

**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant  
Citizens Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2005**

The February 17, 2005 Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting was held at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky at 5:30 p.m.

**Board members present:** Barry Eadens, Ricky Ladd, Shirley Lanier, Bobby Lee, Linda Long, Rhonda McCorry, John Russell, and Jim Smart

**Board members absent:** Chad Kerley and Janet Miller

**Ex Officio members and related regulatory agency employees present:** Doug Dawson and Tim Kreher, Kentucky Department Fish and Wildlife Resources; and David Williams, Environmental Protection Agency

**Deputy Designated Federal Official present:** William Murphie

**DOE Federal Coordinator present:** David Dollins

**DOE-related employees present:** Greg Bazzell, Jeannie Brandstetter, Kim Crenshaw, Jim Ethridge, Greg Felts, Ed Holmes, Lester Hurst, Steve Kay, Reinbaud Kuerr, Bruce Phillips, Danny Smith, and Glenn VanSickle

**Public:** Bill Tanner and Ken Wheeler

### **Agenda**

Long called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board facilitator Steve Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. He said Board elections would be conducted prior to the task force reports.

**The Board adopted the agenda as modified by consensus.**

### **Minutes**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the draft January minutes. There were no modifications. **The Board approved the minutes as submitted by consensus.**

### **Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments**

Murphie, on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), awarded a plaque to Bill Tanner for appreciation on serving the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) and the community for eight years.

Murphie provided the CAB with DOE's response to the recommendation (05-02) concerning the waste projections update and development of appropriate disposal options. He said DOE agrees with the recommendation and has provided information on the C-746-U Landfill Waste Generation Plan.

## **Progress of the Paducah Project**

Murphie reported January progress as follows:

- Utility electrical duct banks and water and sewer lines are being installed at the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF<sub>6</sub>) Conversion Facility. Administration and warehouse construction may begin in the Spring.
- Drummed material at the DOE Material Storage Area (DMSA) is being removed, sorted, characterized, segregated, and repackaged. 634,000 of 866,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of DMSA material has been characterized over the project life. Mobilization and characterization of "Priority B" DMSAs have been initiated.
- DOE is continuing to resolve the shipping issues in the Scrap Metal Removal project. Machine turnings waste processing started in the Northwest Scrap Yard. Expected shipping start date is March 10, 2005. 3,900 drums of machine turnings are to be disposed at Envirocare by October 2005.
- Landfill disposition of 14 B-25 boxes of non-hazardous tank debris has been completed at the C-410 Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) complex. Mixed low-level waste tank residuals and hydrogen fluoride (HF) piping for the HF Tank Farm is being prepared for shipment to Envirocare.
- 1,864 ft<sup>3</sup> of Legacy Waste was disposed of in the C-746-U Landfill in January.
- The C-400 Source Removal Record of Decision is under review by the regulators. Approval is anticipated in mid-April. The Southwest Plume Site Investigation/Risk Assessment Report was submitted to regulators on February 17, 2005.
- DOE submitted the Surface Water Operable Unit Sampling and Analysis Plan to the regulators on December 15, 2004. Mobilization activities for the site investigation will begin in the Spring.
- Protests were filed staying execution of the Paducah remediation contract with North Wind Paducah Cleanup Company, LLC on January 10, 2005. The contract with Bechtel Jacobs Company is extended through May, with further options for extensions.
- The fiscal year 2006 budget request was submitted to Congress on February 7. The budget request supports projects such as; groundwater treatment at C-400, DMSA activities, C-410 complex D&D, scrap metal removal, burial grounds field work and surface water projects.

## **Federal Coordinator Comments**

Dollins made several announcements:

- Responses are being drafted to the CAB's recommendation for resolution of Holocene displacement at the C-746-Landfill (05-01) and for the Board's End State Vision recommendation (04-07). He said DOE would only be able to respond to a portion of the End State Vision letter. Some of the points listed in this recommendation cannot be answered at this time.

- DOE is currently reviewing the applications for proposed membership issued to DOE last month.
- The Site Investigation Report for the Southwest Groundwater Plume is available for review.
- The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) chart discussed in last month's meeting has been provided in the Board packets. Murphie said the chart he envisioned would focus on the baseline with more detailed activities through completion of the cleanup process. Lee requested that the CERCLA chart show opportunities for CAB and public input.

### **Comments**

Ladd said DOE is beginning to miss some of the transition dates in the DUF<sub>6</sub> project that were outlined in the request for proposal (RFP), such as transferring the cylinder management work to Uranium Disposition Services (UDS) and transition of employees. He asked if this was an isolated incident or if the whole project would be running behind schedule. Murphie said the contract protest could affect everything in the scope of work for the new contract. He said DOE anticipates transferring the cylinder yards to UDS in May.

Ladd asked if a list of the heavy metals associated with the machine turnings from the scrap metal project was available. Murphie said the heavy metals regulated under the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) set the standards for the toxic leachate collection process. Ladd asked if beryllium was one of the metals listed. Murphie said beryllium is not listed under RCRA. Murphie said an action would be taken to check to see if beryllium was one of the metals associated. Smart asked if the metals turnings would be disposed in the on-site landfill. Murphie stated due to the hazardous nature of the content, the metals would be sent to an approved RCRA facility, such as Envirocare.

Lee requested the Water Quality task force be provided a presentation on the Site Investigation Report for the Southwest Groundwater Plume. Dollins agreed.

### **Ex- Officio Comments**

Williams said the Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and the Environment (KRCEE) were involved in several projects of high importance. He said it would be beneficial for the CAB to request a quarterly update. Murphie said he would speak with Steve Hampson, KRCEE, to propose a way to convey an updated status of the projects more routinely.

Williams said he has heard rumor of Oak Ridge and Savannah River DOE employees competing for their jobs. Murphie said the department is in the process of an A76 process, which is a federal requirement where the government periodically examines its services and decides whether they should be competed. He said this requirement is for environmental and engineer work and is currently six months through the process, usually taking about two years. He said a scope of work is prepared and competed with a private sector.

Williams said the scoping on the burial grounds by DOE using the water models is very good work and very valuable to the Paducah technology to be able to go exactly where the plume or contamination is migrating.

### **Election for Chair**

McCorry reported three nominations had been received for the interim position of Chair. Two of the nominees had declined. She said she had been nominated and would agree to serve the interim term. Kay asked if there were any additional nominations. There were none. McCorry was elected Chair by acclamation.

### **Task Forces/Presentations**

#### **Waste Disposition Task Force**

#### **Burial Grounds Operable Unit**

Russell provided a presentation on the Burial Grounds Operable Unit (BGOU).

Murphie stated one of DOE's most important issues at the Paducah site are the decisions to be made on the BGOU. He said it is very important to obtain community input and proper support for the decisions made from a financial and future risk perspective. He said this is the time, during the scoping document, to have the most influence on decisions than any other point. Russell said it is ultimately a political decision whether to cap or excavate the burial grounds rather than information from an investigation. He said the final decision is derived from the expectations on the final use of the entire area.

#### **Water Quality Task Force**

#### **Surface Water Operable Unit On-Site Phase 1 Sampling and Analysis Plan**

Long provided a presentation on the Surface Water Operable Unit On-Site Phase 1 Sampling and Analysis Plan.

Russell said he did not recall Cesium-137 ever being an issue and now it is an indicator chemical of interest in the North-South Diversion Ditch and Outfall sampling. Williams said when this chemical is listed, it is an indicator that other radionuclides are present in sampling that are not as easy to detect. Murphie said if Cesium-137 were identified, they would then look for other chemicals. Williams said the Commonwealth of Kentucky wants to add more indicator chemicals to the list. Lee asked why Cesium-137 is 10 times higher in Outfall indicator chemicals than in North-South Diversion Ditch indicator chemicals. Murphie said he would provide Lee with an answer to this question.

#### **Long Range Strategy/Stewardship**

Kay said the draft agenda for the Chairs Meeting in Savannah River is in the packet. He said the support staff needs to know as soon as possible, who would be attending in order to meet registration and hotel reservation deadlines.

Kay said a Chairs Conference call is scheduled for February 24 at 2:00 p.m., if anyone would like to participate.

Kay said comments on the CAB's Annual Report are due on February 25. He said this would be the last opportunity to comment before the report goes to the printer.

## **Community Outreach**

### **Speakers Bureau**

Eadens provided a draft Speakers Bureau presentation to gain comments and suggestions from the Board. He said the presentation was to inform the public on the projects that are being conducted at the Paducah site.

Suggestions for the presentation are as follows:

- Eadens suggested including a slide on the DUF<sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility,
- Murphie suggested including a photograph on the burial grounds while in operation,
- Long suggested adding the actual number of cylinders on-site and add a photograph showing the majority of the cylinders,
- Murphie suggested increasing information on plant precedence,
- Smart suggested adding the end result for cleanup (current estimate 2019), towards the end of the presentation, and
- Lee suggested adding the web site information on the last slide and an opportunity for the public to be added to the mailing list.

Kay suggested the task force provide a list of the organizations they plan to visit with this presentation.

McCorry said the task force would review the suggestions, revise the presentation, and bring back to the Board for approval in April. She said the task force would be discussing adding youth representatives from local schools.

Kay stated a letter from the Active Citizens for Truth (ACT) is in the Board packets. He said an invitation has been extended to attend the public meeting on March 15 at the Western Kentucky Wildlife Management Area clubhouse. He said a presentation is scheduled describing the Environmental Garden Project coordinated and administered by ACT.

Kay said a flier from the U.S. Department of Labor for eligibility of compensation and payment of medial expenses under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act is included in the Board packets. He said the Board needs to decide whether to place this flier in the *CABfare* or provide a paragraph on this subject in the *CABfare*. Kay said the decision can be made in the task force since the Board did not have a preference.

## **Review of Workplan**

Russell said Dorothy Starr has resigned from the Board. He said she would need to be replaced on the workplan. Dollins said that decision can be made at task force level.

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the workplan. There were none.

## **Review of March Agenda**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. He noted web site review should be added to the March agenda and Speakers Bureau added to the April agenda under Community Outreach.

## **Action Items**

Kay reported the action for updated information on the C-746-U Landfill is still pending. Dollins said this action could be closed due to DOE issuing a response to the landfill recommendation. Kay said the CERCLA chart action will remain pending.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### **Executive Committee**

### **Membership Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Long said the support staff contacted the remaining applicants in the membership pool. Three of the applicants are available for membership at this time. Dollins encouraged the Board to be mindful of the diversity and consider conducting a membership drive before recommending the final three applicants for membership. Long asked if the previous two applicants recommended to DOE had been processed. Dollins said he was in receipt of the recommendation and no letters have been sent at this time. Lee said she believes the two applicants previously submitted need to go forward.

Murphie suggested public participation as ex-officios at task forces and Board meetings, without the ability to vote. Kay said the Executive Committee can consider this idea.

## **Final Comments**

Eadens asked the results of the terrorism drill held at the plant. Murphie said DOE was not an active participant, and he is unsure of the official results. He said the local newspaper should report the results the following day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.