

**PGDP Citizens Advisory Board
Water Task Force
June 6, 2003 * CAB Office**

CAB Members Present: Merryman Kemp
Linda Long
Jim Smart
Dorothy Starr
Bill Tanner

DOE Representatives Present: David Dollins

KY Division of Waste Mgt: Brian Begley (via teleconference)
Janet Miller
Todd Mullins (via teleconference)

BJC Representatives Present: John Farrell (via teleconference)
Tom Wheeler (via teleconference)

Support Staff Present: Melanie Brewer
Kendra Payne

Members of the Public Present: Vicki Jurka

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) Permit Update

Smart asked Begley if there were any new developments regarding to the KPDES permit. Begley said he knew of no new developments.

Tanner was concerned about a requirement related to the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW). He said it is his understanding, based on a conversation with the KDOW, that in order for a permit to be issued the facility must certify that the sewer lines do not leak. Tanner stated if Kentucky is enforcing this regulation with other industries across the state, the regulation should also be enforced at the Paducah facility. Tanner said he hopes the KPDES writer, Larry Sowder, will consider this issue. Tanner asked if the draft permit would be available for the July task force meeting. Mullins said he was unsure, but would check with Sowder. Smart suggested inviting Sowder to the July task force meeting.

Six-Phase Update

Farrell reported the Six-Phase Heating System has been operating problem free since June 3 and that problems have been resolved including those due to high rainfall, which caused ponding of water at the electrode arrays. He said the vapor extraction system vacuum pulled water through the ground around the grout caps at five of the seven electrodes. Farrell said due to the presence of silt in the system, the two vapor condensate separation units in the vapor separation system were cleaned out as well as all of the pipe work.

On May 30, 2003 the system was shut down due to flow restriction problems. After reviewing design drawings and some reconfiguration, the flow restriction was eliminated. Farrell said the system is currently running in a nominal condition. The system is regaining the 15 to 20 degrees that was lost during the shut down period. Farrell is hoping the system will reach optimal temperature soon.

Tanner asked how much time is remaining in the 130-day test period. Farrell said that due to the system being shut down for the several days in May, the system is expected to operate through the middle of July, instead of June as originally planned.

Tanner asked if that trichloroethylene (TCE) is still being extracted from the ground, and if so, how much has been recovered. Farrell estimated seven tons of TCE has been extracted out of the subsurface to date. Tanner asked from what level is TCE being extracted. Farrell said TCE is being recovered from all levels. Tanner asked if the Upper Continental Recharge System (UCRS) is saturated. Farrell said no.

Smart asked if the U.S Department of Energy (DOE) is planning to file for an extension due to lost time. Farrell said it has been discussed, but a decision has not been made.

North South Diversion Ditch (NSDD) Update

Dollins said DOE invoked informal dispute and that a deadline of May 30, 2003 was set to resolve the issue. He added DOE has asked for a 15-day extension, moving the deadline to June 15, 2003. He said DOE is currently drafting a proposal, which addresses the requests of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Dollins said if the dispute is not resolved at the end of the 15-day extension, formal dispute could be invoked. Mullins said the Commonwealth of Kentucky feels its requirements for waste characterization are reasonable. Dollins said DOE disagrees; however, they are trying to find middle ground.

Smart asked if Bill Murphie, DOE, is involved in the resolution of this dispute. Dollins said Murphie has been actively involved in the project over the past year and is willing to negotiate.

Based on the General Accounting Office (GAO) Report, Tanner asked if the DOE Material Storage Area (DMSA) project is funded by Environmental Management (EM) or Nuclear Energy (NE). Dollins was unsure.

Tanner asked if the NSDD dispute is still over sampling requirements. Dollins said some of the dispute is still over the frequency of sampling, the number of bags sampled, and the perimeters of the sampling area. Dollins said a screening level should be established before a concentration sample can be taken. Mullins said Kentucky is requesting screening of material as well as laboratory sampling of material prior to being disposed at the C-746-U Landfill. He said due to the listed waste concerns, everyone involved should be sure that what is being placed in the landfill is non-hazardous. Dollins said DOE feels the existing samples are sufficient for waste characterization. Mullins stated Kentucky does have the authority to enforce state law. Tanner urged DOE to agree to additional testing in an effort to build public credibility.

Surface Water Budget

Smart said the surface water budget has been provided to the Water Task Force. He expressed his concern that the surface water budget may change after the Lexington office is established.

Tanner inquired about the cost of the Southwest Plume. Jurka said on Metropolis Lake Road there has been drilling for new test wells. Tanner said it was his understanding the new monitoring wells are being installed in an effort to better grasp the movement of the plume. Begley reported Kentucky is working with DOE to install reliable monitoring wells. He stated Kentucky has requested to be present during the first sampling event.

Tanner asked if there has been any indication that the plume is moving towards the northeast across Metropolis Lake Road. Begley said no and that he is hoping the new monitoring wells will provide more information.

Tanner mentioned there is an industry located northeast of the plant that uses large wells for a fire reservoir. He asked if that could affect the movement of the plume. Begley said he was unaware of the industry, but it probably would not affect the plume.

Begley said he does groundwater sampling east and west of Metropolis Lake Road. He said the main reason for sampling those areas is because it is where the plume and water policy box ends. He stated TCE has not been detected even in low levels on the eastside of the road. Tanner asked how far east of Metropolis Lake Road the sampling is conducted. Begley said sampling has been done two to three miles east of Metropolis Lake Road; however, nothing was found. Begley said most of the sampling takes place no more than one-half a mile east of Metropolis Lake Road.

Next Month's Agenda

The task force decided that next month's agenda should consist of the following items:

1. Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) Permit Update
2. Six-Phase Update
3. North South Diversion Ditch (NSDD) Update
4. Next month's agenda

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Action Items

Staff: Invite Larry Sowder to July task force meeting.