Richard Spiese (VT DEC) Biography
2018 ITRC Board of Advisors Co-Chair Applicant

Richard Spiese received a Bachelor’s of Science Degree from The Pennsylvania State University in Geological Sciences. Richard has worked for the State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation, Waste Management Division (WMD) as a Project Manager of hazardous waste sites since 1987. Richard has worked on over 400 hazardous waste sites, included petroleum sites, chlorinated solvent sites, PCB sites, metal sites, PAH sites, coal tar sites, and most recently a perfluorinated site. Program areas include leaking underground storage tank sites, state lead sites, Brownfield sites, Federal Facility sites, and a Superfund site. He has been a member of the WMD Spill Program since 1989, responding to many hundreds of spills ranging from fuel oil to acid spills. These spills have impacted surface waters, drinking water wells, and indoor air. Richard is also a member of the Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team and is Technician Qualified as a hazardous materials responder. Richard also works with New England Waste Management Officials Association on workshops and conferences as a planner and a speaker, on the National Tanks Conference with EPA, and on the LUST Task Force for the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Managers Association. Richard was the Task Force Chair from 1997 through 2009.
WORK EXPERIENCE

May 2004 - Present  Project Manager/Environmental Analyst VI - State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation, Waste Management Division, Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0404
Oversee remediations, assist in enforcement actions, form work plans, draft contracts, review reports, maintain data files and emergency spill call. Waste Management Division Spill Team member since 1989. Managed Waste Management Division’s Spill Team from November 2008 – May 2012.

Supervise six employees in the Sites Management Section, draft and review Section procedures, manage Vermont Petroleum Cleanup Fund expenditures, coordinate contacts with Environmental Protection Agency Office of Underground Storage Tanks, became a member of the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Task Force, LUST Task Force Chair 1996 - 2008, became the Vermont assistant designee to the EPA Region I Regional Response Team, continue with Hazardous Materials Specialist's responsibilities.

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Nov. 1987 - May 1989  Environmental Technician - State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation, Hazardous Waste Division, Waterbury, Vermont 05676
Perform compliance inspections, recommend enforcement actions, oversee remediation, and maintain data files.

1982 - 1986  English Instructor - IES Mentor, 97 Romanstrasse, 8000 Muenchen 19, BRD
Taught English as a second language to German nationals.

EDUCATION

1990 - 1995  Advanced Graduate Course Work in Water Resources, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont 05405

May 1982  Graduated from the Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA 16802

1980 - 1982  Worked towards my Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Sciences from the Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA 16802

May 1980  Graduated from the University of Maryland, Munich Campus, Munich, West Germany, APO 09407

1978 - 1980  Worked towards my Associate of Arts Degree from the University of Maryland, Munich Campus, Munich, West Germany, APO 09407

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

List can be provided – Current Supervisor -Chuck Schwer, Director, Vermont Waste Management and Prevention Division, phone #802-249-5324, email chuck.schwer@vermont.gov
February 28, 2018

Patricia Reyes  
ITRC Director  
50 F Street, NW  
Suite 350  
Washington, DC  20001

Dear Director Reyes,

I am very interested to be considered for the election for the open Co-Chair position on the Board of Advisors that the ITRC is currently recruiting for. I understand that this position will be responsible for working with the other Co-Chair on the Board to assist in leading the nine-member voting Board, which is responsible for ITRC leadership, management, and strategic direction in coordination with the ITRC Director and ITRC Board Liaisons. I understand the travel commitments and time commitments of this position. I have also spoken with my supervisor here at Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and have his support in accepting the Co-Chair position should I be elected.

I am well positioned to achieve the goals ITRC has for this position due to my many years of working with my state peers as a member of ASTSWMO and the last several years that I have spent on the Board of Advisors in the position of At Large State Representative and more recently as the Team Leader Liaison. In my participation at ASTSWMO, I have been a Task Force Member on the LUST Task Force in the Tanks Subcommittee, as well as then co-chairing and finally chairing this Task Force for 12 years. After serving at this task, I then joined the Removal Task Force in the CERCLA Subcommittee before being asked to re-join the LUST Task Force as the Region 1 representative, a position I recently completed serving in. While working as a Task Force Chair at ASTSWMO, I reached out and worked with the Federal Facilities Subcommittee and the Brownfield Subcommittee on special projects, expanding my understanding of the working issues of these groups. I also worked extensively with our federal partners at EPA, with industry, and with the environmental consulting community.

I am also familiar with the work ITRC performs, working with my peers on a number of Technical Documents; including the Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (LNAPLs), MTBE, and Petroleum Vapor Intrusion documents. I have also used many other of the Technical Documents in my technical work that gives me a broad background into the nature of these documents.

I fully understand the financial and technical challenges ITRC currently has and will work to overcome these challenges to keep ITRC as one of the leading non-profit organizations that assists States and
our partners in overcoming environmental challenges. If I am elected my primary objectives will be
first and foremost to work with you and my Co-Chair to facilitate a collaborative environment at ITRC.
I will focus on ensuring ITRC’s financial future to continue to support teams, who are the leaders in
performing the day to day work at ITRC. I will also focus on ensuring that the policies and procedures
in place at ITRC are followed, and where they do not make sense due to changing conditions, are
changed to come in line with current realities to “keep the game fair for everyone”.

Thank you for considering my request to run for the Co-Chair position, and I look forward to working
with you in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Richard Spiese
Richard Spiese, Project Manager
Sites Management Section, VTDEC