

## **ATTACHMENT E INFORMATION SESSIONS**

This attachment summarizes information collected from the evaluation forms that were distributed to participants during each information session. The bar graph illustrates the responses of participants to a series of questions about the appropriateness and relevance of material to their job responsibilities.

Participants in each session were asked to respond to the first five items on the form as follows:

- strongly agree (SA)
- agree (A)
- disagree (D)
- strongly disagree (SD)

Their responses are presented in bar graphs. Because some participants did not respond to all five items, a “no response” category is included in the bar graphs. In addition, participants were asked to submit written comments about various elements of the information session, including course content, relevance and appropriateness of case studies, and instructional methods. The following pages present the information collected from the evaluation forms submitted for each information session.

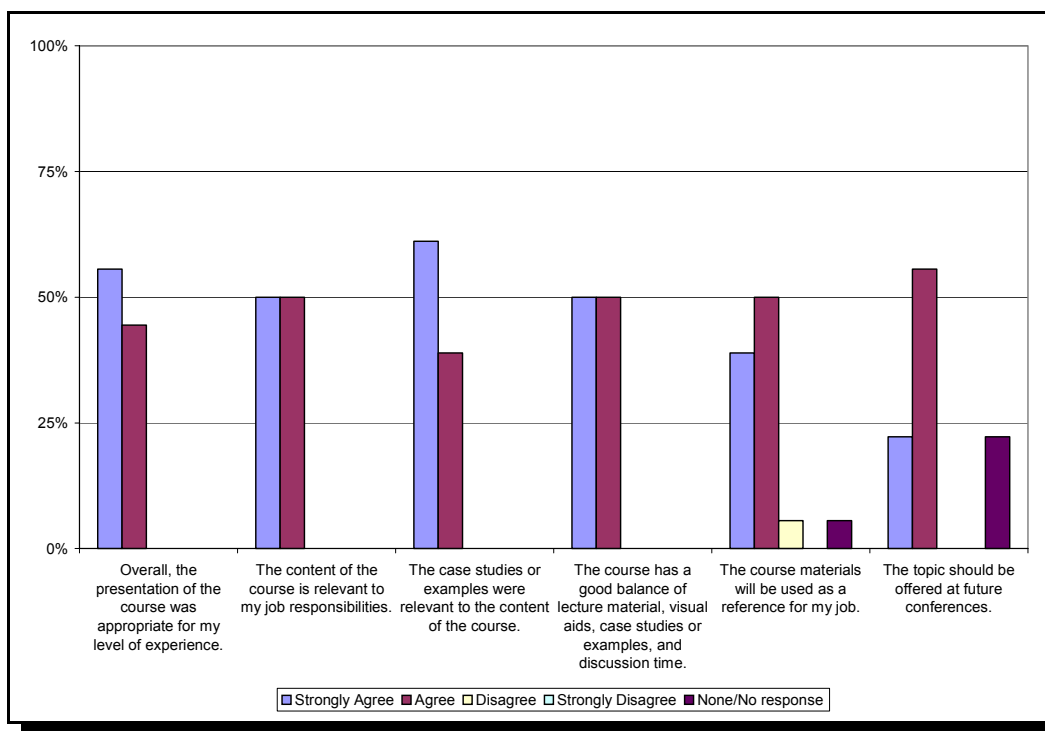
Also, included in this attachments are pie charts that illustrate the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs and Other EPA Regional Remedial Support staff represented over 50 percent of the attendees.

## EPA-ATSDR Collaboration at Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site, Missouri, Information Session

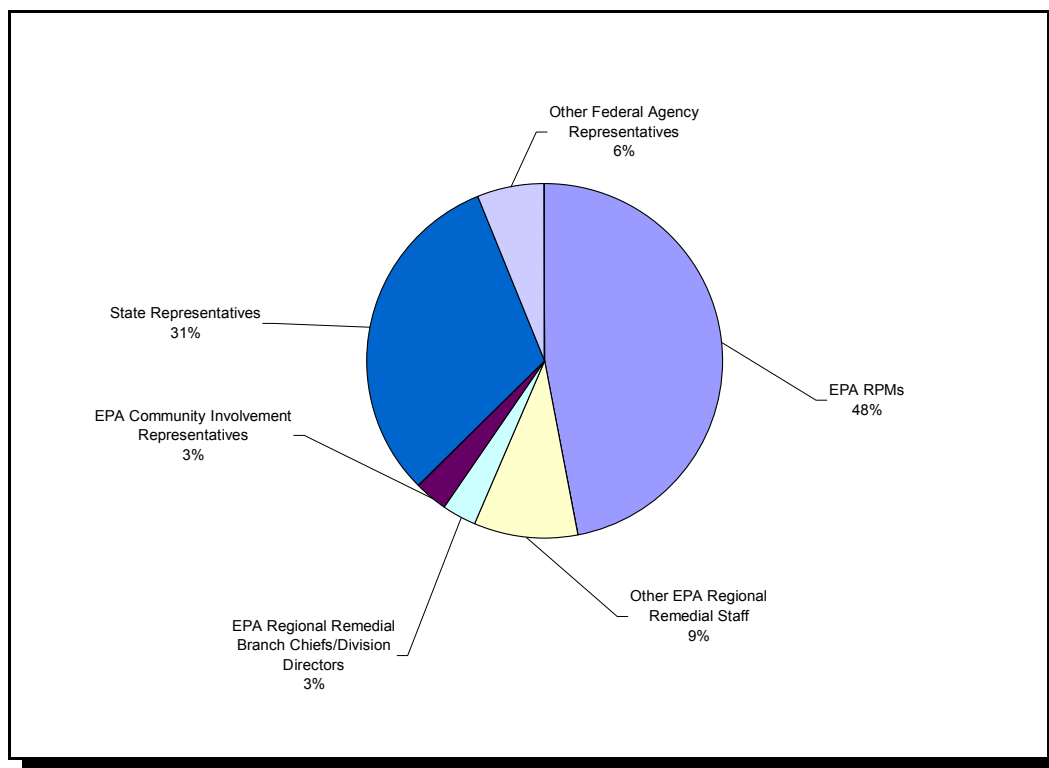
This information session highlighted the successful collaboration between EPA Region 7 and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Register (ATSDR) at the Herculaneum Lead Smelter site in Missouri. RPM, Bruce Morrison, EPA Region 7, closely worked with the ATSDR Regional Representative, Denise Jordan-Izaguirre, on many site activities. ATSDR involvement at the site contributed to a successful cleanup, and the collaboration proved to be beneficial for both agencies. This session was co-presented by Mr. Morrison; Ms. Jordan-Izaguirre; and Steve Jones, the Senior Regional Representative from the ATSDR Liaison Office to EPA HQ. Herculaneum Lead Smelter site is a high-profile site for EPA Region 7, as it poses community health concerns such as elevated cancer rates, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and lowered IQ's in children because of past and current exposures to lead, arsenic, and cadmium. Based on the health issues at the site, the involvement of ATSDR made the site evaluation and cleanup easier and greatly contributed to the entire process. Contentious issues that arose and how the two agencies worked together to resolve them and move forward also were discussed.

The table and bar graph below illustrate information about how participants evaluated this information session.

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Number of Participants Who Preregistered	Number of Participants Who Signed Course Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
39	32	18	A-



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs and Other EPA Regional Remedial Support staff represented over 50 percent of the attendees.



Summarized below is written information provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Those comments that were submitted by a single respondent and where not subject to paraphrasing, are presented verbatim.

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CONTENT***

- It would have been helpful to have other background information about the site such as listing date, pre-ATSDR risk analysis, risks at the site etc.
- Good overall information provided

***COMMENTS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS***

- Using public fact sheets and other education materials will be useful to the attendees
- Session was well organized - complete history/background, current status of issues were well defined and discussed
- All questions from the audience were appropriately discussed
- Please provide handouts and definitions of acronyms (*Two responses*)

***GENERAL COMMENTS***

- Followup session at future conferences would be helpful
- Sessions like these are critical to NARPM

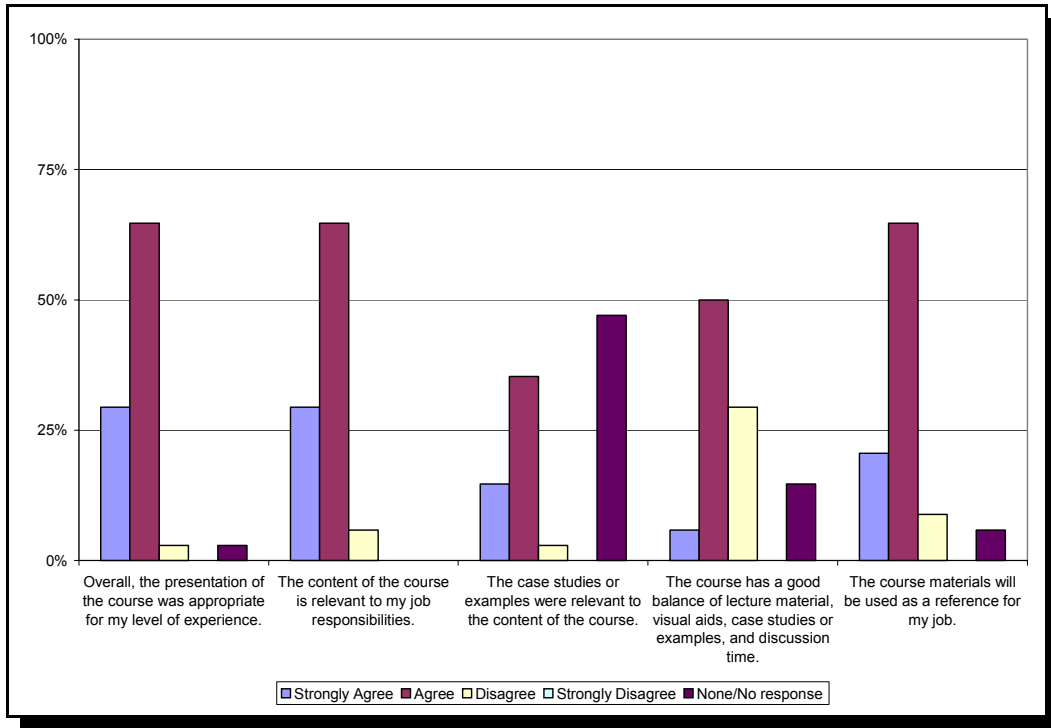
## **Evolving Science Information Session**

This information session presented and discussed new and evolving science issues that could affect sites where RPMs work. Evolving science issues are manifested in several topics that make evaluating and cleaning up sites more challenging. The topics that OSWER and OSRTI discussed included:

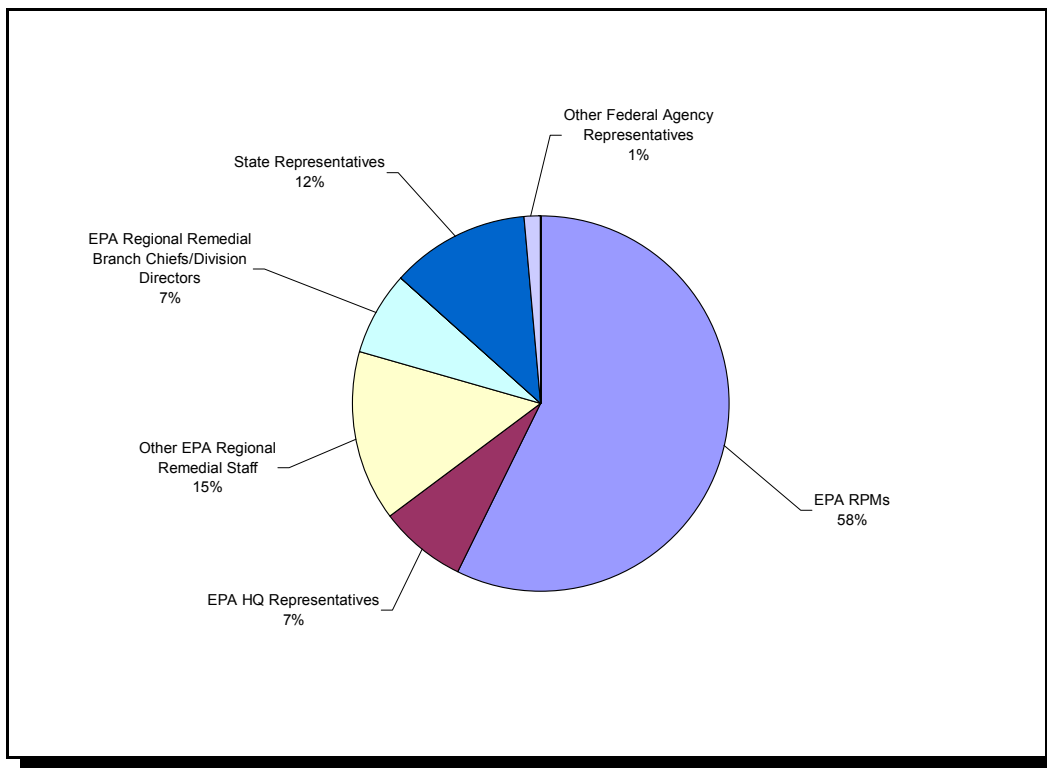
- Appropriate cancer slope factors to use when calculating risks associated with intrusion of TCE vapors into homes
- How we should address PCE now and what implications the new PCE toxicity re-evaluation assessment in the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) might have for future consideration of this contaminant
- Implications of new asbestos detection methods for sampling, analysis, and risk assessment at asbestos-contaminated sites
- What method could be used to evaluate the bioavailability or bioaccessibility of arsenic that could allow higher levels of arsenic to remain at sites and still protect human health
- Any new development in the dioxin reassessment that has been going on now for 12 years that we should consider in the assessment and management of sites
- What effects the revised PCB guidance will have on our practices at PCB-contaminated sites
- Emerging problems such as 1,4-dioxane, which now has a lower detection limit, and perchlorate, whose toxicity is the subject of significant disagreement between Federal agencies

The table and bar graph below illustrate information about how participants evaluated this information session.

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Number of Participants Who Preregistered	Number of Participants Who Signed Course Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
67	68	34	B



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs and Other EPA Regional Remedial Support staff represented over 50 percent of the attendees.



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***COMMENTS RELATED TO CONTENT***

- Information was more academic than applicable for RPMs everyday experiences
- Good topic - but one of the two presentations was too general and thus not useful.
- Most of the discussion was related to contaminants not commonly found on sites
- Very dry presentation
- Needs to be a more rounded discussion. Most of the discussion was on risk and emerging science does not involve risk
- Draw distinction but establish linkage between Phase 1 scope problem - conference call/memo and Phase 2 - How to conduct change - OSWER directive
- Concept paper discussion was very general and did not add much value
- Discussion about the guidance document should focus only on the next steps after it is determined that the remedy is not effective
- First part was informative as to where the Agency is with specific chemicals; the second part was too much of a long discussion about what HQ should be thinking about when making a decision
- Need to make a connection between how broad policy evaluations can be pertinent to RPMs working on individual sites. For e.g. rather than describe a process for reviewing *all* dioxin site decisions, discuss criteria that a RPM might use to determine if a particular site warranted re-evaluation

- Information should have been presented as an overview, rather than too much detail. The important lesson is for RPMs to involve risk assessors in the entire process

***COMMENTS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS***

- Information on emerging chemicals and issues with specific chemicals was too brief. It would be helpful to expand that information (*Four responses*)
- More time is needed for questions and discussion (*Six responses*)
- It would be helpful to use visual aids such as photos to emphasize issues at sites. Text slides were monotonous
- Discussion should be more tailored towards RPMs and their sites. Most of this discussion was meant for risk assessors (*Two responses*)
- Presenters took a very long time to make simple, straight-forward points

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CASE STUDIES***

- Provide more specific site examples or case studies (*Four responses*)
- Need case studies with regional perspectives on how evolving science affects remedies
- Need case studies on how risk management was applied on a site (*Two responses*)
- Need to review case studies where chemical changes changed EPA actions, such as changes in MCL
- The second presentation was repetitive lacking specific site case studies

***GENERAL COMMENTS***

- Preference for real science issues and not process discussion
- To facilitate discussion, it would be helpful to arrange seating to face each other
- An RPM should facilitate discussion, here speakers were managing on their own
- It is unfortunate that the guidance takes so long to come out and is subject to political pressure for these emerging chemicals
- All presentations should incorporate this element i.e. what is new, what have the presenters learned, what can the attendees learn from those experiences etc. Please make this approach a requirement for all presentations
- Update on status of the proposed guidance should be offered at future conferences (*2 responses*)

***ATTENDEES SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE OFFERINGS OF THIS INFORMATION SESSION***

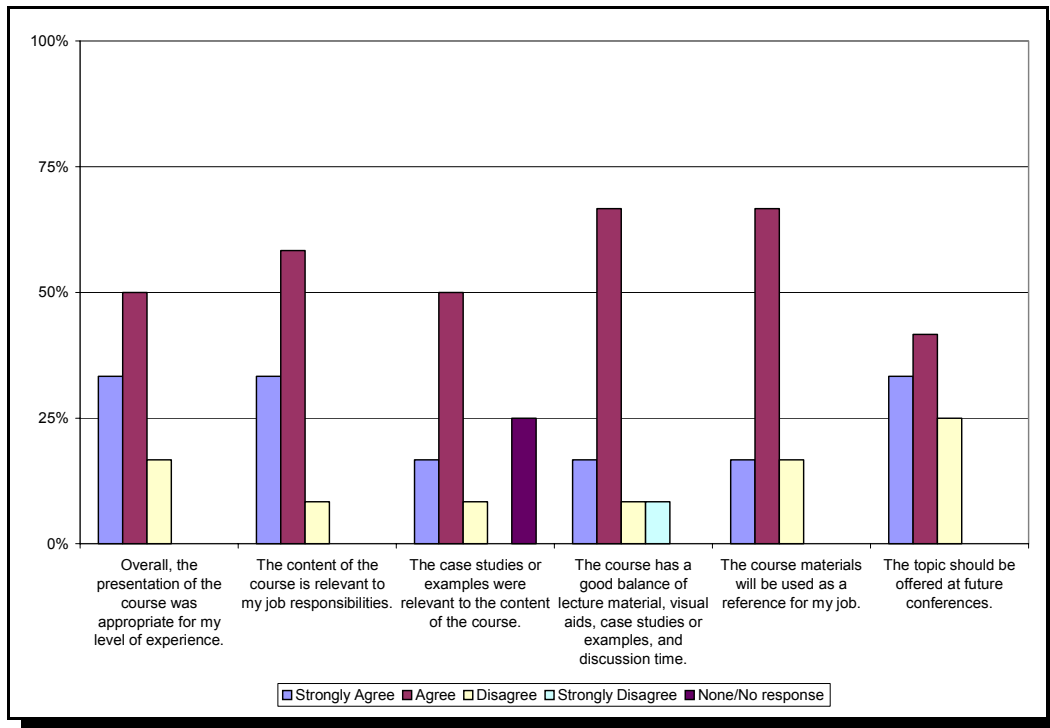
- Shorten:           Talk on asbestos - summarize more (*Four responses*)  
                           Incorporating evolving science topic (*Two responses*)
- Add:                More information on arsenic, TCE, DCE, 1,4-dioxane, dioxin and perchlorate (*Three responses*)

## Information Quality Guidelines and Site Management Information Session

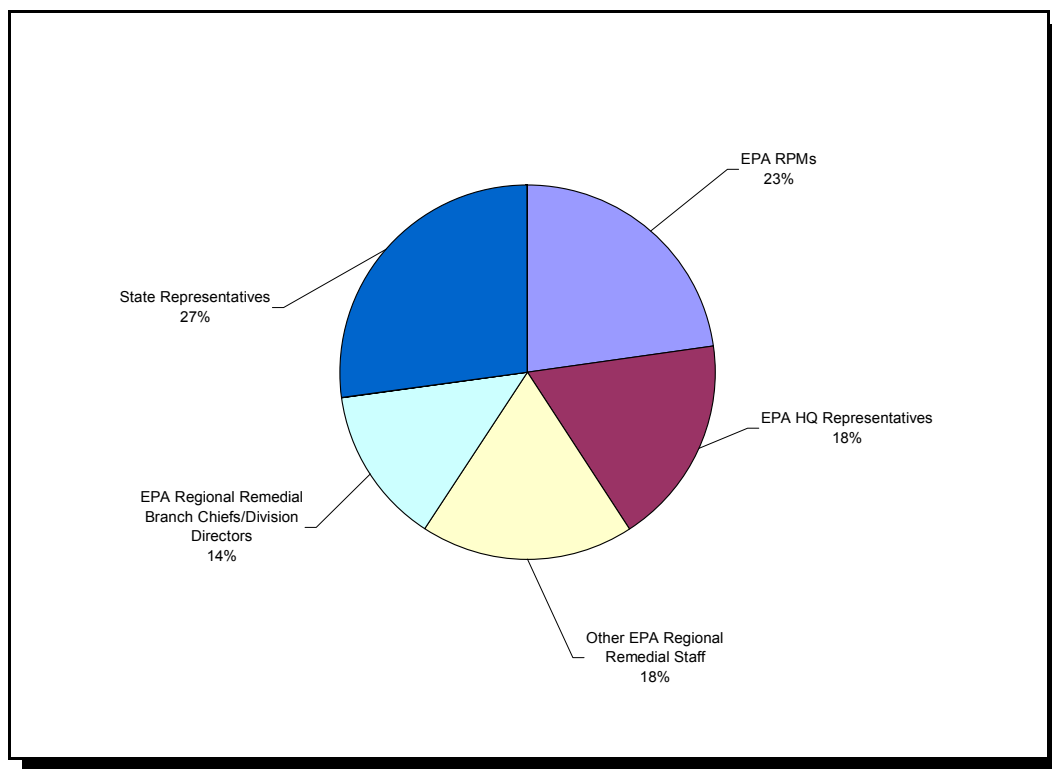
This information session focused on the new responsibilities that EPA's Information Quality Guidelines, which were published in October 2002, place on site managers. The guidelines place new responsibilities on EPA with regard to information that is disseminated or that supports EPA's decisions. The guidelines also allow challenges to EPA's decisions if they are not properly documented. Under the guidelines, an outside party can challenge the EPA decision-making process, such as the development of the technical basis for a remedy presented in a ROD, and can challenge the information used to support a decision. In contrast to other legal challenges, resolution of challenges under the guidelines will trigger a series of reviews within EPA that may involve the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Site managers must be prepared to address the new types of challenges that the guidelines present.

The table and bar graph below illustrate information about how participants evaluated this information session.

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Number of Participants Who Preregistered	Number of Participants Who Signed Course Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
35	22	12	B



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs and Other EPA Regional Remedial Support staff represented over 40 percent of the attendees.



Summarized below is written information provided on the evaluation forms. Similar observations have been combined and paraphrased. Those comments that were submitted by a single respondent and where not subject to paraphrasing, are presented verbatim.

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CONTENT***

- This information is important for state representatives because it is important for a state to understand what is required to meet EPA’s requirements for quality management and documentation
- Useful information (*Two responses*)
- Proper background material was lacking
- Provide summary table of acronyms

***COMMENTS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS***

- The slides were a bit lengthy - but the subject matter is also difficult
- Although the speaker was knowledgeable, lack of enthusiasm made the lecture very boring

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CASE STUDIES***

- More case studies are needed

***GENERAL COMMENTS***

- This session should be offered in each region and should be incorporated into QA/QC training
- Please print 'double-sided' when providing handouts - we are the EPA! Better yet, provide only a summary page.

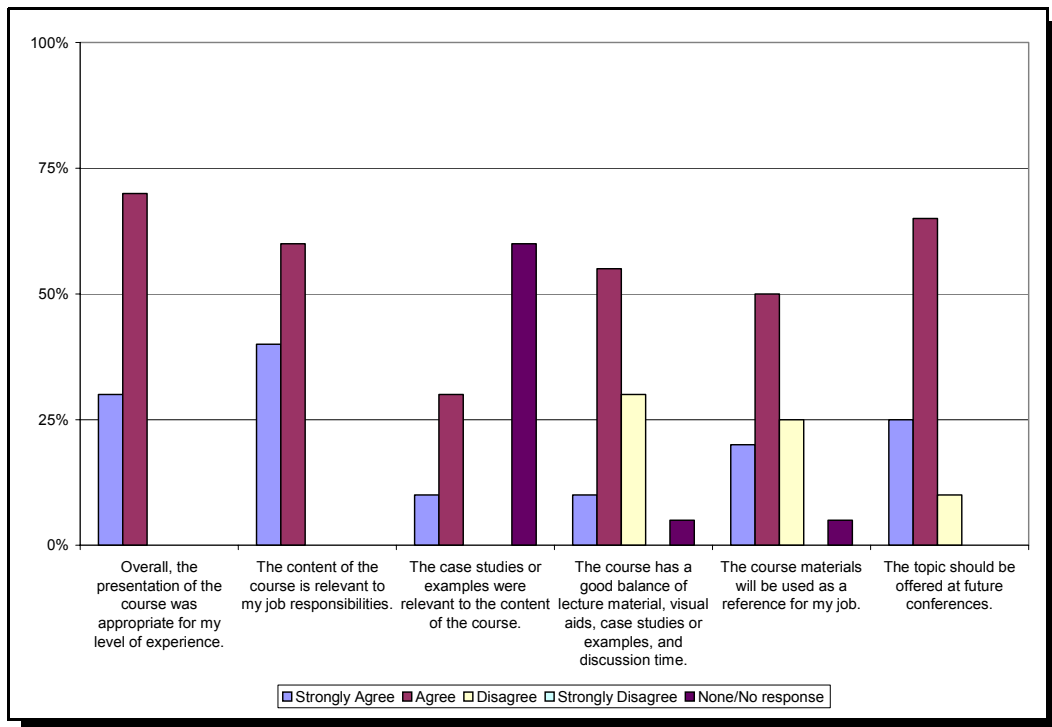
## Superfund Alternative Sites Information Session

This session provided information to attendees about both national and regional perspectives on Superfund Alternative Sites (SASs) by knowledgeable and experienced individuals who have been very involved in these types of sites from issuing policies to modifying model language in EPA's legal documents to negotiating both technical and legal provisions with responsible parties.

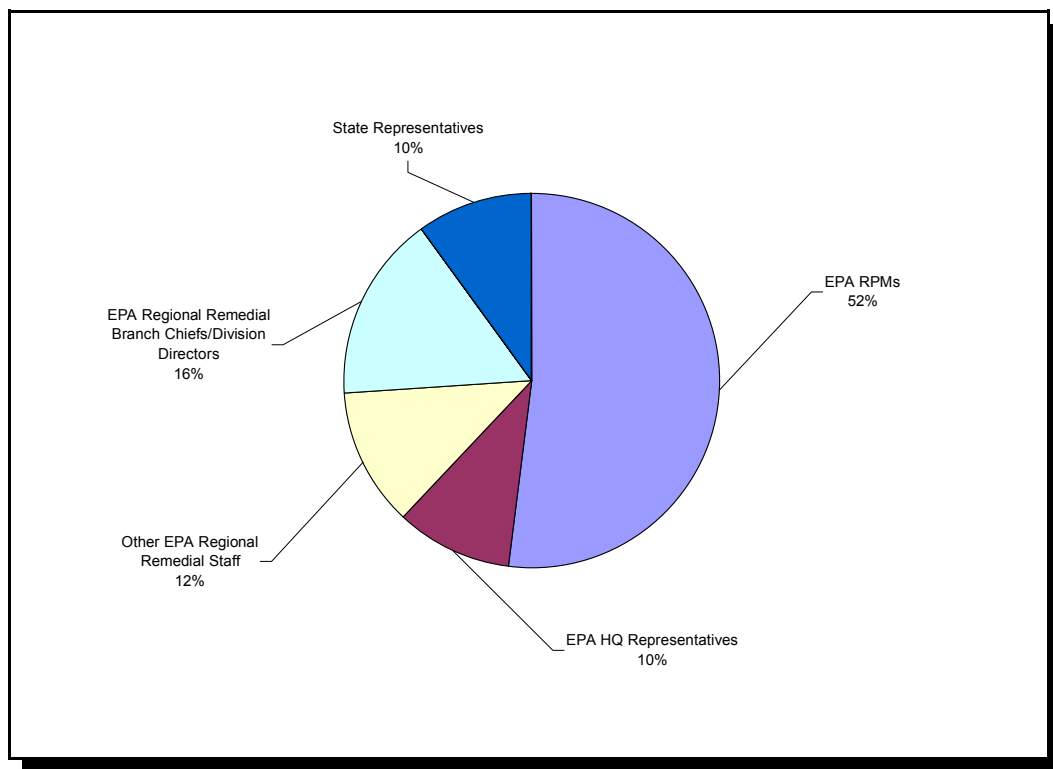
Attendees learned about the definition of a SAS Site, and heard an overview of SAS Guidance. They also learned about standard enforcement provisions in legal documents; how a site may be selected to become a SAS; the importance of SASs; tips on working through the settlements; and incentives for settlement to both EPA and PRPs.

The table and bar graph below illustrate information about how participants evaluated this information session.

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Number of Participants Who Preregistered	Number of Participants Who Signed Course Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
71	50	20	B+



The pie chart below illustrates the percentages of students for the information session by job title. EPA RPMs and Other EPA Regional Remedial Support staff represented over 50 percent of the attendees.



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***COMMENTS RELATED TO CONTENT***

- Handouts would be useful (*Two responses*)
- This was a helpful session for state representatives. It helped me to understand EPA’s decision-making process for SAS, and the role of the state in the process
- It would be useful to have copies of model AOCs/CDs or at least reference to sources where they can be obtained from
- Informative Q&A

***COMMENTS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS***

- Speakers made NPL listing sound like a very simple process at any site where PRPs will not sign up for “all or none” deal or when the process breaks down anywhere along the way - It is NOT!
- Well organized
- Moderators should ensure that all questions are addressed effectively without focusing on one question for too long

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CASE STUDIES***

- No case studies were used - Case studies would have been helpful (*Eight responses*)

***GENERAL COMMENTS***

- Please email new guidance to attendees
- CD not used at Federal Facilities sites - use FFAs or IAGs. Also at non-NPL sites
- Need credit in both SPIMs and SCAP for Federal Facilities sites
- Follow-up session should be held next year to provide information on status of current sites

***ATTENDEES SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE OFFERINGS OF THIS INFORMATION SESSION***

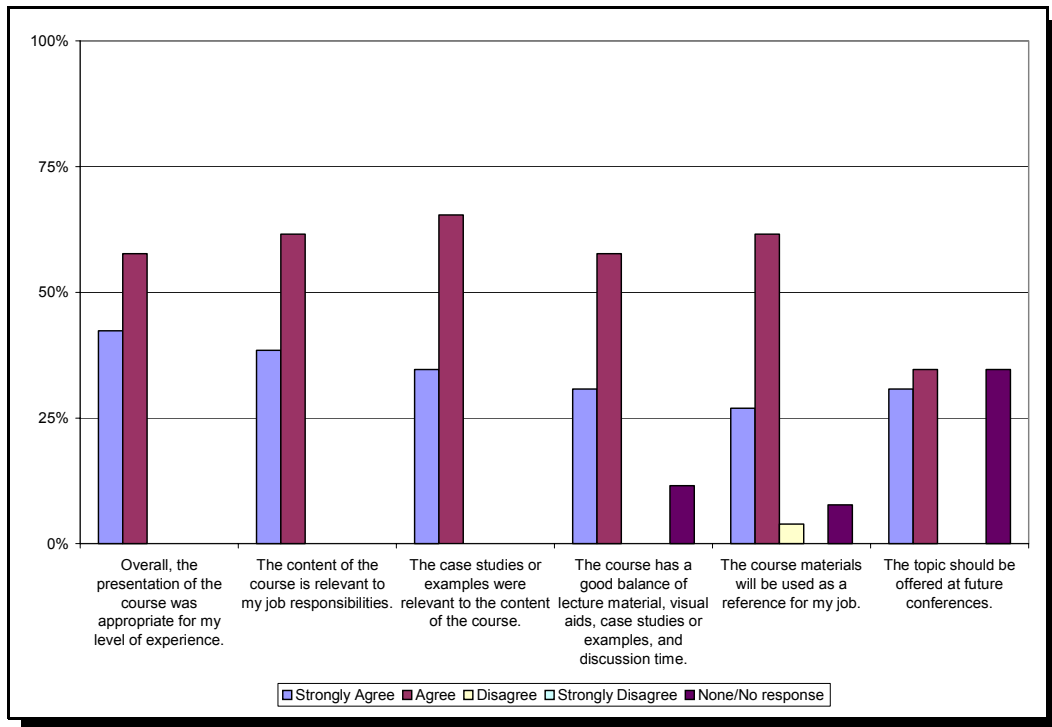
Add: Information on Federal Facilities SASs  
Information on use of non-time critical removals at SAS

## Superfund Redevelopment: What's Happening in 2004 and Beyond Information Session

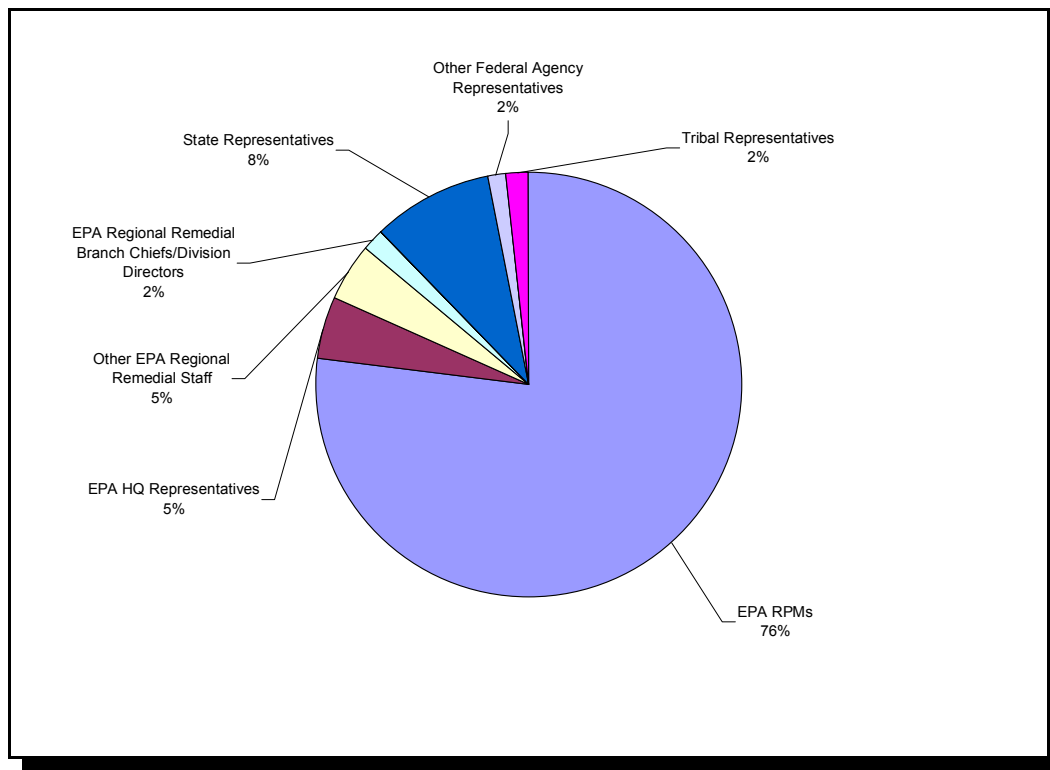
This information session focused on four major redevelopment activities for 2004: reuse assessments, ready for reuse (RfR) determinations, the reuse Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) performance measures, and the role of planning in moving sites toward reuse.

The table and bar graph below illustrate information about how participants evaluated this information session.

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Number of Participants Who Preregistered	Number of Participants Who Signed Course Roster	Number of Evaluation Forms Submitted	Average Grade
80	65	26	B+



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***COMMENTS RELATED TO CONTENT***

- I have two sites that are ready for re-use. Today I learned that even my other site which is in RI/FS stage is ready to start in the process
- Good mix of ready for reuse, reuse assessment and success stories
- Please include information on going through the RFR process with a completed RFR. How long did it take, lessons learned (what worked/ what did not work, etc.)
- Handouts were useful
- The information provided is directly applicable to my job and will be very useful
- Session was better than described

***COMMENTS RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS***

- Second speaker was rushed - although the follow-on questions that followed the presentation were relevant
- Good time management by the panel chair

***COMMENTS RELATED TO CASE STUDIES***

- Too many Region 4 examples
- Need more case studies

***COMMENTS RELATED TO SESSION LENGTH***

- More time is needed to get through the material (*Three responses*)
- More time needed for Q&A and discussion (*Two responses*)

***GENERAL COMMENTS***

- We need to make sure that this initiative does not drive the cleanup decisions in ways that benefit certain interests and yield a less favorable remedy
- This course should be offered at future conferences, since this information is ‘the wave of the future’
- Reuse and planning should become a larger focus area at NARPM, so that equity and community economy can be protected in concert with the environment
- Redevelopment is the next big thing in Superfund

***ATTENDEES SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE OFFERINGS OF THIS INFORMATION SESSION***

- Lengthen:      Problem solving for redevelopment  
                    Mike Hancox’ presentation
- Add:             Liability issues, including Trustees concerns, cost recovery issues, and damage assessments  
                    Institutional controls used on reuse sites