

Facilitation and Mediation of Public and Environmental Conflicts: Practical Strategies for Reaching Agreement

Three Day Seminar – November 2-4, 2010 - Boulder, Colorado

Public and environmental conflicts are some of the most difficult to resolve. Complex issues, multiple interests, intense emotions, high stakes, competition over limited resources, and frequently significant scientific or technical uncertainty make them especially tough to address.

Some of the most problematic conflicts occur over:

- surface-water and groundwater use, allocation, and quality
- highway, transit, cycling or pedestrian facility siting or use
- construction projects
- siting of corridor projects for pipelines and power transmission lines
- interjurisdictional issues over shared resources or facilities
- new economic or health policies
- land-use planning
- energy exploration, development, and production
- mining exploration, construction, and operation
- protection of environmentally sensitive areas and species
- other contentious issues involving multiple parties and competing interests

Implementing public decision-making and conflict resolution processes, in which the parties themselves take control and collaborate to develop mutually acceptable solutions, can be a key to successfully resolving complex issues without resorting to costly and unsatisfying litigation.

Who should attend?

If you are a leader of a public interest group, company, or agency considering a collaborative dispute-resolution initiative, this seminar is designed for you. It will also benefit advocates participating in these initiatives and provides advanced training for third-party facilitators or mediators.

NOW YOU'RE TALKING.

Why Choose a CDR Associates Seminar?

Over the past 30 years, CDR Associates has developed successful strategies and effectively facilitated or mediated a wide range of complex multiparty public and environmental disputes. Our trainers have used their first-hand experience as negotiators and intermediaries to develop a highly experiential program to share effective strategies, insights and skills.

CDR's seminars empower you to design appropriate strategies to resolve issues you are facing on the job at home, and engage in multiple hands-on coached practice sessions of facilitation and mediation procedures and skills. We build on what you already know and enhance your skills as a strategist, convener, negotiator or intermediary. Our team-teaching approach provides diverse experiences and perspectives on implementing successful collaborative processes, and allows time for individual and small group discussions and strategy design meetings with the trainers. We encourage you to bring your issues or conflicts to discuss and explore resolution strategies.

What can I expect to learn?

You will learn how to conduct situation assessments on complex disputes, determine when collaborative approaches are appropriate, organize and convene sessions, and effectively use facilitation and mediation to forge strong agreements.

Specifically, you will:

- better understand the complexities and dynamics of multi-party conflicts
- learn how different participants—public & private sector leaders, tribal officials, government agency personnel, public interest group advocates, technical experts, lawyers, the media, and citizens—engage in conflict, and how you can work more effectively with each
- learn how to conduct situation assessments, both a “back-of-the-envelope” approach and an in-depth process to examine conflicts and design more effective resolution strategies
- develop your capacity to design and implement effective and inclusive collaborative processes
- develop, improve, and apply your Interest Based Negotiation (IBN) skills
- improve your facilitation and mediation skills through engagement in simulated public conflicts with our one-on-one coaching
- incorporate appropriate information and modeling technologies into your dispute resolution initiatives

Our Trainers

CDR Associates' training programs are grounded in cutting-edge theory, research, and best practices for the resolution of public and environmental disputes. We combine this with decades of practical experience by our professionals — Christopher Moore and Jonathan Bartsch.



*Christopher Moore, Ph.D., Partner, is an internationally recognized mediator, dispute systems designer, and trainer. He has worked in the conflict management field for over 30 years. Moore specializes in conducting situation assessments, convening, facilitating and mediating multiparty political, public, and environmental issues. He has consulted in over 30 countries and is the author of *The Mediation Process: Practical Strategies for Resolving Conflict*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 3rd ed., 2003, and co-author with Peter Woodrow, another CDR Partner, of *The Handbook of Global and Multicultural Negotiation*. San Francisco: John Wiley & Sons, February, 2010.*

A sample of his U.S. experience includes:

- Mediator of successful settlement negotiations of ***Republican River Compact issues*** (states of Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas and the U.S. Government) before the U.S. Supreme Court
- Mediator of agreements on components of the ***Platte Cooperative Agreement*** (states of Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and the U.S. Government) concerning stream flows for endangered species and agricultural and municipal uses
- Mediator of a legal settlement quantifying federal reserved water rights for the ***Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park***
- Facilitator of negotiations over a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that settled a decades-long conflict and lawsuit over siting a controversial water facility on either the ***American or Sacramento Rivers in California***
- Facilitator of a ***Growth Management Policy Dialogue for the State of California Senate and Assembly*** involving 40 parties
- Facilitator of the ***Governor of Alaska's Wolf Summit***, a 135-person policy dialog convened to develop recommendations to the state on predator-prey management and protection
- Internationally, Moore has facilitated meetings in ***Southern Africa for the Okavango River Basin Commission*** (OKACOM) – involving Angola, Botswana and Namibia – on transboundary river management, and the ***Middle East Desalination Research Center*** (MEDRC) – a component of the Middle East Peace Process whose core parties are Israel, the Palestinian Authority and Jordan – on collaborative efforts to develop water resources in the region by desalination



Jonathan Bartsch, M.A., CEO, is a nationally known facilitator, mediator and public participation specialist. His area of focus is complex, multiparty environmental consensus building and public involvement processes. Since 1998, he has helped governmental agencies and external interest groups engage in interest-based negotiation and problem solving, including facilitating multi-stakeholder collaborative groups and advisory committees.

A sample of his experience includes:

- facilitator of the highly contentious ***Eastern Plain Snake Aquifer Comprehensive Management Plan*** – the consensus agreement was adopted into law by the 2009 Idaho Legislature
- facilitator of the ***U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Study*** preferred alternative – agreement was reached on the preferred alternative for an 18-mile corridor in Colorado
- mediator of a ***Bicyclist-Motorist Working Group in Boulder County*** where mediation helped identify ways to increase safety and reduce tensions along Boulder County’s narrow and winding mountain canyon roads
- facilitator of the ***Nebraska Governor’s Water Policy Task Force***, a group mandated to develop plans and legislation for the coordination of surface- and groundwater users and address agricultural municipal needs -- the task force developed consensus agreements that were passed into law
- facilitator of a collaborative Environmental Impact Study involving 150 stakeholders to develop consensus agreements on conditions for re-licensing the ***Niagara Power Plant***, which involved 150 stakeholders who reached consensus on the study design