

MISSOURI RIVER MEDIATOR INTERVIEW PROCESS

Here's some information to help you plan and prepare for the upcoming interviews to select a team of mediators to facilitate two efforts related to management of the Missouri River:

- 1) *Facilitation of Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Process to Develop Agreement on a "Spring Rise" Proposal*
- 2) *Situation Assessment for Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC)*

Time: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Date: Tuesday, April 12th

Location: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NW Division Office, 12565 West Center Road, Omaha, NE 86144

Nearby Hotels: (see attached list)

Directions From Omaha Airport: Follow signs to I-480 WEST (Gerald Ford Fwy). Take I-480 for 3 miles to I-80 WEST/Lincoln. Take I-80 WEST/Lincoln for 6 miles to Exit 445/West Center Road/NE-38. Go west on West Center Road for 2.8 miles to S. 125th Ave. Take a left (south) at the light onto S. 125th Ave. The Corps's building is on your immediate right at 12565 West Center Road. You can park in the Corps's parking lot, or on the other side of S. 125th Ave. (to the east) in the Home Depot parking lot. In the shopping center you'll also see an IHOP and a McDonalds. The drive from the airport should take about 25-30 minutes.

Entering the Building: Please enter the building from the north side. All outside doors are locked, but someone will be there to let you in. If you arrive late, information will be posted to call on the security phone to gain entrance to the building.

Contacts: Mike Eng, U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution: (520) 670-5299 or (520) 940-2320, cell
Patti Lee, USACE, (420) 697-2528

Schedule

Please arrive no later than 8:00am so we can organize ourselves and go over the interview process. The first interview will start at 8:30am. We'll conduct two 90-minute interviews in the morning. We'll take a short break for an onsite lunch. (We'll be ordering box lunches.) In the afternoon, we'll conduct the final two interviews and then discuss your impressions of all the candidates. We should finish up by 6:00pm.

In order to be fair to all the final candidates, if you wish to participate directly in the interview process, please plan to attend for the entire day. Please to do contact the final candidates in advance of the interviews.

Interview Panel

The Interview Panel will consist of approximately 25-30 individuals; including representatives the funding agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, EPA, U.S. Bureau of Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service) and other self-identified governmental (states, tribes, other federal agencies) and nongovernmental stakeholder representatives who have volunteered to assist with the mediator selection process.

The U.S. Institute will try to provide everyone an opportunity to ask at least one question of each candidate team, as time allows. It's likely that Interview Panel participants will be asked to take turns each round of questions. Everyone participating in the interview process should have carefully reviewed all the proposals of the final candidates in advance of the interviews.

Format of the Interviews

Mike Eng, Senior Program Manager with the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution will moderate the interviews and facilitate the discussion at the end of the day. Each Interview Panel member will take a turn in asking a question of the candidate teams. If you like, you may ask the same question of all the finalists, or you may want to ask a question that is specific to a particular team or their proposal. We will complete as many rounds of questions as time allows, while reserving the last 10 minutes of the 90-minute interview for the candidate teams to ask questions of the Interview Panel members

Focus of the Your Interview Questions

In carefully evaluating all the proposals received, the U.S. Institute is highly confident that all the final candidate teams selected for interviews are highly qualified to facilitate and mediate the two efforts. While some members of the Interview Panel may wish to seek further clarification regarding the relevant experience of team members, the interviews should primarily focus on evaluating their proposed approaches to conflict resolution and on evaluating the compatibility of their team members' personal communication styles, as well as their broad acceptability with all the different stakeholders interested and affected by Missouri River management issues. Any concerns about potential bias or perceived conflicts of interest should also be explored.

Decision-Making Process

At the conclusion of the interviews, the U.S. Institute will seek feedback on your impressions of the different candidate teams, along with your ranked preferences, including indication of any teams you would consider to be unacceptable. This input, along with other written comments received on the proposals of the final candidates, will be considered by the U.S. Institute, in making a final selection decision. The intent is for the U.S. Institute to announce a final selection decision by Friday, April 15th.

Thanks again for your assistance!

LIST OF NEARBY HOTELS

Meeting location:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
NW Division Office
12565 West Center Road
Omaha, NE 86144

Clarion: 1.82 miles from site

Rooms: \$59 - \$79 (Manager's Special)
Government rates available
All rooms include breakfast
Phone: 402-895-1000

Park Inn/ Park Plaza Regency Lodge: 1.85 miles from site

All rooms \$119 + tax, includes breakfast
Government rate available
Phone: 402-397-8000

Holiday Inn Express: 2.04 miles from site

All rooms \$84 + tax, includes continental breakfast
Government rates available
Phone: 402-339-8111

The Clubhouse Inn: 4.4 miles from site

11515 Miracle Hills Drive
Avg. room rate = \$90.00
Government rates available
Phone: 402-496-7500

County Inn & Suites: 3.9 miles from site

11818 Miami Street
Rooms \$89.00
Government rates available
Phone: 402-445-4445