

Terms of Reference



Data Issues Working Group

Date: January 7, 2002
DIGTerms_of_referenceJAN-7-2002.pdf

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Purpose:

- (a) To compile and review recommendations on data issues from CASA teams, CASA forums and the CASA Workshop on Data Issues.
- (b) To assess the status of these recommendations.
- (c) To develop an implementation plan that will lead to progress with respect to resolving outstanding data issues.

Goal:

To develop an implementation plan that will lead to progress with respect to resolving outstanding data issues.

Key Task Areas:

1. Compile and review recommendations on data issues from CASA teams, CASA forums, and the CASA Workshop on Data Issues.
2. Assess the status of implementation of each of these recommendations.
3. Develop criteria for prioritizing.
4. Prioritize the recommendations.
5. Develop an implementation strategy and plan that will lead to progress with respect to resolving outstanding data issues.
6. Identify the implementers, and the supporting rationale for implementation in the implementation plan.
7. Report to, and obtain input from, CASA teams.
8. Report to, and obtain input from, the CASA Board.

Timelines:

It is anticipated that the Working Group will deliver its final report and recommendations in September 2002.

The Working Group expects to meet monthly until its tasks are completed.

Context:

The formation of the Data Issues Working Group resulted from a process that began in November 1998 with CASA's Desired Future in 2020 Workshop. As a result of that workshop, the CASA Board approved a recommendation (in June 1999):

The Secretariat take the lead in organizing a workshop to address data/information issues.

A workshop on data issues was held in March 2000. This workshop resulted in more than 50 recommendations being developed, including two

overarching recommendations one of which stated:

A multi-stakeholder group, coordinated by CASA, should compile and review recommendations from this workshop, from CASA project teams, and from previous forums on air quality and health issues. The status of these recommendations should be assessed, with the aim of developing an implementation plan to improve the collection of air quality and health data.

The CASA Board adopted the overarching recommendations and mandated the establishment of the Data Issues Working Group in response to the above recommendation. The Working Group will take into consideration the following:

1. CASA requires data for its teams and so there needs to be a link between the Working Group and CASA teams.
2. The Working Group members each represent their sector and so must communicate with their sector on Working Group activities.
3. Any implementation plan that the Working Group develops needs to identify concrete actions that can actually be accomplished.

Membership: Co-chairs

Darcy Walberg	Agrium
Stacey Smythe	Health Canada

Members

Russ Miyagawa	Toxics Watch Society
Markus Kellerhals	Environment Canada
Paije McGrath	TransAlta Corp.
Bob Myrick	Alberta Environment
Terry Lee Degenhardt	Wild Rose Agricultural Producers
Alex MacKenzie	Alberta Health and Wellness
Bob Scotten	West Central Airshed Society
Judy Huntley	Bert Riggall Environmental Foundation

CASA Project Manager

Marianne English	CASA
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Reporting to the CASA Board of Directors:

1. The Board decision (of June 2000) clearly laid out the tasks of the Working Group and so it is not necessary to obtain further direction from the Board at this time.
2. The Group will seek Board approval of priorities before proceeding to develop an implementation plan.
3. The Group may present one or two status reports to the Board.
4. The Group will report to the Board once its tasks are completed.