground water use, base-use plans, and fishing bans. The use of ICs is often a key component of Superfund remedies. If a site is not cleaned up to unrestricted use levels, an IC is required to ensure that restricted uses do not occur. The national IC Workgroup meets monthly to track IC-related issues, share information, and identify solutions to the often vexing IC issues faced by Superfund site managers. During the discussion, panel members will share their experiences with Superfund RPMs who may be facing similar issues. Participants are invited to come to the panel session, present their IC issues, and receive some expert advice and valuable feedback.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
92	72	34	4*

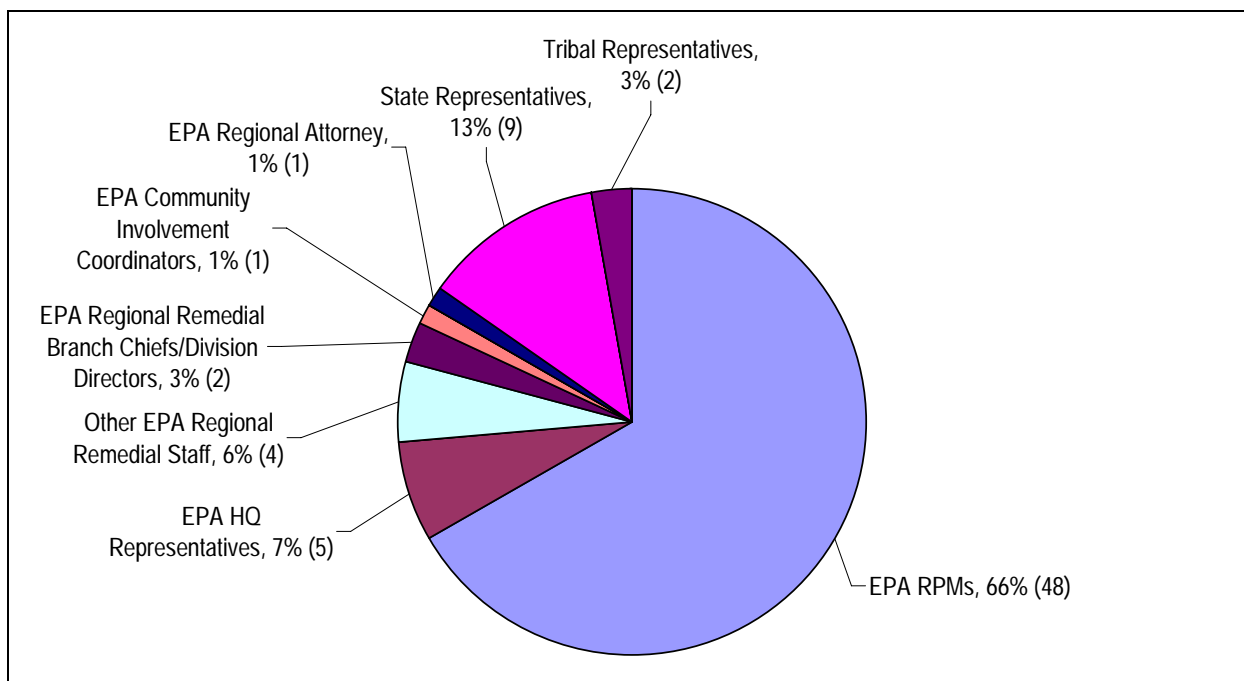
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Institutional Controls: Current Issues Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 66 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Institutional Controls: Current Issues Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### Comments on session content

##### Add

- Focus on flexibility in ICs and IC language.
- Add more information on use of GIS.

##### Lengthen

- Discussion of IC guidance and how it should be addressed in ROD.

#### Comments on instructional methods and materials

- Great format.
- Not applicable for panel. (*Two responses*)
- It was a panel so it was only panel Q&A, which was great. (*Two responses*)
- There was no lecture or presentation, however I think the open discussion forum worked very well and may be appropriate for more panels.

#### Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session

- Great discussion.

#### Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences

- It is an on-going issue.
- This is an important zoning issue. (*Two responses*)
- Keep the open discussion forum.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Very relevant to every site.
- Forum and questions were applicable to my site planning.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Dante did really well.

**Comments about the moderator**

- They did a very good job - not just introductions.
- It was very helpful that they selected audience questions before the start of the panel.
- Dante was very good with handling the questions from the audience to the panel and he's funny!
- Dante is the best moderator I've seen at the conference. Dante and Sherri were the most prepared and the panel was the best prepared I've seen. Their work is greatly appreciated.

**Additional comments**

- Very good panel discussion (*Two responses*) - liked the Q&A format.
- Great interaction with the participants. Answered our questions - gave info on where to find other needed information. Great job! This has really helped.
- Excellent IC session. (*Two responses*)
- Would be nice to get some handouts. (*Three responses*) Good background material would be nice; UECA Web site, BIPP, etc.
- Well run panel session - Thanks.
- Well organized, good discussion. Thanks!
- An HQ policy re: ICs should be a focal point for discussion.
- Great Panel! Very knowledgeable panelists!

## Optimizing Five-Year Reviews

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Sai Appaji, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Panelists: Sai Appaji, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Monica McEaddy, U.S. EPA FFRRO  
 Michael Sivak, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 Kevin Willis, U.S. EPA Region 2

*Optimizing Five-Year Reviews*, a 1.5 hour panel, focuses on planning and reviewing technical issues that are critical to the success of a five-year review. By attending the panel discussion, participants learn:

- How to use the planning and coordination template for timely production of five-year reviews.
- Techniques to resolve technical site issues especially at older sites.
- How to avoid state and local government issues.
- Methods for tracking recommendations in Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS).
- Ways to address stakeholder concerns, especially from the public.
- What EPA HQ looks for in a five-year review report and the review process they follow.

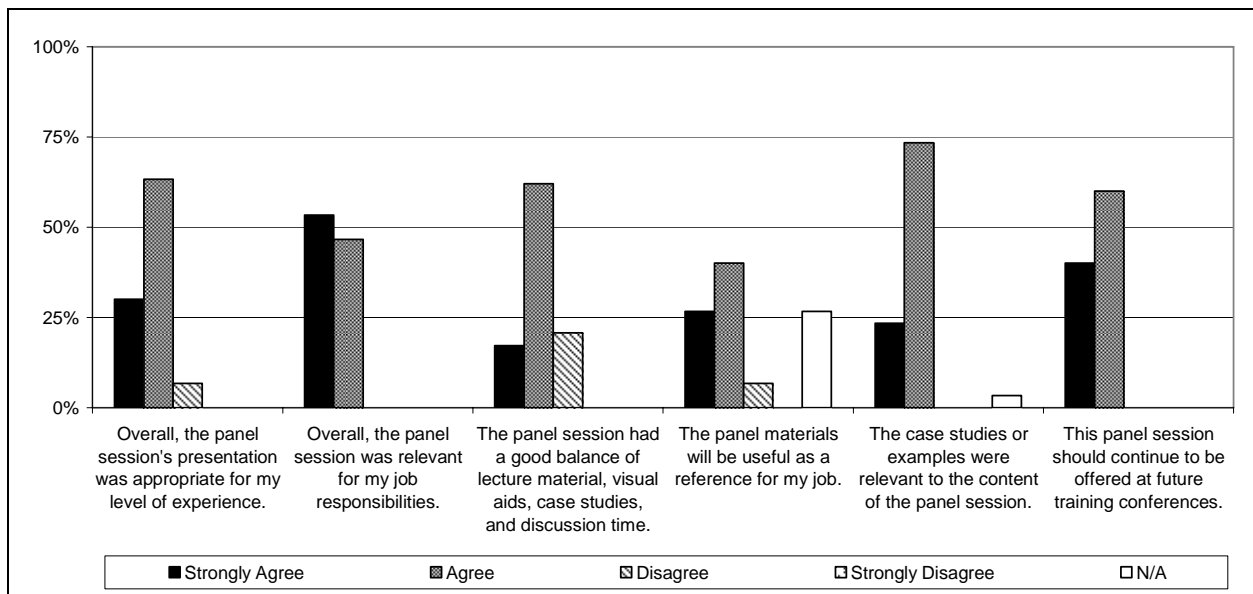
Panel members share their expertise in planning, addressing technical issues, and tracking five-year reviews, followed by questions and answers. The target audience for this panel is all RPMs.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
57	42	31	4*

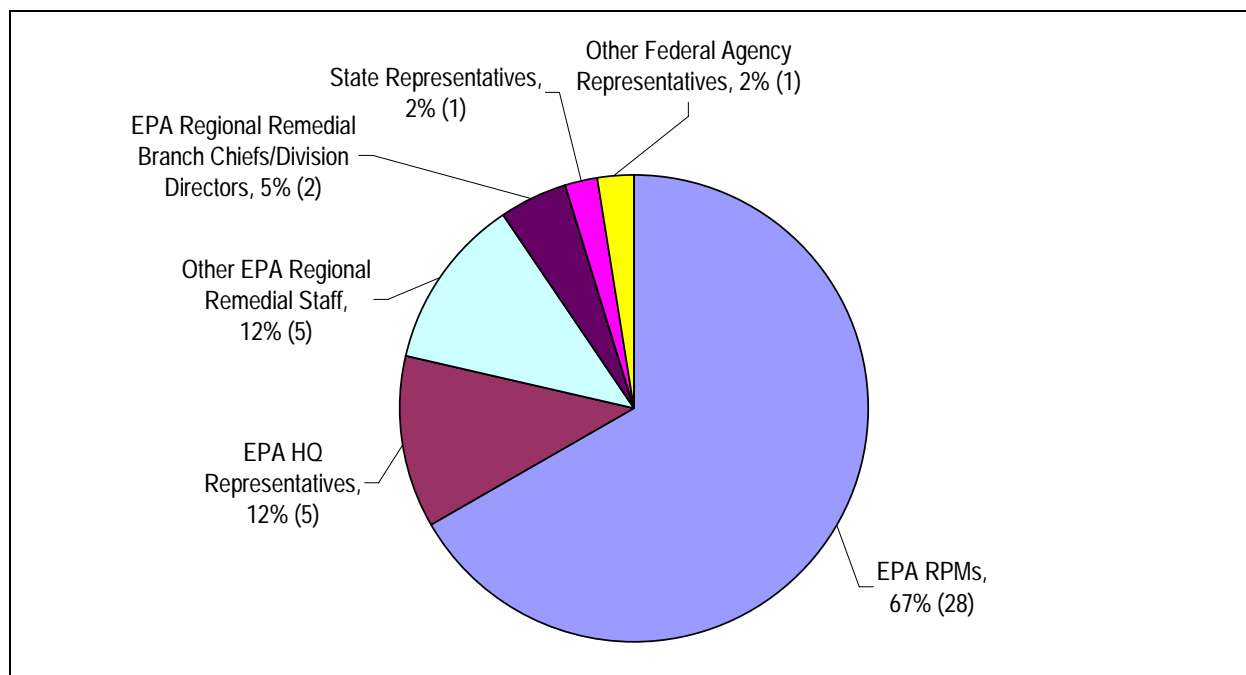
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Optimizing Five-Year Reviews Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 67 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Optimizing Five-Year Reviews Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### **Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Needed information geared for RPMs with significant amounts of experience - some of the information was too basic. *(Two responses)*

#### **Comments on session content**

##### Add

- More tips for tech review.
- Do vapor intrusion evaluations on front end before five-year review, concentrate on protectiveness statements when you can or cannot use data to evaluate the remedy vs. not protective.
- Overview of five-year review process including key information, responsibilities, and schedule.

##### Lengthen

- ICs.
- Discussion time at end. *(Two responses)*
- Title searches.
- ARAR changes (yes frozen but needs to be reviewed).
- Should be lengthened to a full half-day session. *(Five responses)*
- Add focus for federal facilities five-year reviews.
- Examples.
- Risk Assessor role - Michael did a good job of explaining what assessor can help with during 5-year evaluations. Seems to be an important element that some of us RPMs don't spend enough time on.

Shorten

- Detail on risk assessment.
- Presenters' formal slides.
- IC needs to be shortened. (*Three responses*)

Omit

- Start five years early

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Not enough examples/case studies. (*Three responses*)
- Pressure to fit in too many presenters limited and at one point cut off discussion. The discussion should be allowed for in the timing of the session better. (*Five responses*)

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- Not all materials were distributed. (*Three responses*)

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- Only one presented. (*Two responses*)
- Quick list of lessons learned by panelist may be best way to present collective experience.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Develop a list of items/issues to be requested from PRPs 8-12 months ahead of time.
- But should be reorganized to be more of a panel approach or offered as a training session.
- But it needs to be done at a higher level of discussion.
- Important topic.
- But it needs to be better formatted. Or give more time to speakers.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Explained new focus areas and resources to improve the process.
- Didn't think ICs would be so long.
- Most interested in optimization aspect.
- Good suggestions for ICs evaluation and risk assess review and HQ expectations.
- All items listed in the abstract were covered.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- It's a large topic. It needs more time for discussion. (*Five responses*)
- Speakers tended to spend too much time at beginning on basic/introduction material and had to rush through at the end.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Moderator did not introduce the speakers at the beginning; instead of introducing each speaker as they came up, I would have liked to know the make-up of the panel at the start.
- Could use a better description of the session. It was a series of talks, not really a panel discussion.
- Went long but great presentations. Some time for discussion would have been helpful.
- Moderator - summarize the presentations take home message on PRP drafting. Five year review vs. EPA written more accurately.
- Last panel speaker didn't have enough time.
- When speakers overrun their speaker time and there are multiple speakers, moderator should request that questions be held until all speakers have had a chance to speak.
- Let questions regarding PRP involvement continue too long.
- It wasn't kept on time, but this section was poorly coordinated/organized, so he did fine given the circumstances.

- Sort of - went a little long.
- But at the cost of eliminating audience discussion. (*Two responses*)
- Handout with resource CD would be helpful.

**Additional comments**

- Please lengthen the topic. (*Two responses*)
- The panel did not specifically discuss how to optimize the five-year review process. Issues related to five-year reviews were discussed but there were no suggestions provided to streamline the process.
- As we gain more experience with good reviews, some guidance from HQ re: how much sampling is HQ willing to fund to support reviews (especially on large sites) would be helpful.
- Copy of five-year guidance or link.
- Also provide context regarding LOE and cost. I have seen five-year reviews completed in house for little cost vs. a \$50K+ five-year review by a consultant.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Gregory Sullivan (sullivan.greg@epa.gov)

## OSC/RPM Interactions Synergy

Thursday, July 10, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderator: Jena Sleboda Braun, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Panelists: Andrew Bain, U.S. EPA Region 9  
 Dan Heister, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Karen Keeley, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Earl Liverman, U.S. EPA Region 10

*OSC/RPM Interactions Synergy*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel session, explores the dynamics of interactions between OSCs and RPMs in addressing complex situations at Superfund sites. Superfund sites require a mix of strategies from a variety of trained EPA staff, and a key interaction on sites that require both removal and remedial actions is between the OSC and RPM.

Learn more about the Emergency Response Program, the tools used by OSCs, and how RPMs can maximize opportunities to get the job done right!

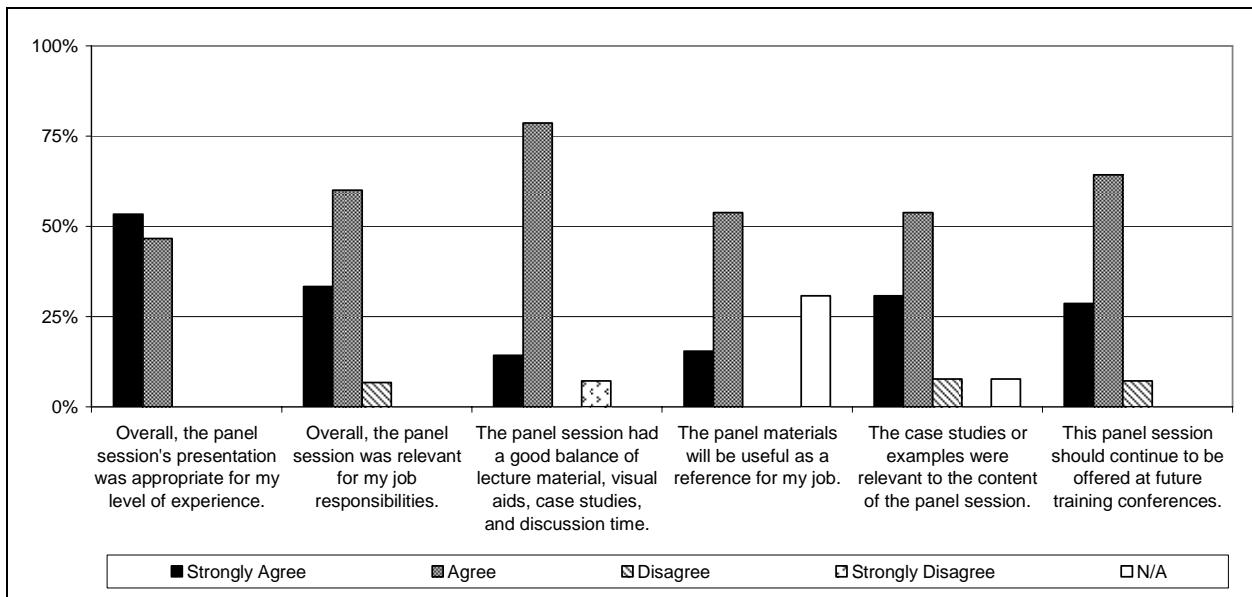
This panel explores the interaction between OSCs and RPMs through brief presentations and discussions of site experiences by a panel of both OSCs and RPMs. Attendees are encouraged to bring questions and share their experiences for all to learn.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
28	35	16	4*

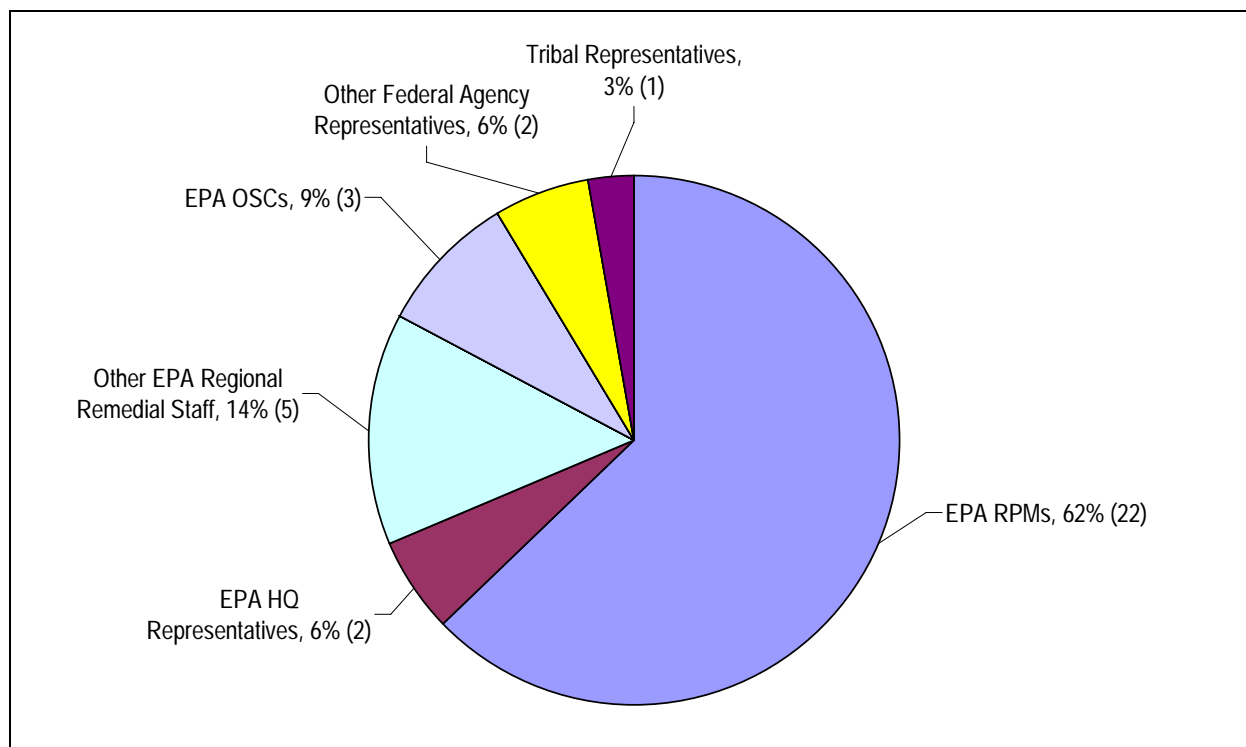
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the OSC/RPM Interactions Synergy Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 62 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the OSC/RPM Interactions Synergy Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Good dialog created.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Some had no audio-visuals at all.

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- Bring lecture materials for audience next time.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Get a little better focus; the big benefit was the audience discussion.
- Panel interactions/discussions between OSCs/RPMs in response to either pre-determined questions or questions from audience.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- This should be resolved first at a national level from HQ.
- Too much site discussion - this was not at all what I understood from the abstract; ok wait it got a little better.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Moderator introduced session. First speaker introduced panel participants.
- The discussion got side-tracked and out of control.

**Additional comments**

- Good questions from audience; great discussion on those audience questions. Note - parking lot questions generated for HQs input.
- This panel should be repeated next NARPM meeting!
- Presenters were not prepared with lecture materials and did not stay on topic.
- Too much discussion on uranium mine sites and Indian-Tribal lands interaction - 30 minutes

## Passing the Baton: Better Document Management During Site Transitions

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Marla E. Wieder, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 Panelists: Damian Duda, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 Dion Novak, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Marla E. Wieder, U.S. EPA Region 2

*Passing the Baton: Better Document Management During Site Transitions*, a 1.5 hour panel session, is designed to highlight some of the major issues that confront RPMs during site transitions, especially with respect to (1) records management (hard-copy, working files, administrative records, site files, and archived records), (2) electronic records, including CDs, hard drives, databases, (3) Web sites (internal/external) and (4) e-mail records. The panelists provide suggestions on how to improve the site transition process to avoid the loss of institutional knowledge, especially for complex Superfund sites. Panelists also solicit suggestions for improving the site transition process from the participants.

The old notion that an RPM can simply hand over several cardboard boxes of files to a new RPM and be done with the transfer of the relevant data and records is quite outdated. However, we at EPA are certainly familiar with that situation. EPA needs a system, even if it is a simple, informal guidance document, to ensure better site transitions and preservation of complete site records.

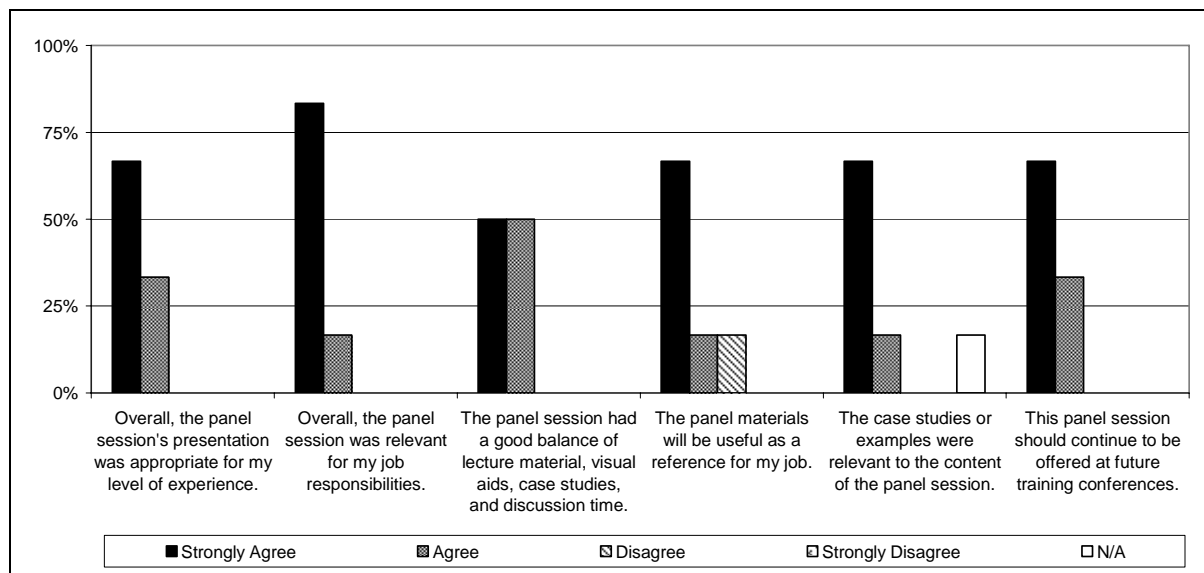
NARPM has identified this panel as a multi-year panel and are interested in having a continual dialogue about records management for both program and legal staff throughout the year.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
16	13	8	4*

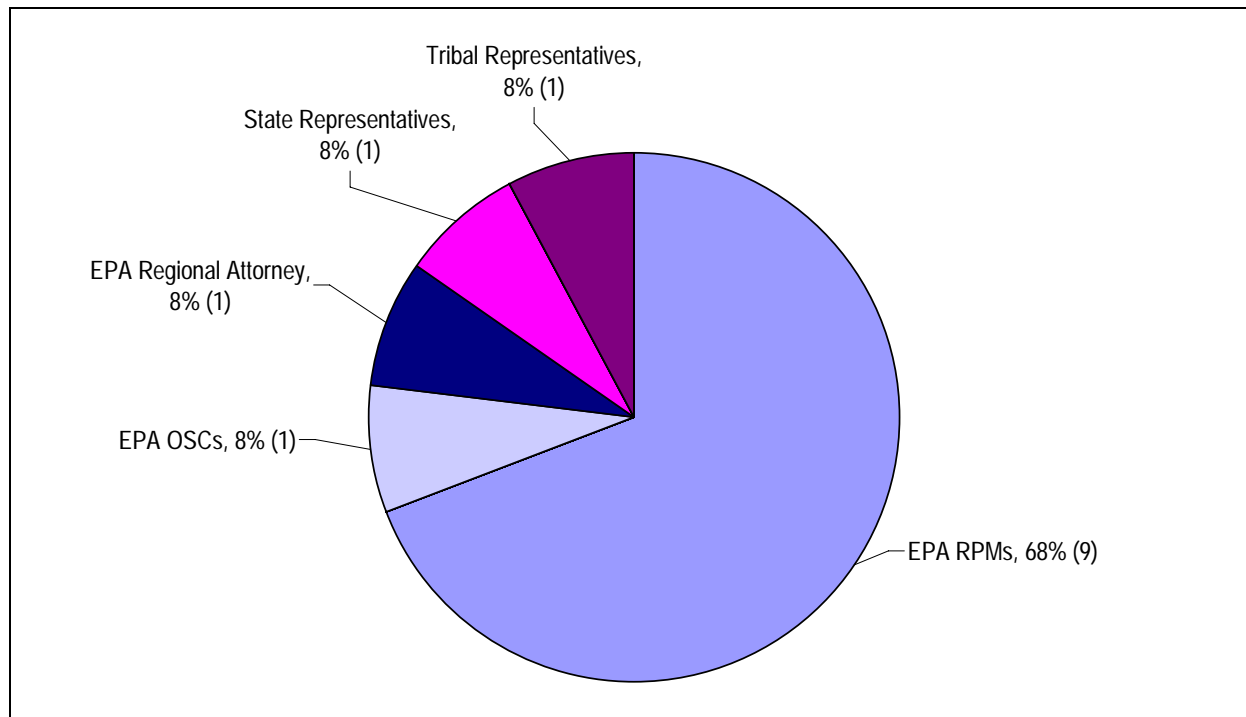
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Passing the Baton: Better Document Management During Site Transitions Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 68 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Passing the Baton: Better Document Management During Site Transitions Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### Comments on session content

Add

- Philosophical concept of keeping knowledge for future generations.

#### Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences

- Imperative.
- This was great - Thanks!

#### Comments on panel name and abstract expectations

- Perfectly described my expectations.

#### Additional comments

- This is not just an issue of covering for litigation; it is a moral responsibility to future generations.
- For next year, a follow-up panel should be scheduled.
- Excellent.

#### Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session

- Matthew Jefferson (jefferson.matthew@epa.gov)
- Alicia Boyd (boyd.alicia@epa.gov)

## Permeable Reactive Zones

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Gary Miller, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Panelists: John Muegge, California Department of Toxic Substances Control  
 Robert Sullivan, U.S. EPA Region 6  
 Richard Wilkin, U.S. EPA ORD

*Permeable Reactive Zones*, a 1.5 hour panel session, focuses on the current status of Permeable Reactive Zones (PRZ), sometimes referred to as permeable reactive barriers.

The speakers represent a cross section of experts from regulatory agencies, research groups, and consultants. The session is designed to provide participants with an overview of the current state and future direction of this technology along with some select case studies.

Participants learn about:

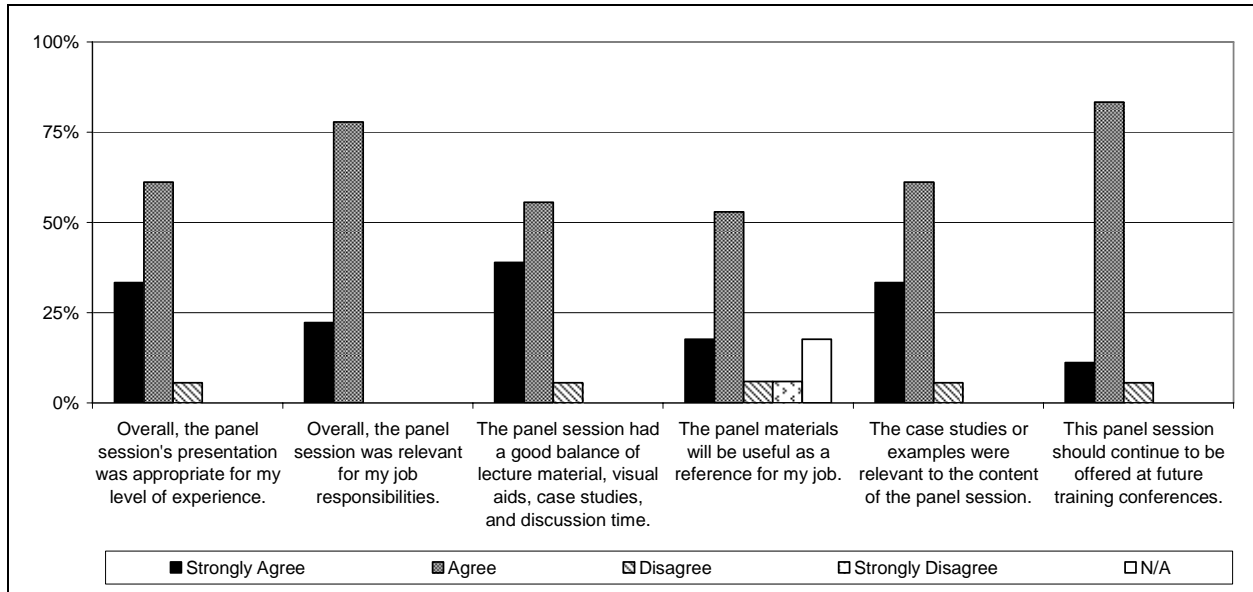
- New innovative applications of non-ferrous media in PRZ design.
- The effectiveness of PRZs at select sites in California from the state’s point of view.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
55	41	19	4*

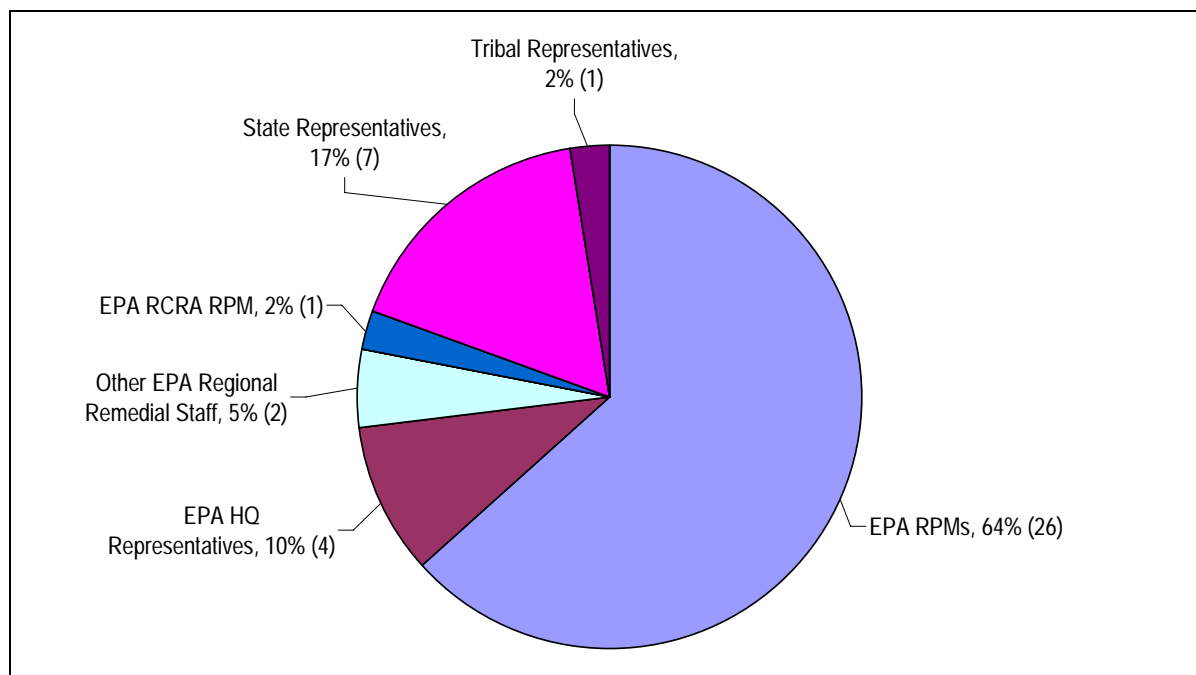
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Permeable Reactive Zones Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 64 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Permeable Reactive Zones Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- One case study focused too much on other issues; did not focus on PRBs/PRZs.
- Speakers had little knowledge of PRB design or specifications.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- If research findings are different in future.
- But bring in engineering experts.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- I expected document handouts. Too many poor examples of PRZ to date.
- However, more technical discussions would have been great.
- The presentation was all about PRZs as promised.
- Good case studies - showed successes and failures.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Break not really necessary. Made session to go long.

**Additional comments**

- Rich Wilkin was outstanding - knowledgeable, good presenter. I appreciated the in-depth technical presentation.
- It was good to see many case studies.
- Gary did a great job as moderator. Thanks to the Engineering Forum for this session.
- Video was very good. *(Two responses)*

## Remedy Rescue

Thursday, July 10, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Moderator: Ravi Sanga, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Panelists: Kira Lynch, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Mary Jane Nearman, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Mary Peterson, U.S. EPA Region 7  
 Richard Willey, U.S. EPA Region 1

*Remedy Rescue* is a 1.5 hour panel discussion where participants learn about RPM experiences with and approaches to responding to remedies that cannot or will not meet remedial action objectives (RAO) specified in the ROD. The panel discussion include information about:

- Establishing realistic RAOs
- Presenting completely defined conceptual site models
- Learning the importance of effective O&M
- Determining when "enough is enough" with the remedy and when TI waivers are appropriate.

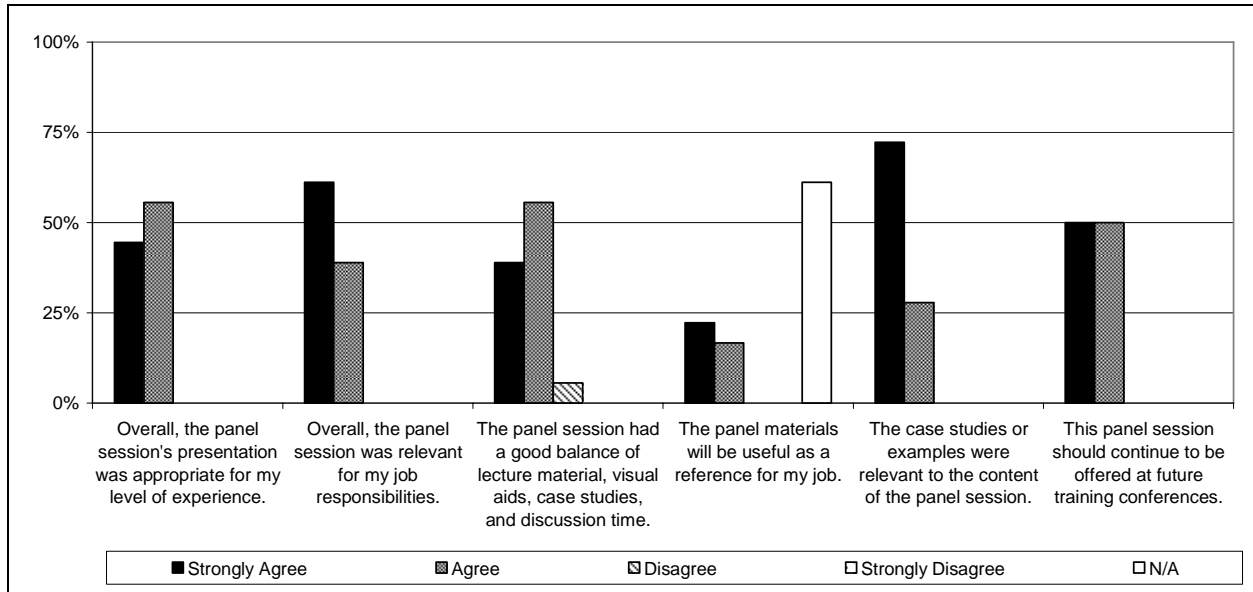
Case studies are presented to illustrate technical and policy management issues for situations where remedies require redesign and re-evaluation.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
49	39	21	4*

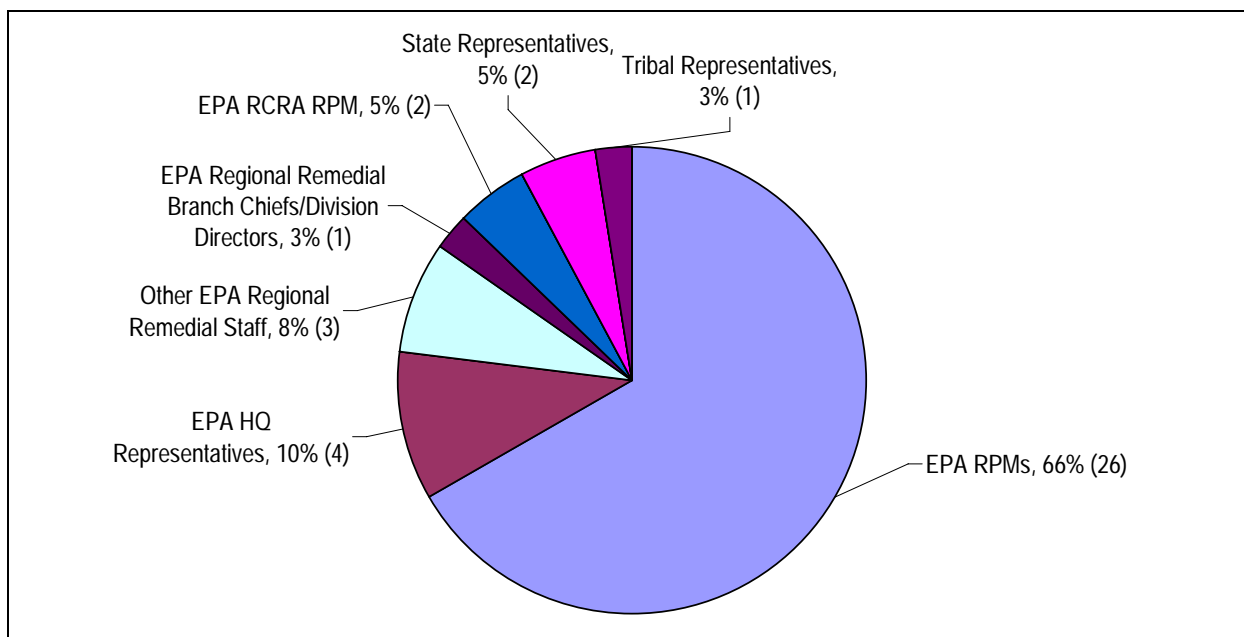
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Remedy Rescue Panel Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 66 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Remedy Rescue Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- I learned what good habits I have to acquire to avoid remedy rescue.
- Preventive medicine for a new RPM
- It was good for a new RPM to hear about how other, more experienced RPMs tackle problems.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Great case studies.
- Could have used more discussion.
- Nicely set-up.
- No handouts.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- You can always learn a ton from actual experience instead of hypothetical situations.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Need more examples of remedies that need adjusting.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Lecture and visual aids, then Q&A works well.

**Comments about the moderator**

- More background should have been provided on the presenters.
- The moderator needs to stop reading the slides. His talk was too long.

**Additional comments**

- Remedy Rescues are a fact of life - more emphasis should be placed on them - there is no "construction completion" bean now for an amendment - would be nice to have one.
- I found this quite basic - it would have helped to know this in advance. It covered cases where remedies seemed to flounder because an exit strategy had not been assessed up front. This is a good topic for NARPM and it was reasonably well presented.
- This session should be given again. Very relevant.
- Good presentation.

## RPMs and CERCLIS - We Do Have a Future

Monday, July 7, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Moderator: Robin Richardson, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Panelists: Damian Duda, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 Lynne Kershner, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Robin Richardson, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Steven Wyman, U.S. EPA OSRTI

*RPMs and CERCLIS - We Do Have a Future*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel session, devotes attention to some of the current problems associated with using the CERCLIS system and consider possible solutions. CERCLIS means something to everyone. Unfortunately, when each user has a different interpretation of what it means, it leads to confusion, data entry inconsistencies, and underutilization of this main resource for documenting work and requesting resources.

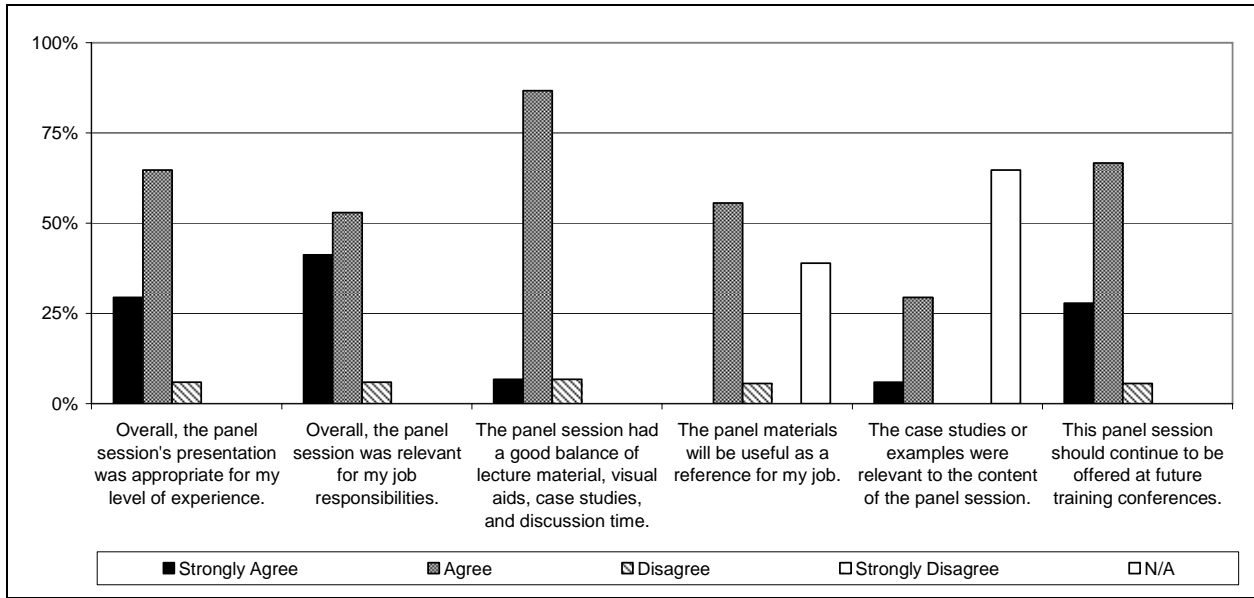
The session reviews how CERCLIS processes data and uses that data for planning purposes; the panel also reviews how CERCLIS helps in justifying workloads for RPMs and requesting funding. Panelists from the regions add their insights to a national perspective to help highlight areas that are working and areas where we need consensus and improvement. Group discussion follows to encourage ideas for improvement, and subsequent to NARPM 2008, a national workgroup will be organized (RPMs will be active group participants) to further explore comments generated by the panel. The panel briefly discusses the Superfund Enterprise Management System (SEMS) as a current initiative to create a more Web-based, time critical way of updating site information. The overall goal is to streamline data entry by minimizing the number of times one must enter data and making the system more accessible to those who use it.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
32	32	20	3*

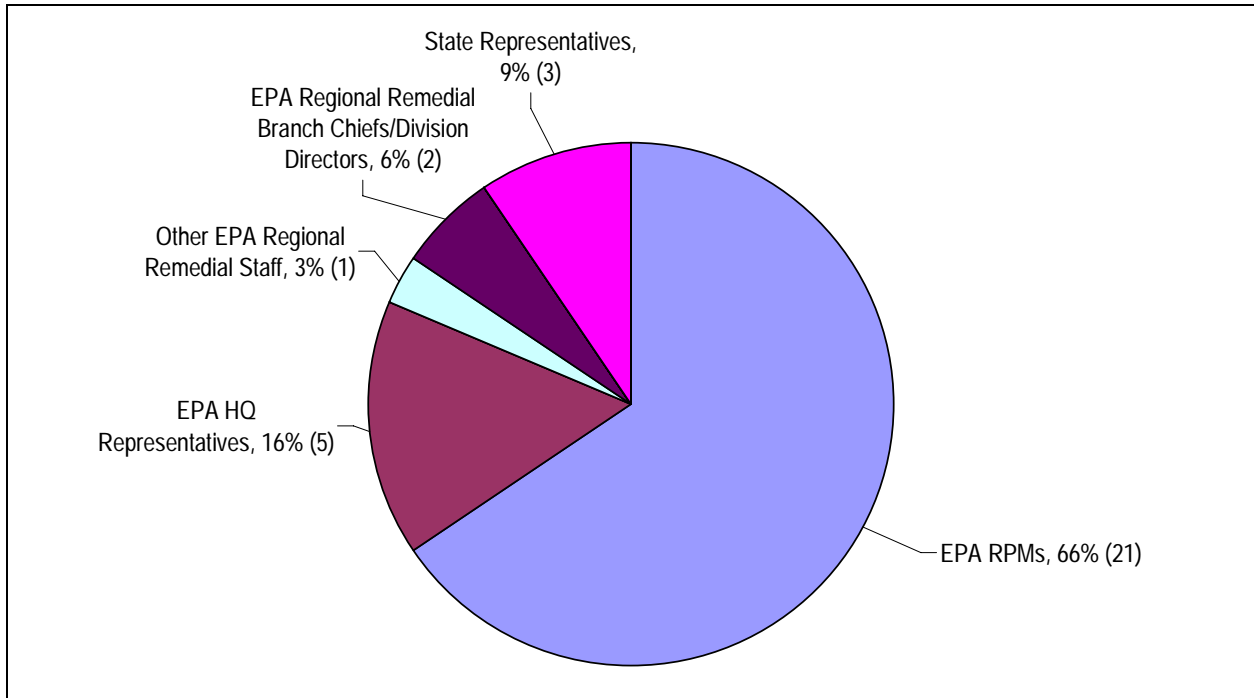
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the RPMs and CERCLIS – We Do Have a Future Panel Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 66 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the RPMs and CERCLIS – We Do Have a Future Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Served as a means to gather information about CERCLIS and people's comments and concerns with the system.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Use CERCLIS - show screen - integrate into the presentation.
- Good discussions/comments/concerns from PowerPoint visual aids.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- More beyond CERCLIS needs improvement. Begin at how - constructive objectives.
- It needs to be structured better.
- More discussions can yield a more efficient CERCLIS tool.

**Comments on session content**

Lengthen

- How do we improve data quality?

Shorten

- Complaints about CERCLIS.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- If the session moved with a purpose or structure, this wouldn't have been an issue.  
(*Two responses*)

**Comments about the moderator**

- Wasn't sure who the moderator was?
- Intro to what each presenter is speaking about.
- Floor was given to audience without much structure. (*Two responses*)

**Additional comments:**

- Glad to see this session offered. Coordinate future efforts with the e-datawork group.
- Good length.
- It is true that this did devolve into a kvetching session about CERCLIS, and I know this is not what the presenters intended. However, presenters should have realized that there is a very large degree of frustration with CERCLIS and people's minds are pretty closed (i.e. we'll tolerate it because we have to but we won't engage on it) until they see some real reform of the system, especially its interface and usability. The course abstract seemed to promise (or at least imply) that upcoming changes (the future) to CERCLIS would be discussed and presented. When that didn't happen, the pent-up CERCLIS frustration surged forward and the course went off-course. What was presented initially was a long talk about why it is important to get accurate data into CERCLIS (we knew that already) and all the ways that the data are used in HQ (we pretty much knew that too - we give it to Congress and OMB, etc.) and some mechanics about how it is done (that we probably didn't need to know) but this begged the response, "We understand and are eager to provide accurate data - we will do it when you fix the system so we can enter accurate data in the first place." And we were off and running...The programmer for CERCLIS then told the audience that efforts to modify the system (which 3 years ago actually gave the regions hope, and for which they gave a lot of comments at that time) had been stalled (but he said it was not forgotten and not to worry, he still had the stack of comments on his desk). He told of a huge effort to create yet another program that integrates CERCLIS with other systems such as SDMS, rather than concentrate resources on really modifying CERCLIS itself (there will be some of the

latter, but frankly the former will take the majority of the resources). When he projected the CERCLIS upgrade isn't expected to be completed until 2013, many people got up and left the room. The feedback I heard was, "why should we waste our time giving comments on something that won't even be addressed for seven years and will probably still fall short of our needs even then?" The sense was that HQ was trying to convince the regions to do better with CERCLA, but not backing it up with resources needed to make that happen. A feeling of hopelessness prevailed - it appeared that the people who really need to hear the feedback of RPMs were not in the room.

- 3 Suggestions for CERCLIS: 1) Simplify - What can be removed? Is it all really used? 2) Make CERCLIS more intuitive. 3) Provide Manual and Training - for really important data. Don't try to make it accurate for everything unless additional resources are provided.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Jean Balent (balent.jean@epa.gov)
- Gary Miller (miller.garyg@epa.gov)

## Vapor Intrusion

Thursday, July 10, 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Moderator: Michael Sivak, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 Panelists: David Bartenfelder, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Angela Carpenter, U.S. EPA Region 2  
 James Dilorenzo, U.S. EPA Region 1  
 Alana Lee, U.S. EPA Region 9  
 Mary Peterson, U.S. EPA Region 7

*Vapor Intrusion* Panel, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel session, addresses a number of issues confronting RPMs who must evaluate the potential for vapor intrusion at ground water sites contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOC).

The panel will address and highlight with lessons-learned the following phases of the process:

- Preliminary Investigation: Where does the work start and who performs it? How is work funded?
- Data Gathering: What tools are used to secure adequate and sufficient data? How does one make decisions on next steps?
- Risk Evaluation: What are the contaminants of concern and their associated risk values, both in the subslab and in indoor air? What risk levels prompt remediation?
- Remediation: What types of remedial approaches should be considered? What is a subslab remediation system? How are these systems installed in a residence? in a commercial building? What potential field issues can arise during installation?
- O&M of the Subslab System: When does one perform confirmatory sampling after installation? How long does one continue to monitor the system? How and when are sites turned over to the state for O&M?

The panel concludes with a round-table discussion to address the participants' questions and issues.

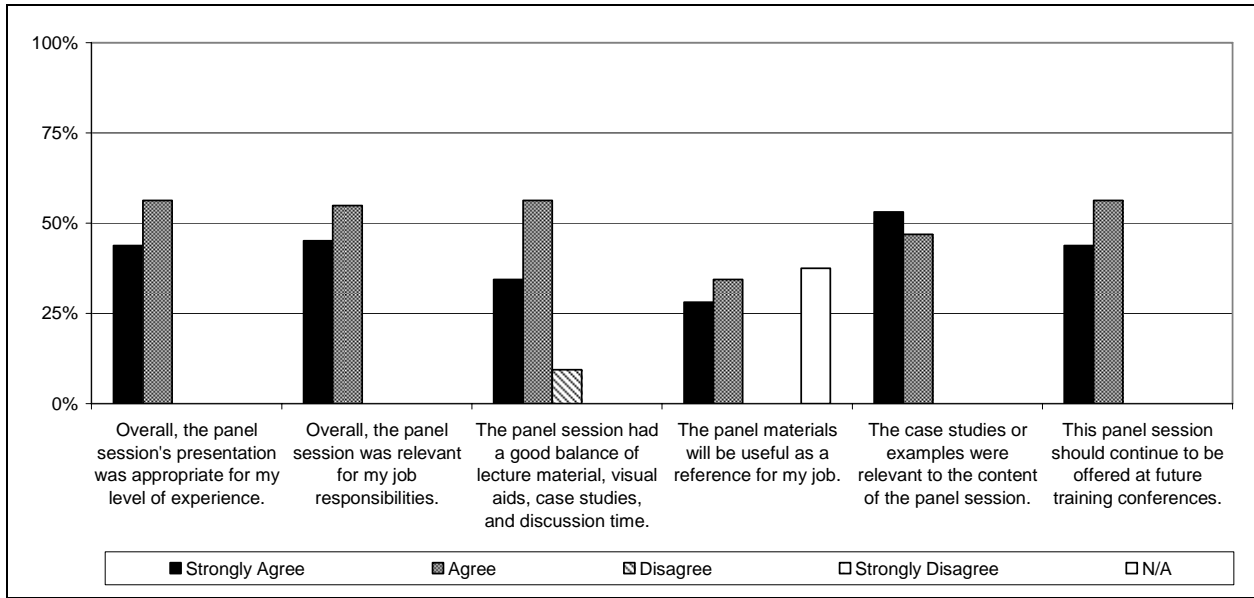
The NARPM organization has identified this panel as a multi-year panel in order to continue its function throughout the work year, almost as a workgroup. The panel will be a reliable source of information for RPMs, and will develop recommendations, initiate next steps, provide fact sheets, and provide a framework to focus on vapor intrusion issues.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
80	64	34	4*

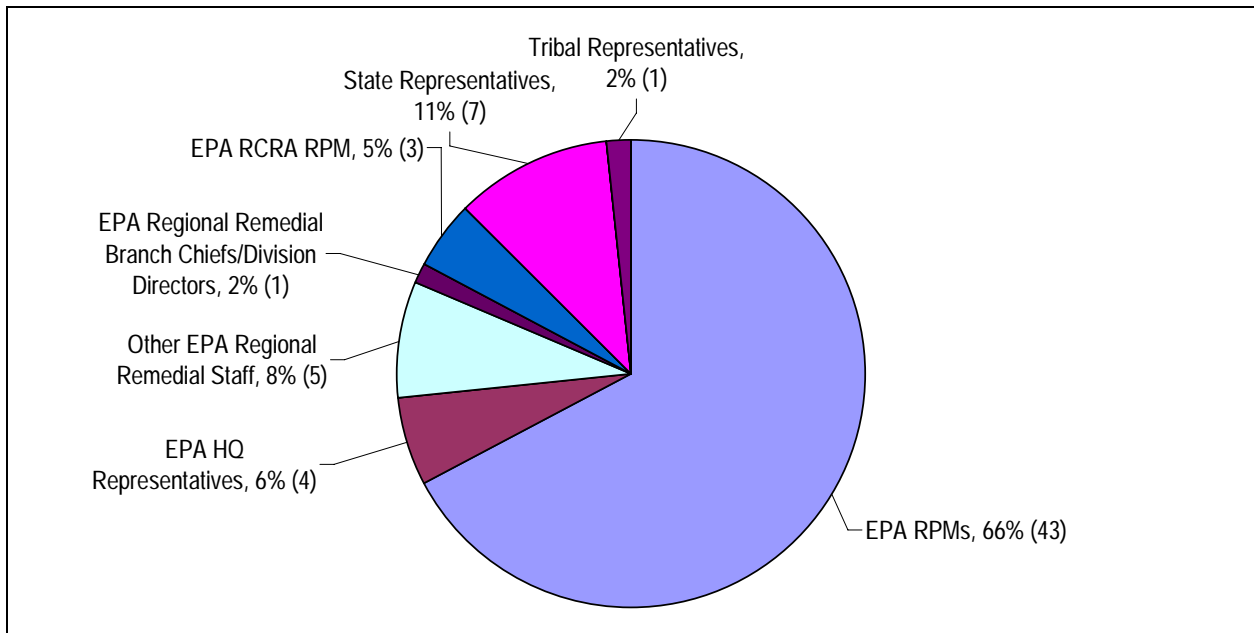
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Vapor Intrusion Panel Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 66 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Vapor Intrusion Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Yes very good presentation of case studies by all RPMs.
- Since VI is a fairly recent concern, I feel that we all were in the same place.
- The content was a little heavy on system installation/maintenance, which at my site is a removal/OSC responsibility.
- More VI cases will be popping up in the immediate future.
- Lots of lessons learned were shared that I can use at my site.

**Comments on session content**

Lengthen

- Case studies
- More technical discussion
- The whole thing was too rushed

Shorten

- Vapor Intrusion Forum.
- Information on VI forum activities.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Holding questions until end is a bad idea in my opinion.
- Not enough time for discussion. (*Four responses*)
- Love the risk visual aid from first presentation.
- Great breakdown and Q&A session opportunity.

**Comments on relevance of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- But only a slide-show - no information to take with us.
- There could have been some handouts. (*Two responses*)

**The case studies or examples were relevant to the content of the panel session**

- Case studies/site examples were best part of presentation
- Great case studies.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Very pertinent topic.
- Provide full day course with detailed case studies.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Good resources; good representation of examples.
- It is good to share national experiences and updated information on the latest technology, policy, and regulations for vapor intrusion.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Session should be longer. (*Five responses*)
- Great job, Michael.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Michael was well prepared.
- Probably best performing moderator of conference, even though he didn't have as much time left for questions as he planned.
- Excellent moderator skills. (*Two responses*)

- Mike rushed the speakers.
- The moderator forgot to introduce himself at the beginning of the session, and introduced himself towards the middle of the session.
- My opinion was that this session was my favorite.
- He tried, but presentations were too long for allotted time.
- More time for discussion, but longer session would address this. (*Three responses*)
- The moderator did an excellent job on keeping the sessions on time and introducing each presentation.

**Additional comments:**

- Too much guidance from Headquarters.
- This panel session was interesting.
- Most RPMs use a lot of slides for 10-15 minute presentation and tend to go over their time limit.
- Well-rounded discussion of vapor intrusion issues, actual applications, issues that can arise in implementation that you might not expect. The panelists were experienced and gave good, concise presentations.
- Good presentations.
- Very nice job! Informative. Perhaps discussion of VI at C/I facilities? Emphasis on "commercial" without occupational experience.
- Good practical information was provided. Need to consider ICs for VI. The panelist should coordinate with IC workgroup before speaking about the issue - giving mixed messages to the audience.
- Longer VI panel/training. Address stakeholder concerns, ICs, long-term monitoring.
- There was not enough time for case studies. RPMs has to rush through them fast to keep up the time. (*Two responses*)

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this panel session**

- Sai Appaji (appaji.sairam@epa.gov)

## Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia, and EPA

Thursday, July 10, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderator: Shelley Brodie, U.S. EPA Region 7  
 Panelists: BJ Cummings, Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition  
 Katie Frevert, University of Washington  
 Lisa Gaetke, University of Kentucky  
 Denise Moreno Ramirez, The University of Arizona  
 Monica Ramirez, The University of Arizona  
 Hiram Sarabia, University of California, San Diego  
 Nancy Serrell, Dartmouth College

*Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia, and EPA*, a 1 hour and 45 minute panel discussion, focuses on how different Superfund Basic Research Programs (SBRP) are practicing Community-Based Participatory Research. Concepts include implementation of equal representation of all partners, recognition of each partner's strength, and the need to effectively translate findings of basic, interventional, and applied research to communities. The instructional methodology is as follows:

- To begin the session, four university SBRPs present a case study demonstrating successful interaction with diverse stakeholders in their region. Session participants learn SBRP tools to engage and increase cooperation with stakeholders near Superfund sites.
- The second part of the session is an interactive activity to solicit feedback from RPMs about their challenges with communities and universities.

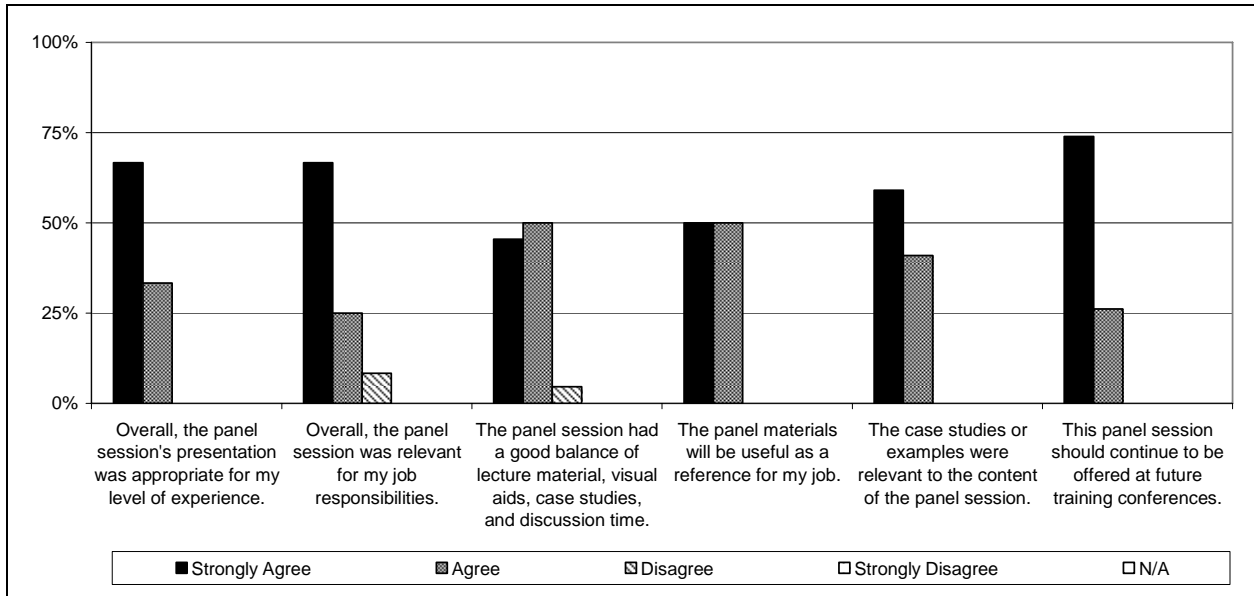
Lastly, SBRPs facilitate an interactive discussion about specific challenges presented by the NARPM.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
30	33	24	5*

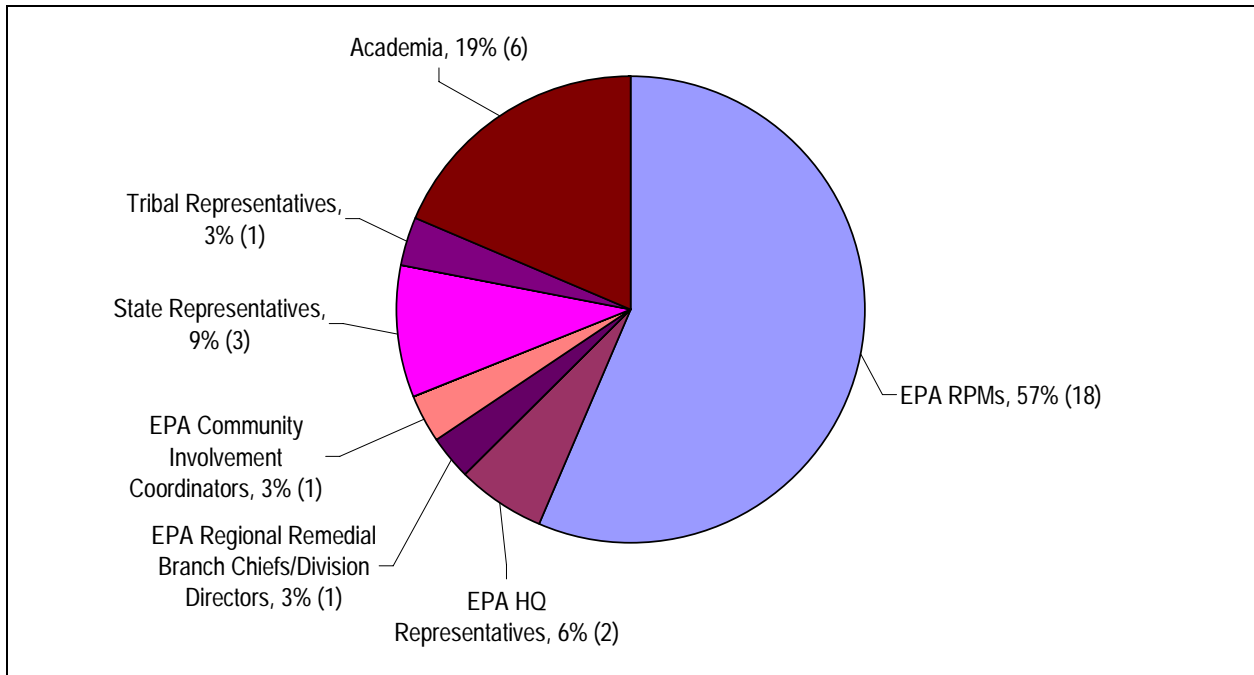
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia, and EPA Panel Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the panel session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 57 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia, and EPA Panel Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Would suggest a bit of time at beginning for background on SBRP grant specifics.
- I work at DOE sites; the lead agency is not EPA. I am understanding what resources are there for DOE to use.
- It introduced me a bunch of great resources in academia to help me as an RPM.
- Great resources for site with community and trust issues.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- More time for discussion. (*Three responses*)
- Too many speakers for a short time. Should be a whole morning.

**Comments on usefulness of panel materials as a reference for my job**

- Good handouts.
- To share with other federal agency.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the panel session**

- Great examples.

**Comments on offering panel session at future training conferences**

- Other university/EPA partnerships case studies to add to session.

**Comments on panel name and abstract expectations**

- Provided information on partnerships between EPA, academia and communities. This demonstrates how outreach and collaboration can be effective.
- Practical, useful, evidence-based.
- Panel met my expectations.
- Interactive possibilities with RPMs.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- A little fast because there was a lot of material. (*Three responses*)
- Needed more time for Q&A. (*Three responses*)

**Comments about the moderator**

- Was flexible in adjusting to time factors. Provided context for the session.
- Nice introductions.
- Again the moderator did a nice job of keeping the session moving and allowing for presentations to take the time the audience wanted.

**Additional comments**

- Good job!
- It would be nice to get handouts - at least of presenter's names for future reference.
- This might be a good session to bring to regions via Clu-In.
- Very interesting. The broad topics are very relevant to RPM responsibilities.
- More time is needed for sessions such as these. (*Three responses*)
- More on community-processes.
- Be careful of acronyms - there were a lot of acronyms throughout many slides.

## Developments in Remedial Design

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: John Smith, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
 Presenters: Andrew Gosnell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 Thomas Matthews, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

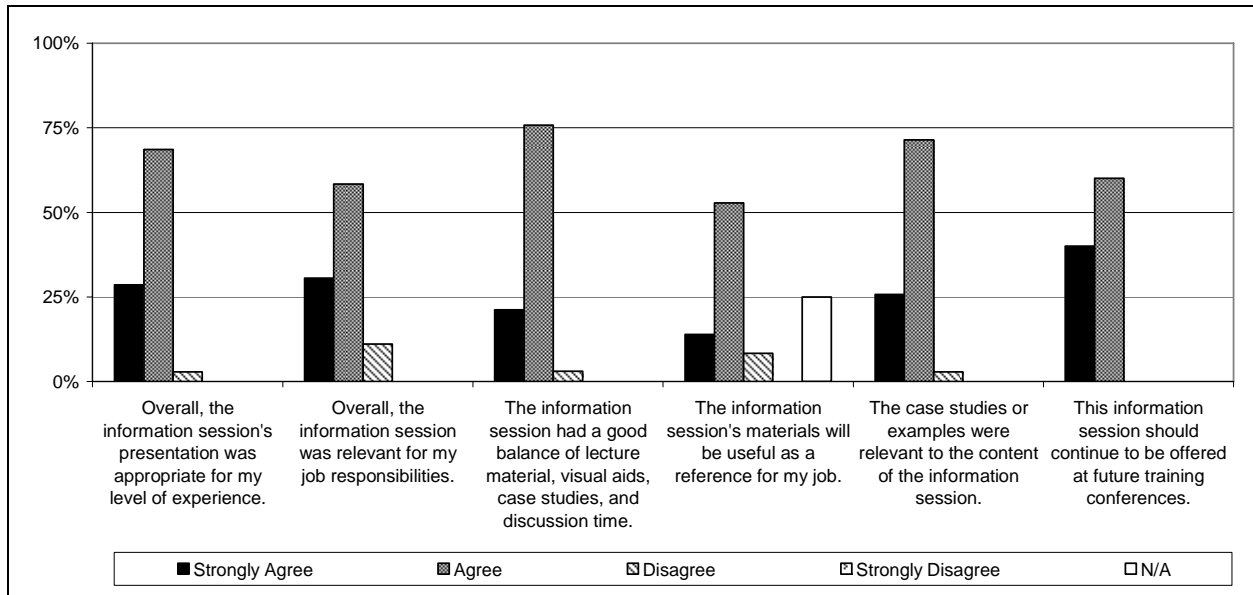
*Developments in Remedial Design* is a 1.5 hour information session intended for RPMs. Through the years, many pressures and developments have resulted in an evolution in thinking and approach to designs for hazardous waste cleanups. This session looks at case studies that demonstrate project management considerations that must be addressed when planning a design strategy, and design techniques that RPMs can employ to improve project delivery. Topics include contracting strategy, confirmatory sampling approaches, risk management, and use of performance specifications.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
62	52	36	4*

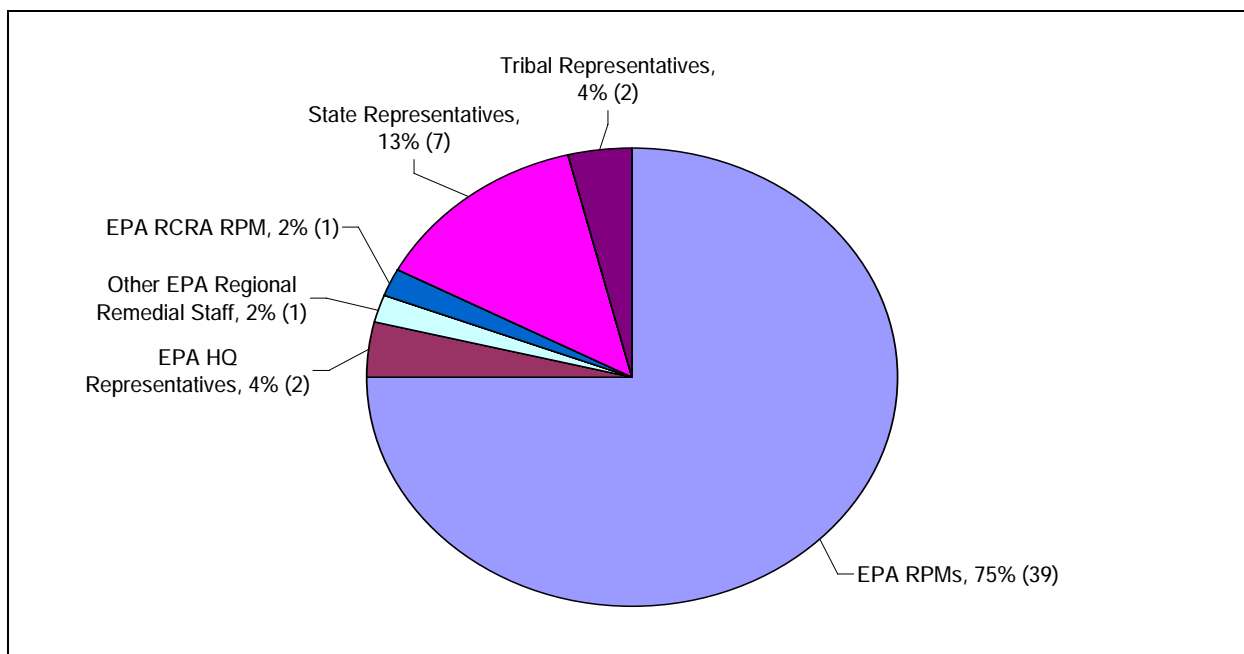
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Developments in Remedial Design Information Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 75 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Developments in Remedial Design Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

#### **Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Very good material, need more time to present, need to give course to EPA Contracting Officers!
- As a new RPM, there were some specs of the presentation that were difficult to follow.
- Every site deals with contracts; it's crucial to understand the benefits/uses for each contract type.
- Focus was on fund-lead design.
- Contracts and contracting info not relevant to my position.

#### **Comments on session content**

##### Add

- It's important to tell the END of the story - did cost estimate match actual RA costs?

##### Lengthen

- More detail on type of contracts used in regions and successes.
- Overall session should have lasted 2 hours.
- Contracting - pros and cons of various contract approaches/mechanisms.
- More information on project risk development.

##### Shorten

- Examples.
- Case study – keep an overview.

#### **Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- The info session ran too long. (*Four responses*)
- Slide-show plus 2 case studies.
- Phil Rosewicz and Andy Gosnell did a good job of presenting materials.

**Comments on usefulness of materials as a reference for my job**

- Provide copies of presentation. (*Two responses*)
- PowerPoint slides were full of detailed information, but I found that the slides were just read to me. Too much information on a slide. Provide packet and more dialogue.
- But no bound packet to follow along with - only web materials.
- Don't do contracts.
- Need to get online. Would be good to get links to/copies of models or examples.

**Comments on relevance of case studies or examples to the content of the information session**

- NJ example good, other less so.
- Examples were a little basic for experienced RPMs.
- Direct demonstrations of new ways of contracting.
- Too much detail - would have preferred an overview.
- Good case studies.

**Comments on offering information session at future training conferences**

- Keep it to "developments in remedial design and tips."
- Cutting edge at forefront work.
- Would suggest that this session be expanded - good introduction on contracts - would like a longer session on this.
- The future starts now - so every RPM should be armed with the tools to tackle these sticky situation contracts.

**Comments on session name and abstract expectations**

- Not sure if it was made clear that it was fund-lead design only. Focus was more on contracting strategies.
- The info session spent more time on contracts than expected. (*Three responses*)
- Name was not representative of course.
- But should emphasize optimizing of contracting.
- It was a good introduction to the case studies.

**Comments on overall pace of session**

- It was difficult to follow case studies because of the interruptions; may be better to give short site study and then have discussions.
- Need to try to keep to time schedule. I know it's hard when you're passionate about your topic.
- I like what John Smith says - clear, realistic.
- Ran over allotted time - suggest allowing for longer sessions next time. (*Three responses*)

**Comments about the moderator**

- Great speaker - John Smith very knowledgeable.
- Very good introduction to topic; would have liked more.
- Moderator was very knowledgeable and added greatly to the presentations.
- Good balance of contract pros/cons and supporting case studies - Good job!
- Coordinate moderator's and presenter's comments better to improve flow.
- Tools that will help us be effective as RPMs in RD for cost estimates need to be provided.

**Additional comments**

- We should get COR contracting credits for this course.
- Shorter case study information and have John discuss what can/cannot help move the process forward.

- I thought that there was a little bit of disconnect between the relationship between the 1st and 2nd presenter. We were being directed toward 3-D technology slides in the presentation compared to John's presentation. The 3rd presentation was good. I still felt like the presentations were focused more toward the general sites and not targeted toward John's presentation. The 3rd presentation did bring it back together better. Good effort. Good job.
- A hard copy of the presentation would have been useful.
- Please expand to 1/2 day session on phased/complex contract management - for RD phase through construction.
- Good information - length should be managed better to fit within time slot.
- John J. Smith - extremely experienced and knowledgeable - explained very well.
- Appreciated John Smith's candor about the program and its flexibilities.
- Mr. Smith spoke so fast; I had trouble following him and processing the delivered information.
- This course should be taken by all RPMs starting RD/RA - great state of the art information.
- More information on how to develop and present high/mod/low risk would be useful.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this session**

- Wayne Praskins (praskins.wayne@epa.gov)
- Rob Weber (weber.robert@epa.gov)

## Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds

Thursday, July 10, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Moderator: Kathy Hernandez, U.S. EPA Region 8  
 Presenters: Kathy Hernandez, U.S. EPA Region 8  
 Charlie MacPherson, Tetra Tech, Inc.

*Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds*, a 1 hour and 45 minute information session, introduces *Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds; A Guide for Federal and State Project Managers*, a manual developed by the Office of Water and Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. The purpose of this manual is to help EPA better integrate assessment and cleanup activities across its programs when addressing the unique challenges presented by contaminated watersheds. This manual helps staff make the best use of the resources and authorities offered by EPA's existing waste and water programs.

The goals of this information session are to:

- Introduce the manual and its focus on bringing together resources across programs
- Present the benefits of using a cross-programmatic approach to watershed planning
- Educate attendees about the existing resources and tools available from other programs

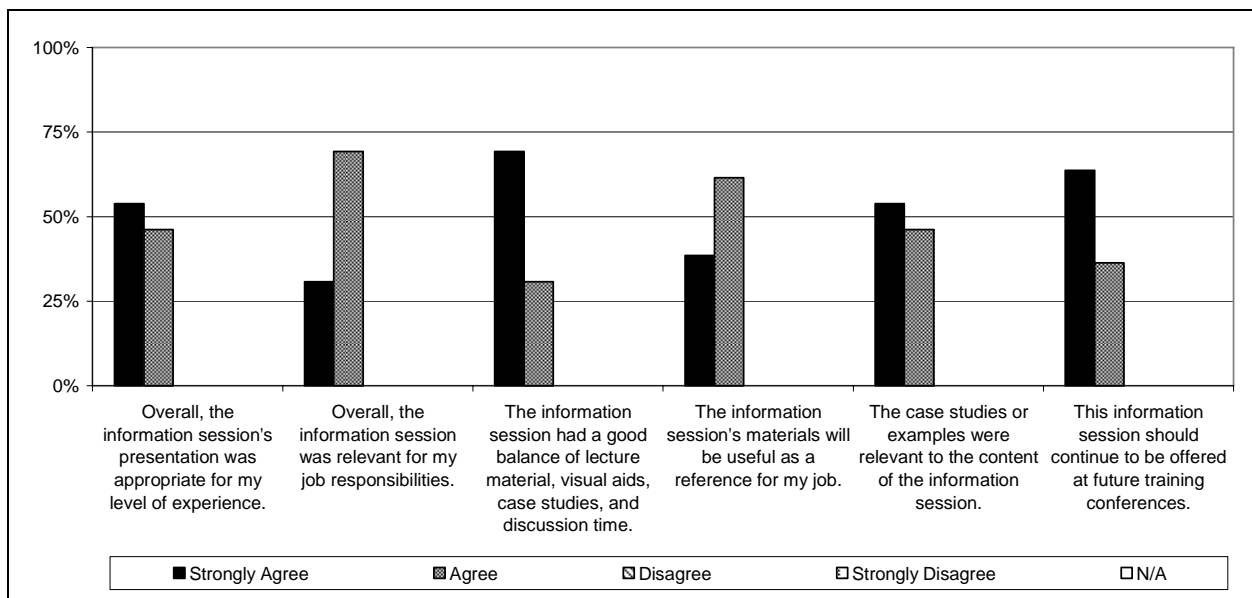
Encourage program managers to approach hazardous waste problems at a watershed scale.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
34	24	14	5*

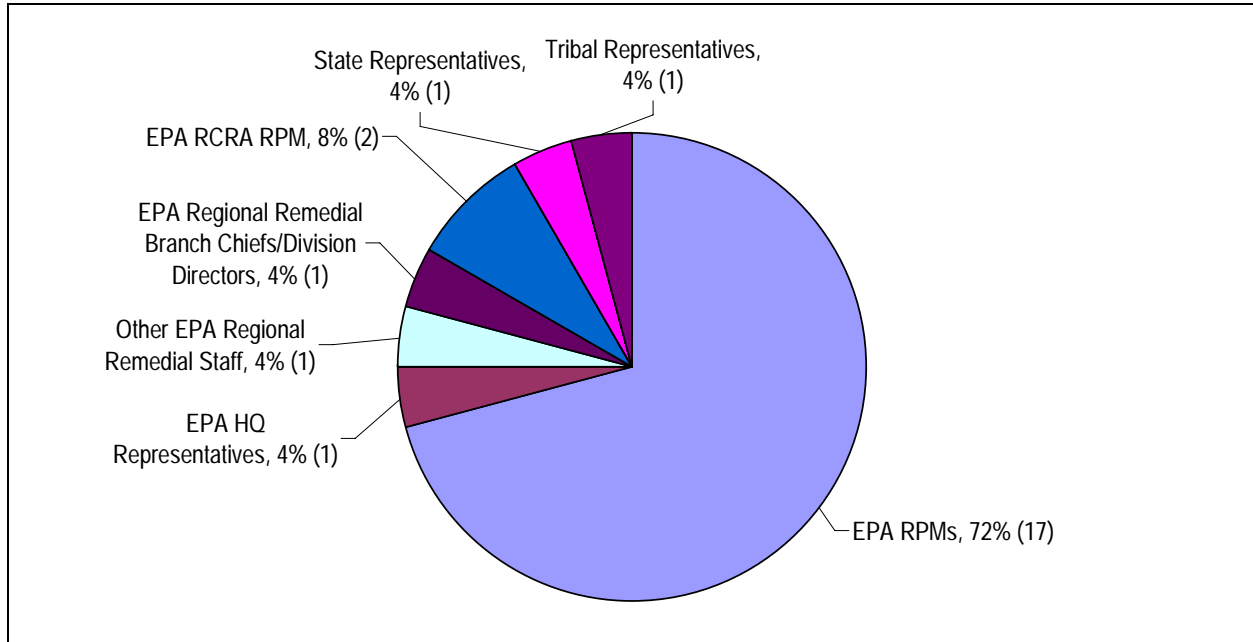
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

### Summary of Evaluation Results for the Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds Information Session



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 72 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Integrating Water and Waste Programs to Restore Watersheds Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on instructional methods and materials**

- Excellent mix of interaction and activities.

**Comments on overall pace of session**

- Would've liked a little more time though, lots of good information in only 1.5 hours.

**Additional comments**

- Kathie - I think your presentation will be more effective if you start with the work you did in Boulder then move to the program to restore watersheds. Good Job!

## Response Support Corps - RPMs in Response

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Sherry Fielding, U.S. EPA OEM  
 Mary Matthews, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Presenters: Bill Adams, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Sam Chummar, U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Sherry Fielding, U.S. EPA OEM  
 Don Lininger, U.S. EPA Region 7  
 Earl Liverman, U.S. EPA Region 10  
 Lance Richman, U.S. EPA Region 9

*Response Support Corps - RPMs in Response*, a 1.5 hour information session, focuses on the current status of EPA's cadre of Response Support Corps (RSC), trends in membership and training, and the participation of RPMs in national-level exercises during the past year. A panel discussion includes the national RSC program manager, a Regional RSC coordinator, and RPM RSC members who participated in TOPOFF 4 and Spills of National Significance (SONS) exercises. Additionally, a trained Incident Commander discusses the strengths that RPMs bring to responses and to the RSC. Topics include:

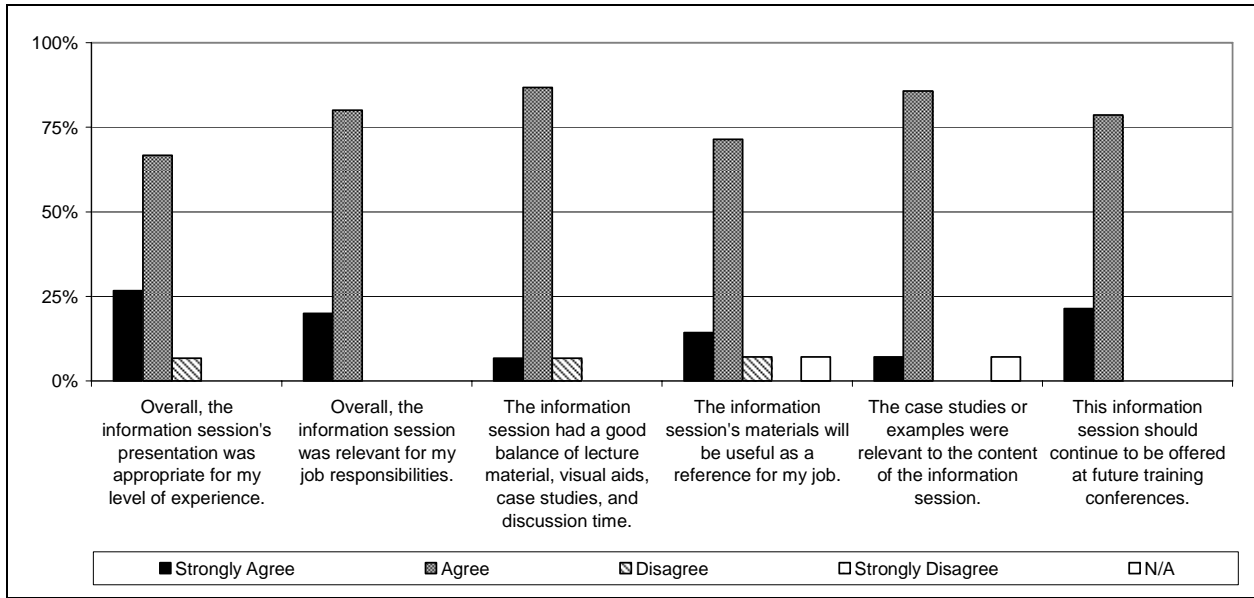
- RPMs: are you being fully utilized during major incidents?
- When the siren sounds, who is showing up?
- Lessons learned from a RPM perspective during TOPOFF 4 and SONS.
- View from the top: Incident Commander's perspective.
- National and Regional exercises involving RSC for FY 2008-2009.
- Incident Command System training for FY 2008 and beyond.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
27	32	16	4*

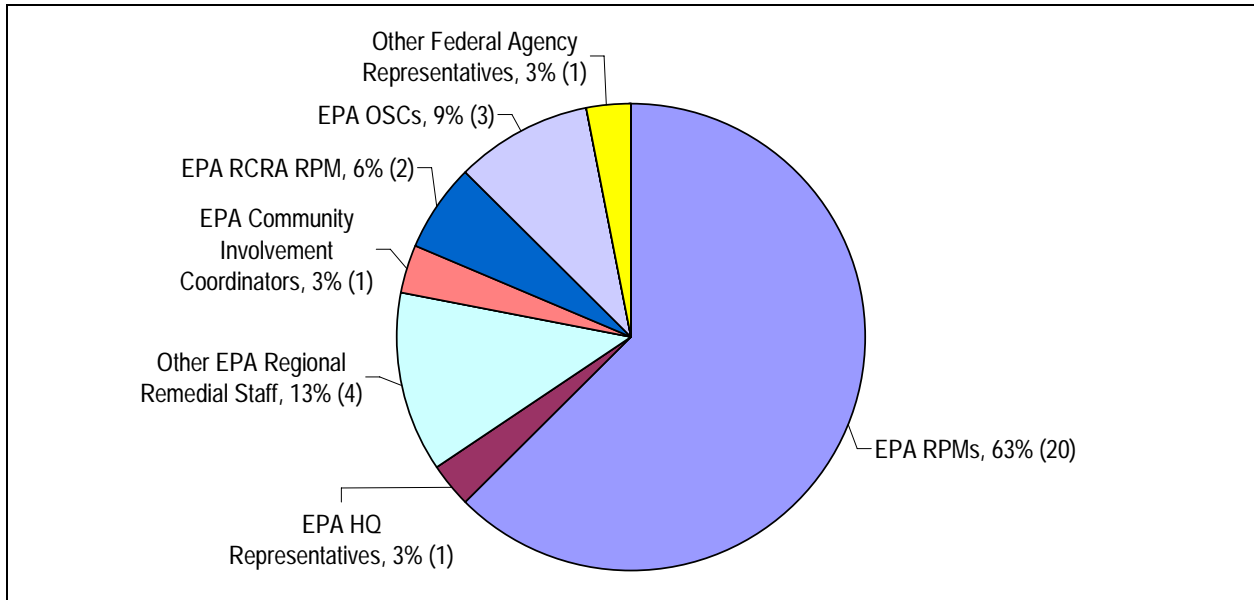
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Response Support Corps - RPMs in Response Information Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 63 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Response Support Corps – RPMs in Response Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- I am not currently an RSC so it was a great intro - more detail next year would be nice.
- Add more specific/in-depth information and experiences from panel members.

**Comments on usefulness of materials as a reference for my job**

- Useful to take back to region and recruit RPMs to RSC.

**Comments on offering information session at future training conferences**

- Might be broken into sessions for non-RSC members who are interested in RSC and a session for RSC members that is more in-depth.
- Comments on session name and abstract expectations
- Unclear that it was for non-RSC members.

**Comments about the moderator**

- Started late and tried to break at wrong spots.
- Present reasons why someone would be reluctant to join and offer solutions to that reason.

**Additional comments**

- Suggest having 1/2 day training for RSC members?
- I wish there was something for RSC members at NARPM, not just sign-up.
- Slide correction: R8 RSC Coordinator's name is Cifka.
- Provide hard copies of slides. Very well done!

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this session**

- Carolyn Callihan (callihan.carolyn@epa.gov)

## Technical Assistance Services for Communities and The Superfund Job Training Initiative

Thursday, July 10, 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: Patricia Carey, U.S. EPA OSRTI  
Karen L. Martin, U.S. EPA OSRTI

*Technical Assistance Services for Communities and the Superfund Job Training Initiative*, a 1 hour and 45 minute information session, provides participants with a greater understanding of technical assistance services for communities (TASC) and the Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI) and the benefits to the community, cleanup contractor, and the Agency. Topics include identifying communities who can benefit from job training, building a relationship with a local non-profit organization, and obtaining sustainable employment for community residents. The goal of this session is to solicit assistance from RPMs in identifying two communities where residents are interested in obtaining job training and sustainable employment.

TASC is a new program to provide independent, non-advocacy educational and technical assistance to communities affected by hazardous waste sites regulated by CERCLA and RCRA. The purpose of TASC is to help communities gain a better understanding of hazardous waste issues, so they can participate in the hazardous waste cleanup process more effectively. TASC also can be used to provide training through the SuperJTI and for technical assistance under a Technical Assistance Plan (TAP). TASC provides technical assistance through a national contract managed by OSRTI. The TASC contract is designed to be flexible to ensure that the unique technical assistance and training needs of communities can be met. All EPA headquarters and regional office hazardous waste programs, with the exception of Brownfields, can access it.

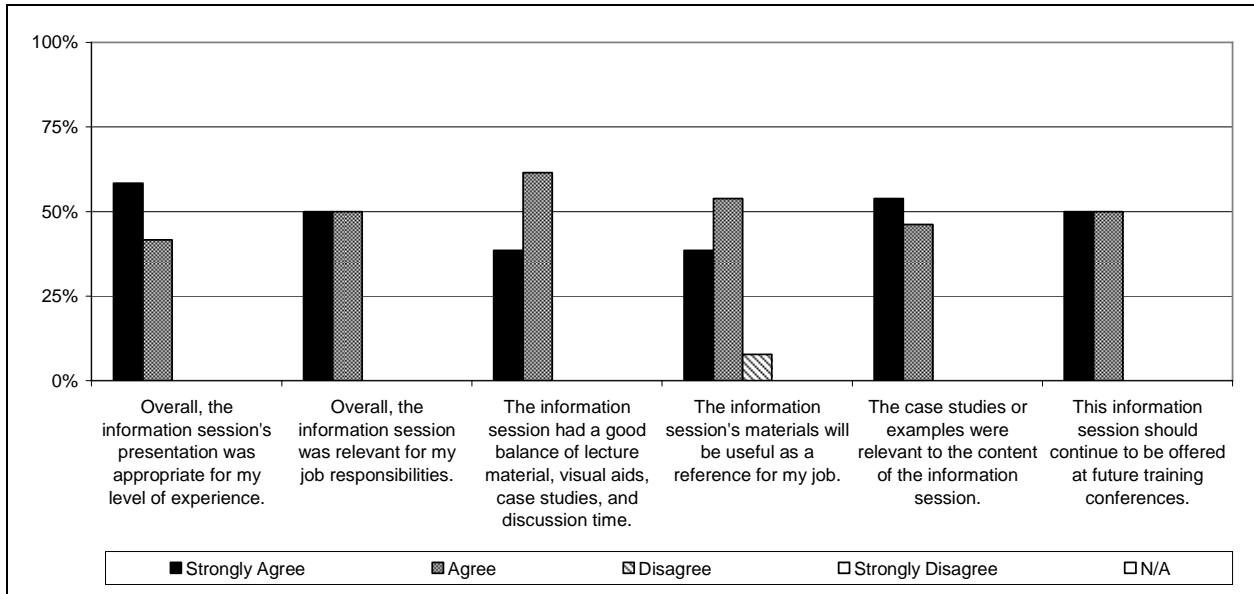
EPA instituted SuperJTI in 1996 to provide potential employers with a source of trained workers ready for on-site employment in technical, construction, and environmental-related activities at Superfund sites. SuperJTI's mission is to provide job training opportunities in communities affected by Superfund sites, and encourage their employment in site cleanup activities. The SuperJTI program combines extensive classroom instruction in hazardous environmental cleanup, health and safety, and job preparedness training, along with hands-on work experience. The local residents who are trained will have valuable new skills that they will immediately put to use at a Superfund cleanup project.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
48	23	14	4*

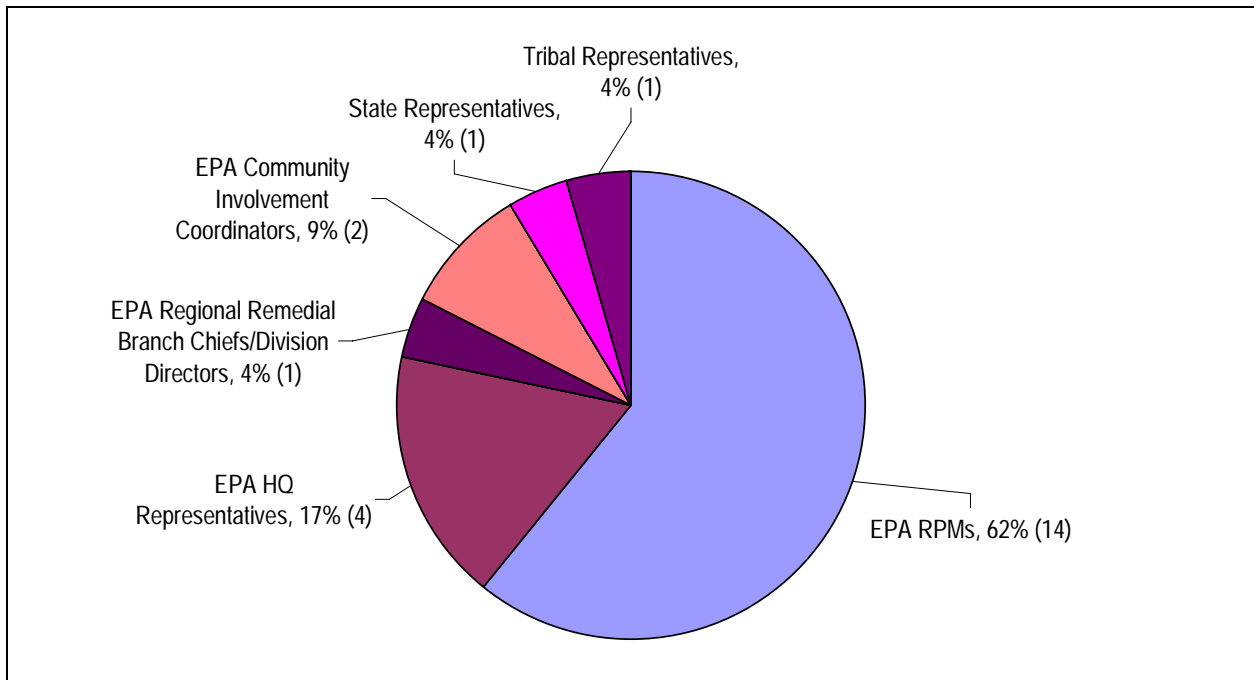
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Technical Assistance Services for Communities and the Superfund Job Training Initiative Information Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 62 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Technical Assistance Services for Communities and the Superfund Job Training Initiative Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on session content**

Add

- More case study projects and results (specific example: what specific tray and what jobs got).

**Comments on offering information session at future training conferences**

- Suggest a course covering all of these types of programs (I wasn't aware of them).
- Heard about some new programs I had not heard of before.
- This helps provide additional information to use with communities.

**Additional comments**

- You two did an awesome job!! Maybe Freya could help with TAGS next year. We need a session on TAGs. There are many problems.
- I wasn't aware of some of these programs - this was very useful.
- Good information, allowed for interactive questions and answer, etc. in helpful manner.
- Need fact sheet for communities on TASC and SJTI.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this session**

- Wendy Thomi (thomi.wendy@epa.gov)
- Viola Cooper (cooper.viola@epa.gov)

## The Environmental Response Team Capabilities for RPMs

Thursday, July 10, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Moderator: Dennisses Valdes, U.S EPA ERT  
 Presenters: Jeff Catanzarita, U.S EPA ERT  
 Rebecca Connell, U.S EPA ERT  
 Dennisses Valdes, U.S EPA ERT

*The Environmental Response Team Capabilities for RPMs* is a 1.5 hour information session for RPMs on the personnel, tools, and technologies that the Environmental Response Team (ERT) currently uses at remedial Superfund sites to support the investigation and clean up of those sites. By attending this session, the participants will learn about the following ERT technical capabilities:

- Personnel: chemists, scientists, engineers, risk assessors, health and safety staff, and more
- Type of work being performed, including vapor intrusion investigations, ground water modeling, activity-based sampling
- Various technologies, including equipment, tools, and instruments, that are available to accomplish the investigative and clean up goals

The session provides information on how one can contact ERT to receive technical support for sites, and how ERT actually works with the RPMs to complete assessments of those sites.

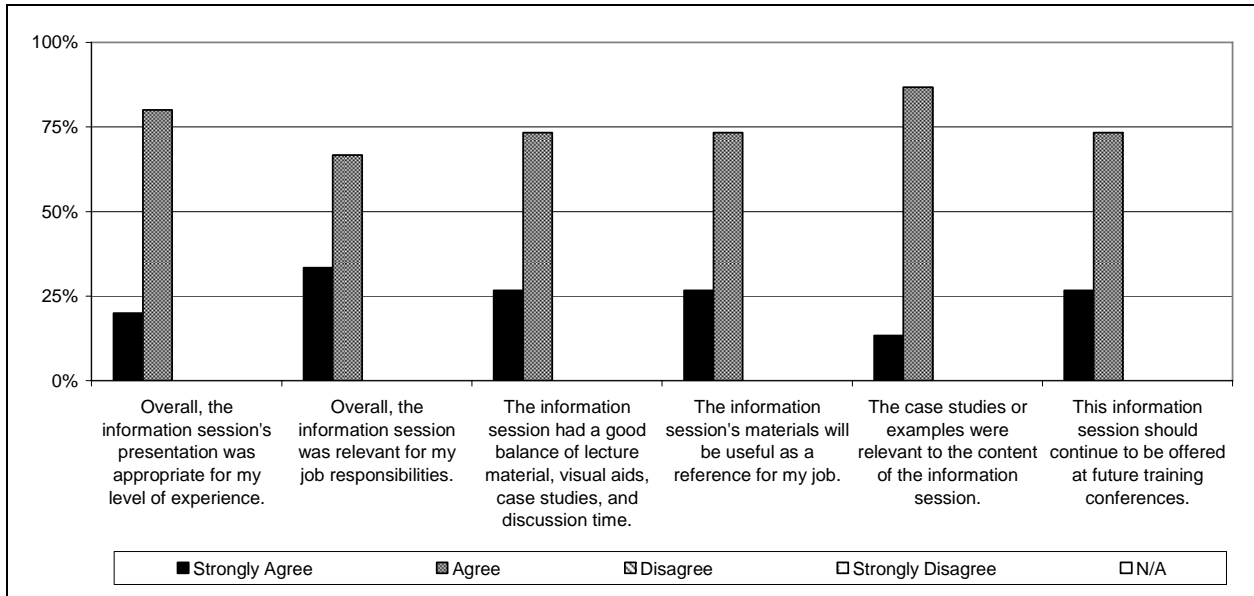
The instructional method includes both lecture and presentation of current case studies where ERT personnel are working directly with RPMs on various site investigation activities. The target audience is all RPMs.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
44	33	15	4*

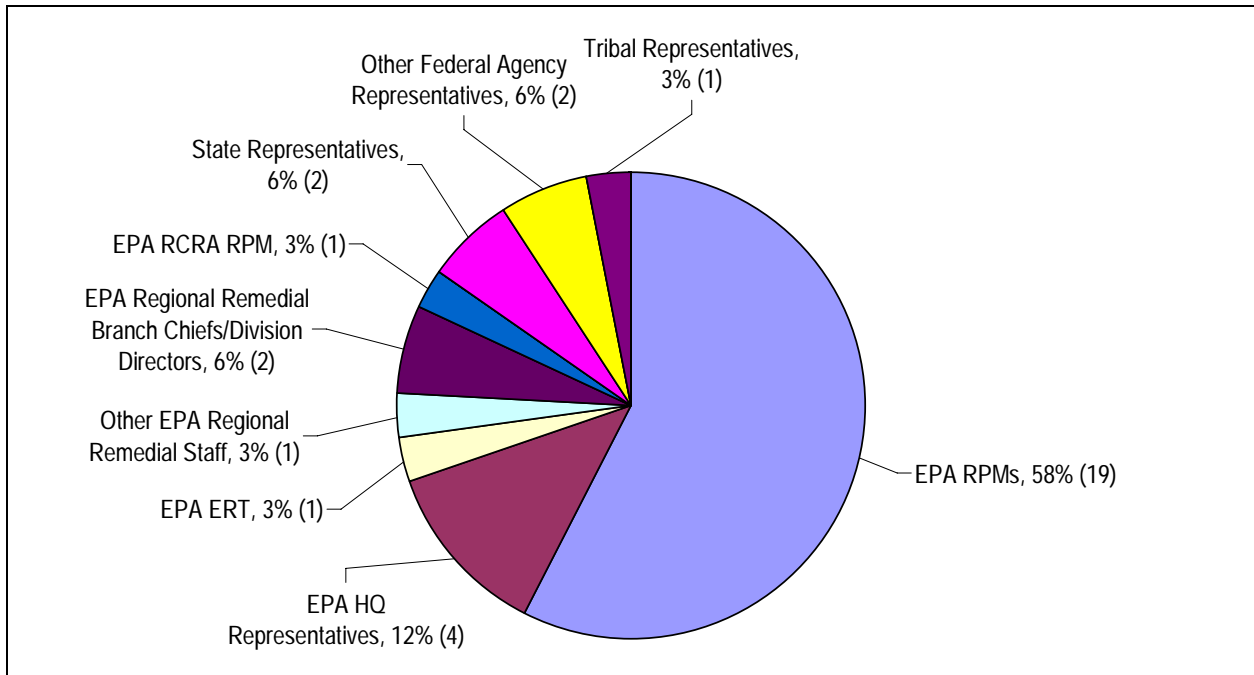
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Environmental Response Team Capabilities for RPMs Information Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 58 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Environmental Response Team Capabilities for RPMs Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Great to be reminded of the resources available through ERT.

**Additional comments**

- These resources can assist in the current climate of reduced funding and limited resources.

## Virtual Connection: Tools and Strategies for EPA Employees

Thursday, July 10, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Presenters: Jean Balent, U.S. EPA OSRTI

*Virtual Connection: Tools and Strategies for EPA Employees*, is a 1 hour and 45 minute information session, designed for beginner to intermediate users of online collaboration tools.

EPA employees are increasingly challenged to work collaboratively with teams whose members may be physically located across the country. These teams have a continual need to exchange and share information quickly on a limited budget. With emerging technology, EPA is better equipped with instruments and methods to overcome the problems presented by greater distance, little time, and limited funds. These electronic tools are collectively referred to by many names: "teamware," "groupware," and "distance collaboration tools" are just a few. As the latter name suggests, they are designed to help groups work together virtually from multiple locations as if members were in the same physical space. Examples of such distance collaboration tools include packages to host internet meetings (also known as Web conferences or "webinars") and Web-based file storage used in conjunction with Web sites or online work areas focused specifically around a defined team or project. Often, EPA employees do not realize that these tools are available for use now at no cost, and in most cases, can be used to collaborate with groups both internal and external to EPA.

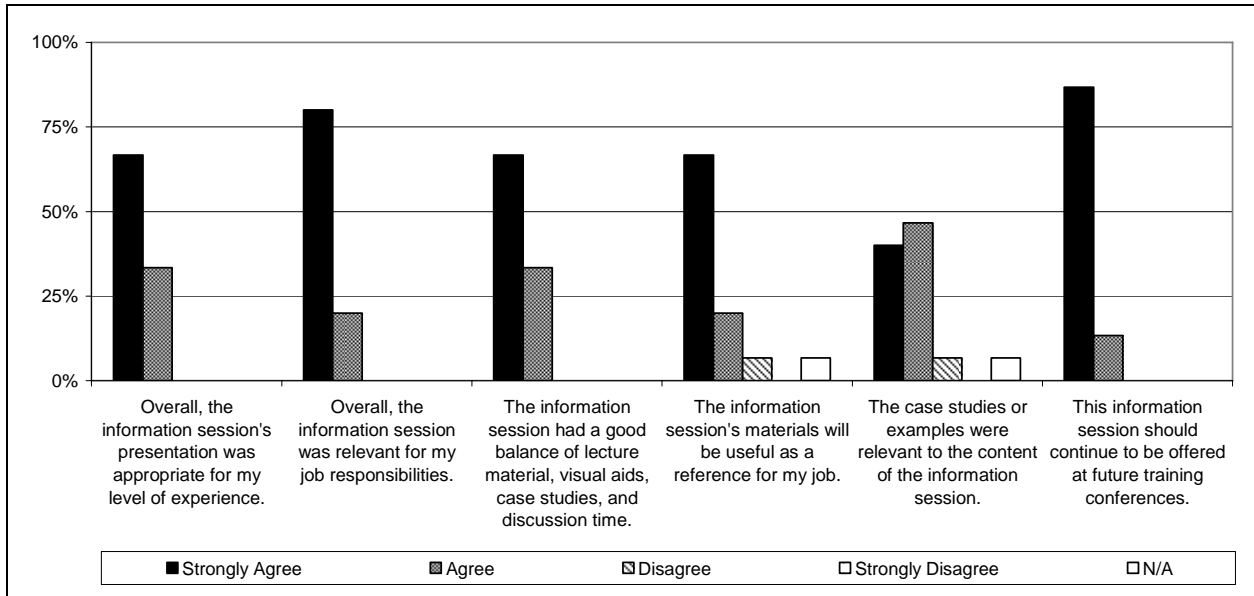
OSRTI describes several collaboration tools and services available to EPA employees including: Oracle Web Conferencing, Sametime, Sametime Connect, AIM, Oracle Messenger, Environmental Science Connector, Collaborative Workspaces and QuickPlace. Attendees receive a basic introduction to these services to understand their general functions, and learn how to access these tools.

### Participation and Average Grade

No. of Preregistrants	No. of Students Who Signed Session Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
27	16	15	5*

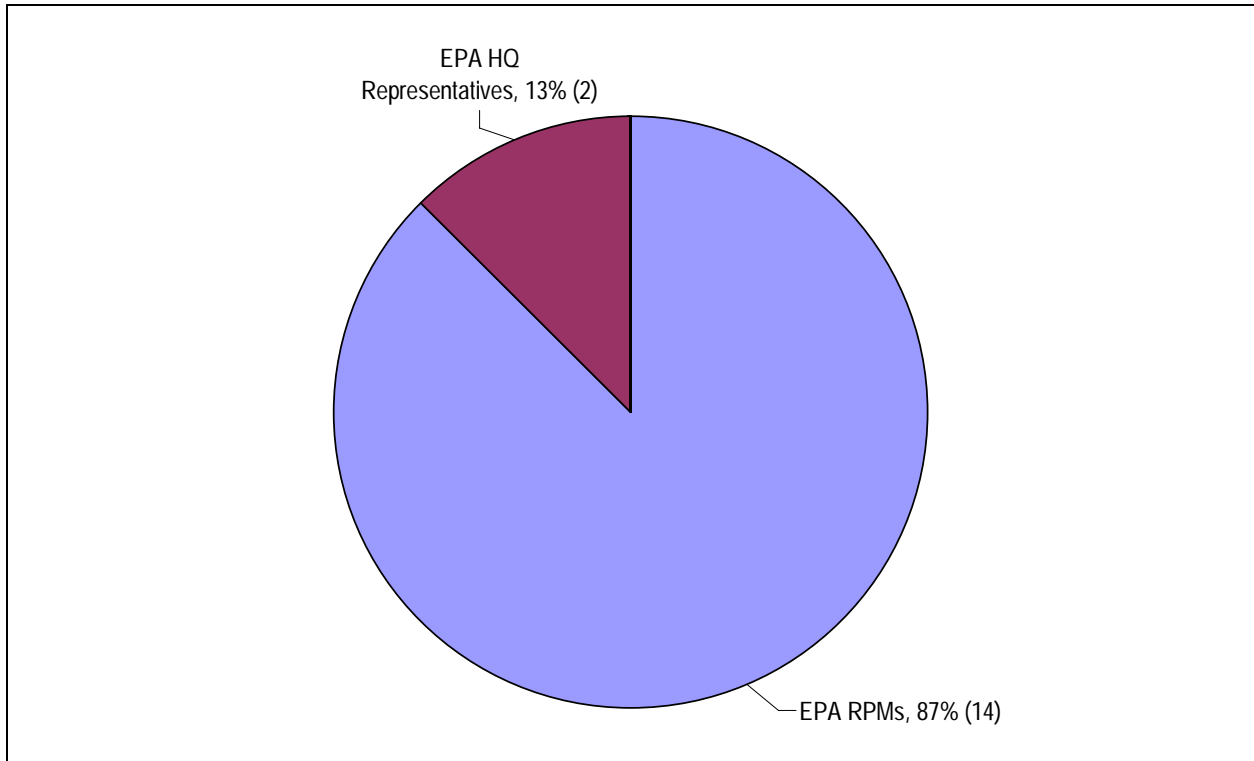
\* The grade displayed is the average of the grades identified on the evaluation forms based on a 5-point scale. The average is calculated by rounding the raw average to the nearest integer (for example 3.6 rounds to 4).

**Summary of Evaluation Results for the Virtual Connection: Tools and Strategies for EPA Employees Information Session**



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs represented 87 percent of the students.

**Students by Job Title for the Virtual Connection: Tools and Strategies for EPA Employees Information Session**



Summarized below are the written comments provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Comments submitted by a single respondent are recorded below.

**Comments on relevance to job responsibilities and experience level**

- Excellent information session.

**Comments on session content**

Lengthen

- Would like to do work with applications and demonstrations.
- The whole thing should be 1/2 day to full day course. (*Two responses*)
- Actual applications for Superfund activities.

**Comments on offering information session at future training conferences**

- Also need forum. Regional RPM workgroups/tech info share.
- Absolutely! Could also be supported by a booth with information and demonstrations.
- Please plan a longer session. (*Two responses*)

**Comments on session name and abstract expectations**

- Even better than I thought.
- Great new tools.
- All RPMs would/should attend if title better represented how this would help our jobs.
- Actually, this course didn't stand out when I was registering but someone told me about it in advance.

**Comments on overall pace of the session**

- Only because too much to teach us.
- Audience reminisced too much, took time from presentation. I don't know how to control this.
- A little fast - but huge amount of material in short time - maybe focus on best meeting sites.
- "Wine tasting" approach was perfect.
- It was a good wine tasting - but I've been drinking 2 buck chuck, my palate needs to be refined a lot (i.e. I should use these tools).

**Additional comments**

- Need to see how this can help NARPM (webcast training, etc.). Could use more advertising and regional case studies on how well it works.
- Jean is an excellent teacher. (*Two responses*) Her awareness of differing "IT squiness" is much appreciated.
- Excellent introduction to the brand new world of hi-tech connections! Good job - I'm feeling more courageous!
- Jean is wondrously clear, honest, and realistic yet enthusiastic. Nice use of the tools in the presentation (e.g. video call). I appreciate the wit and clarity of the PowerPoint.
- Jean is a great resource - hire more of her! The agency needs to settle on standard packages (that are promoted/supported) because too many similar tools become inefficient (e.g., Quickplace, ESC). Of course there are many free tools, but the Agency needs to settle on one that it will support. This is a vote for MACs as a platform. They are stable, intuitive, and compatible with windows these days and can offer more of these collaborative tools right in the existing package - they make so much sense.

**Participants interested in developing and/or participating in future offerings of this session**

- John Lucey (lucey.john@epa.gov)
- Damian Duda (duda.damian@epa.gov)
- Sai Appaji (appaji.sairam@epa.gov)
- Steve Sandler (sandler.steven@epa.gov)