

LECTURE 25

Questions to ponder before class:

1. You have been invited to a job interview in Seattle. You have no interest in the job but have never been to Seattle and would like to see it. What do you do?
2. You have accepted a position at a new company that includes a \$10,000 relocation package so that you can move your household. You have some reservations about relocating so you commute back and forth from your current home on weekends to the new job during the week for a while. In the meanwhile, the personnel department gives you the \$10K in the belief you have moved. After a month, you resign the position. What should you do with the \$10K?
3. You have just sampled a waste lagoon at a client's facility. They told you it was just waste oil. You find out it is 70% cyanide. You send them the results, they pay your bills, and that's the last you hear from them. You suspect they are doing nothing about their lagoon, which is unfenced and in the open. What should you do?
4. You have completed an RI/FS for the EPA. Based on extensive computer modeling among other work, you decide on a particular pump-and-treat configuration. This configuration differs from one already installed by the state environmental protection agency. The EPA wants you to change your results to support the state's remedy. What do you do?
5. You find out from a client that they want an important field activity done at a hazardous waste site next week. The only employee available for the work says she does not want to take that assignment. What do you do?
6. You are completing an assignment for a client when you realize you made an error and have to repeat a bunch of work. Should you charge your client the time to redo the erroneous work?
7. You are completing studies in preparation for expert witness testimony in support of a group of clients. You go to a meeting in which the ten lawyers present a technical theory about the site—very favorable to their clients—and ask if you can testify based on that theory. You believe the theory has serious technical flaws. What do you tell the lawyers?
8. You are testifying in court. The lawyer representing the party opposite your client is cross examining you. She is asking you questions about your work, points out an error, and asks you “Did you make an error here?” What do you answer?
9. You are about to leave your current position, but have not told your employer yet. You realize that there are lots of projects you have worked on and you want to have a record of those. Should you make copies of this information to take with you?
10. You are working on your first project on your first job. It is time to prepare the final report and your supervisor tells you to include large portions of a previous report done by the company on a similar project in your report. What should you do?