



**Re: FW: Pooling Expert Assessments**

Bill Lehr o mcnut

06/09/2010 05:39 PM

Please respond to Bill.Lehr

History: This message has been replied to.

The individual results were preliminary calculations of each team member. The consensus of the team, at the end of the meeting was the 20k to 40 K. The consensus statement was sent around to each member for comments. Steve agreed to it.

On 6/9/10 2:27 PM, Marcia K McNutt wrote:

Vic -

Seems to me it would be a little difficult to argue in an unbiased sense that you were going to throw out the 15 unless you throw out the 40 as well. How would you justify that? I mean, I taught the statistics course at MIT for 15 years, and indeed there is a valid statistical approach where one throws out the "outliers," but not just one one side and not the other.

Here is the full report with all of the numbers. I don't think you have seen it, but it is what Matt is basing the release on. I am totally cool with throwing out the outliers, but not with just one on one side.

Marcia

**From:** Possolo, Antonio <[antonio.possolo@nist.gov](mailto:antonio.possolo@nist.gov)> [<mailto:Possolo, Antonio> <[antonio.possolo@nist.gov](mailto:antonio.possolo@nist.gov)>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 10:12 AM

**To:** "Bill.Lehr@noaa.gov" <[Bill.Lehr@noaa.gov](mailto:Bill.Lehr@noaa.gov)>; Alberto Aliseda <[aaliseda@u.washington.edu](mailto:aaliseda@u.washington.edu)>; James J Riley <[rileyj@u.washington.edu](mailto:rileyj@u.washington.edu)>; ira leifer <[ira.leifer@bubbleology.com](mailto:ira.leifer@bubbleology.com)>; Juan Lasheras <[lasheras@ucsd.edu](mailto:lasheras@ucsd.edu)>; "savvas@newton.berkeley.edu" <[savvas@newton.berkeley.edu](mailto:savvas@newton.berkeley.edu)>; Poojitha Yapa <[pdy@clarkson.edu](mailto:pdy@clarkson.edu)>; "Espina, Pedro I." <[pedro.espina@nist.gov](mailto:pedro.espina@nist.gov)>; Franklin Shaffer <[Franklin.Shaffer@NETL.DOE.GOV](mailto:Franklin.Shaffer@NETL.DOE.GOV)>; Paul Bommer <[pmbommer@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:pmbommer@mail.utexas.edu)>; "Wereley@purdue.edu" <[Wereley@purdue.edu](mailto:Wereley@purdue.edu)>; Marcia K McNutt <[mcnut@usgs.gov](mailto:mcnut@usgs.gov)>; Mark K Sogge <[mark\\_sogge@usgs.gov](mailto:mark_sogge@usgs.gov)>

**Subject:** Pooling Expert Assessments

Colleagues,

I attach a note that describes the results of pooling the assessments that six of the experts shared during the telecon yesterday: think of it as a consensus assessment (produced using a formal, established statistical method).

Director McNutt may like to use this as a support item in her conversations with Secretary Chu.

In the meantime I'll work on the issue that Frank raised - maximum versus expected volume - within the same general framework. I'm also ready to handle a similar collection of

revised assessments that each of you may produce based on the new video.

Bill: please add Dr. Blaza Toman (Statistical Engineering Division, NIST) to the list of people in the acknowledgments section of the final report.

- Antonio

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