



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes September 15, 2005

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) met at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky September 15, 2005, at 6 p.m.

Board members present: John Anderson, Chad Kerley, Shirley Lanier, Linda Long, Janet Miller, John Russell, and Jim Smart

Board members absent: Allen Burnett, Barry Eadens, Bobby Lee and Rhonda McCorry

***Ex Officio* members and related regulatory agency employees present:** Mike Guffey, Kentucky Division of Waste Management; David Williams, Environmental Protection Agency; Doug Dawson, Kentucky Department Fish and Wildlife Resources

Deputy Designated Federal Official present: Rachel Blumenfeld

DOE-related employees present: Jeannie Brandstetter, Kim Crenshaw, Jim Ethridge, Greg Felts, Bruce Gardner, Bob Giroir, Guy Griswold, Bruce Phillips, Steve Kay, Reinhard Kuerr, Tom Stanberry, Joe Tarantino, and Elizabeth Trawick

Five members of the public attended the meeting.

Agenda

Kay asked for proposed modifications to the agenda. There were none. **The Board adopted the agenda by consensus.**

Minutes

Kay asked for proposed modifications to the draft August minutes. There were none. **The Board approved the minutes as submitted by consensus.**

Election of Chair and Chair-Elect

Kerley reported McCorry and Smart were nominated for Chair-Elect but Smart declined the nomination. Kay asked if there were any other nominations by the Board. Kay asked if there were any objections to electing McCorry as Chair-Elect by acclamation. There were no objections.

Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments

Progress of the Paducah Project

Blumenfeld reported August progress:

- The C-400 Source Removal Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on August 9. C-400 Remedial Action bids were received by Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC (BJC) on August 31. Contract award is scheduled for November 15, 2005.
- A recertification from the Nevada Test Site was received on July 15, allowing scrap metal shipments to start the week of July 25, with 7-8 shipments weekly, totaling 855 tons through August. Over 3,800 tons of D-yard scrap has been downsized and about 40 percent of an estimated 10,000 tons has been removed to date. Completion is anticipated in early 2006. The final shipment of scrap metal turnings was made on August 19.
- In Legacy Waste disposition, 3,861 ft³ of Agreed Order waste and 5,400 ft³ of crushed drums was disposed in the C-746-U Landfill and 414 ft³ of Agreed Order waste was shipped to Envirocare. 10,853 ft³ of uranium tetrafluoride (UF₄) was shipped to Duratek pending processing for disposal at Envirocare.
- Shipments of UF₄ drums are 48 percent complete. Processing continues at Duratek to confirm contents are acceptable for disposal at Envirocare. Final shipment to Duratek is scheduled for completion by the end of fiscal year 2005.
- In outdoor low-level waste, documentation packages are being prepared to ship 1,950 ft³ of floor sweep to Envirocare. Data is being reviewed to determine the best disposal method for 16,650 ft³ of soils and debris. To date 5,400 ft³ of empty drums and debris have been disposed.

- At the C-410 Decontamination and Decommissioning complex, treatment of the second batch of 3,000 gallons of rainwater from roof leaks has been completed. Removal of fluorine cell stands and platforms in Sector 2 is continuing. Four fluorine cells were moved from the waste storage facility to begin blasting when solidified electrolyte was found on the surface, work was paused and evaluation for removal of the solidified electrolytes began. The contractor has begun mobilization on the nitrogen facility to remove pipes, valves and other small equipment; completion is scheduled for October 2005. The Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for the Limehouse, Contaminated Item Incinerator, and West End Smelter was issued for public comment through October 31, 2005. Fieldwork on the Lime House is scheduled to begin January 2006.
- 1,286 of 2,375 screening samples and 336 of 347 lab samples were collected through August 26 for the Surface Water Operable Unit (SWOU). Sampling of soils and sediments of the North-South Diversion Ditch (NSDD) Sections 3, 4 and 5, outfalls and internal ditches, and storm sewer discharge water is scheduled to be completed in October. The Site Investigation/Baseline Risk Assessment will be submitted to the regulators during the Summer of 2006.
- 16 out of 17 Outside DOE Material Storage Areas (DMSA) are now empty. 644,000 of 860,000 ft³ of DMSA material has been characterized. 278,000 ft³ has been packaged and 257,000 ft³ has been shipped.
- Field work began the week of July 18 on the maintenance and warehouse building foundation at the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride conversion facility site. The warehouse building contract is expected to be complete by February 2006. The facility 90% design work was completed in March and is undergoing DOE review and approval.
- 208 tons of waste were disposed at the C-746-U Landfill in August. On July 6, Kentucky withdrew permit modifications for the S, T, and U landfills, including the leachate facility, due to internal procedural issues. The permit was reissued for public comment on July 11 and comment period ended on August 10. Reissuance of the permit modification is expected following completion of the comment period. Completion of the leachate treatment facility is now anticipated in December 2005.
- Discussions were held in July to resolve Kentucky and EPA comments on the D1 Southwest Plume Site Investigation (SI). The Federal Facilities Agreement was submitted to the regulators to realign milestones, including a modification of the milestone for the D2 SI Report to be submitted by October 7, 2005. The D1 C-746-S&T Landfill Site Evaluation Report will be submitted by the September 30 milestone.
- On June 30, the Burial Grounds Operable Unit (BGOU) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Work Plan was submitted to regulators; comments are anticipated by September 30.

- The Source Evaluation Board (SEB) released the amended Request for Proposal (RFP) on June 20, 2005 for the remediation contract. Offerers within the competitive range had until August 4, 2005 to submit responses to the revised RFP. Offers received by the deadline will be evaluated by the SEB. DOE has extended the BJC contract through January 29, 2006.

Comments

Miller asked if the lining for the gondola cars used for transporting the scrap metal would become waste. Blumenfeld said the containers are placed “as is” in Envirocare, the waste disposal facility.

Miller asked if the best disposal method for the outdoor legacy low-level waste is determined by regulatory review. Blumenfeld said no, it is a project management decision.

Smart asked how many samples exceeded the limits on the SWOU project. Williams said there were 16 exceedences for polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and out of 2,147 total samples, 106 exceeded indicator levels.

Russell said the data that was presented at the July meeting within the Burial Grounds presentation included some data from the Southwest Plume and the C-746-S&T Landfills. He said the Waste Disposition Task Force requested the data from these projects separate from the other 10 years of data in a three dimensional presentation. He said he was informed this would cost \$6,000. Russell said this information was part of a database used to produce the other models. He asked why it would cost \$6,000 to pull out a portion of the information. Blumenfeld said the cost may be putting together an entirely different model possibly by another contractor. Russell said the data from those studies must have been presented separately in the past and asked if it be possible to see it. Williams said there were no graphical presentations on the Southwest Plume or the S&T Landfill. He said those documents were started a year before the burial grounds scoping meetings began. Russell said the CAB has not seen the data from those investigations as they relate to the questions of the Southwest Plume and S&T studies. Blumenfeld said the S&T Site Evaluation would answer some of these questions when it is available. She suggested Russell contact Dollins to obtain some of this information.

Russell asked if the scrap metal graphics slide could be added back into the presentation since the shipments have resumed. Blumenfeld said the slide would be added to the presentation when the revised schedule has been formalized.

Kerley asked if the CAB could be added to the regulator’s distribution lists for the correspondence to DOE relating to document comments and milestone dates. He said other CABs are receiving this information from their state and EPA. Williams said EPA would not want to “circumvent DOE.” Blumenfeld said pre-decisional phase documents could not be shared but general correspondence could be accessed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). She suggested contacting Dollins on exactly what the CAB would like to receive.

Williams said document schedules, comments and extensions should be shared with the Board. He said the documents should include a comment response summary.

Ex-Officio Comments

Guffey said the Commonwealth of Kentucky is pleased to have the C-400 ROD signed and the progress on the inactive facilities is very encouraging. He said another closure plan for DMSAs is near and the site treatment plan is forthcoming. He said a tentative hearing may be scheduled if there is interest on holding hearings for the DMSA closures and the site treatment plan.

Williams said EPA obtained samples on the Northwest Plume and on the Northeast Plume at six feet to see whether or not there has been vaporization of the TCE into the soil. He said the results will be available in a couple of weeks.

Public Comments

Ruby English, citizen and Active Citizens for Truth (ACT) Chair, proposed that DOE and the CAB hold a public meeting to explain institutional controls on what has been implemented and what to expect, such as zoning and deeds on the plume areas. Blumenfeld said the only institutional controls that have been looked at is for DOE property. English said the DOE maps show institutional controls to areas down to the river. Williams said the Water Policy is considered an institutional control. Kay suggested adding this to the Long Range Task Force agenda.

Jurka said she could not tell the depth of the contamination in the presentation that Russell provided in August. She said several people are using wells where the Southwest Plume may be forming at less than 60 feet in depth. She said she was surprised there was no recommendation to follow the presentation. Jurka said that during drought conditions an individual showed her where water was pooling on the surface that had a tar-like substance with no sewage smell. She said she is concerned about the wetlands around the plant having contaminants. She said she does not have any geological data to determine where the level of the Regional Ground Aquifer (RGA) is in that environment. Russell said the presentation indicated ground levels down to the RGA. About 60 percent of that area is wetlands and if we had the definition of wetlands that we have today, some of the burial grounds would be wetlands but he is puzzled by the material that was coming to the surface. Jurka said the state tested the number of people still using wells and several were west of the plant. If contamination is reaching the RGA, there is potential for migration of these contaminants from the landfills into private drinking wells. Russell said the BGOU Workplan was to identify gaps in the information that existed to see if further investigation was required and he believes DOE conducted a thorough job looking at the data. He said the Southwest Plume does not extend beyond the plant boundary so it would be shocking to him if the privately owned wells showed contamination because there is no known plume extending in that direction. Long said there are springs in that vicinity. She said there is a spot on her property that is damp in dry weather. She said Dollins has assured her that someone would check to see if there was a spring coming from the groundwater in that area. Russell said this part of

Kentucky does have impermeable clay layers that do not allow vertical movement of water and forces horizontal movement. Some of the surface water will not get to the RGA and may come to the surface as a spring.

Task Forces/Presentations

Water Quality Task Force

Smart said the task force is sending a letter to Larry Sowder, state permit writer, to support the expedited issuance of the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, the state permit that sets limits on contaminant levels in discharge waters to outfalls around the plant. He said the draft letter is provided in the Board packet. The Board had no objections to sending the letter to Sowder. Smart said the task force received updates on the Southwest Plume and the SWOU projects. Miller asked if the Water task force could get the sampling results from the SWOU where the exceedences occurred. Smart said he would request the information for the next task force meeting. Williams said most of the exceedences were between the plant boundary and Ogden Landing Road.

Long-Range Strategy/Stewardship

Kerley said the site tour has been scheduled for October 22 and all Board members should notify the staff if they plan to attend.

Kerley said DOE would be conducting a public meeting on October 18 at 6:30 at the Environmental Information Center to discuss the 2005 End State Vision Annual Update with stakeholders.

Community Outreach

Kerley said Barry Eadens would provide the speaker's bureau presentation to producers at Channel 6 on October 7. He said Channel 6 has been invited to participate in the site tour for background/informational purposes, not for a news story.

Kerley said the Community Outreach task force requested that a member of DOE participate in their meetings. Blumenfeld requested that Eadens contact her to discuss the issue.

Administrative Issues

Review of October Agenda

Kerley requested adding the C-746-S&T Landfill presentation to the October agenda.

Action Items

There were no changes to the action items.

Subcommittee Report

Executive Committee

Kerley said the final Chairs Meeting templates that were submitted to DOE Headquarters are provided in the packet. He said McCorry, Lanier, Russell and Brandstetter would be representing the CAB in Idaho Falls. He said Burnett is in Mississippi working on Hurricane Katrina cleanup and is unable to attend the chairs meeting as previously planned.

Kerley said Executive Committee is postponed to September 27 due to chairs meeting travel.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.