



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes March 16, 2006

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) met at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky, March 16, 2006, at 6 p.m.

Board members present: John Anderson, Allen Burnett, Barry Eadens, Shirley Lanier, Bobby Lee, Linda Long, John Russell, Jim Smart, and Rhonda Smith

Board members absent: Chad Kerley and Janet Miller

***Ex Officio* members and related regulatory agency employees present:** Bill Clark, Mike Guffey and Todd Mullins, Kentucky Division of Waste Management; Tim Kreher, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources; and David Williams, Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Designated Federal Official present: Rachel Blumenfeld

DOE Federal Coordinator present: David Dollins

DOE-related employees present: Rich Bonczek, Jeannie Brandstetter, Charles Calus, Greg Cook, Kim Crenshaw, Skip Donham, Bruce Gardner, Ed Holmes, Steve Kay, Reinhard Knerr, Steve Meiners, John Razor, Steve Polston, Jeff Snook, Joe Tarantino, and Dick Veazey

Two 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 February minutes. There were none. **The Board approved the minutes as submitted by consensus.**

Deputy Designated Federal Official *Attachment 1*

Blumenfeld provided the project updates to the Board. Questions and answers (paraphrased) appear below.

Question/comment	Answer
Mr. Burnett – Does the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) intend to close the Scrap Metal D-Yard after the remaining soil and debris is removed?	Ms. Blumenfeld – DOE is not currently planning to handle any more scrap metal at the D-Yard.
Dr. Russell – The legend is not correct for the Scrap Metal Removal Chart.	Ms. Blumenfeld – The legend will be corrected.
Mr. Burnett – Were PCBs found in the flaking paint at the C-410 D&D Building?	Ms. Blumenfeld – No. There was radioactive contamination on some of the flakes. Applying fixative on stacks and painting the metal outside the building was an effort to stop the wind from causing any migration of paint chips outside the posted areas.

Federal Coordinator Comments

Dollins made several announcements:

- A land use map and overlays were provided to the Waste/Water task force. He said the overlays included monitoring wells, landfills and the groundwater plumes.
- The CAB membership package was sent to DOE Headquarters for review.
- The National Chairs Meeting is in April and Board members will need to decide who will participate in the meeting.

Ex-Officio Comments

Guffey said a public notice on the Kentucky Hazardous Waste Management Permit modification appeared in The Paducah Sun in February. He said the modification includes changing operations from Bechtel Jacobs Company (BJC) to Paducah Remediation Services (PRS), DOE Material Storage Area Closure Plans, Site Treatment Plans, and the draft permit prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) covering organic emissions in four

tanks. Smith asked if a public hearing would be held. Guffey said the deadline to request a hearing is March 22. If not requested, no hearing will be held.

Kreher said he would know the week of March 20 if the Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and the Environment (KRCEE) would be able to conduct an Ecological Summary presentation for the CAB in April.

Williams said EPA Headquarters has been focusing on Paducah for the last couple of weeks. He said the Government Performance Results Act requires government agencies to meet certain goals and environmental indicators have been established. The indicators are whether human health exposure and groundwater contamination migration are under control. He said Paducah is currently on record as not having either of these issues under control. Williams said there was a congressional hearing recently and the hearing administrator said the listing for Paducah is “unacceptable” and the data needs to be re-evaluated on how it can be brought under control. The focus on human health exposure is in the Wildlife Management Area (WMA). For example, is there appropriate signage and institutional controls that alerts people to the exposure downstream of the plant? He said a resolution is the works with Kentucky, EPA and DOE. Smith asked if a report would be available on outcome. Williams said a report would be available in the near future. Blumenfeld said if DOE were aware of exposures that were ongoing, action would be taken. Williams said it is a hypothetical exposure. Williams said the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) report said that there was no ongoing human exposure in Paducah. That determination was due to the appropriate signing in place.

Public Comments

Jurka said she was unaware that a congressional meeting was held. She asked what congressional committee held the hearings. She suggested that the EPA investigate human risk exposure outside of the WMA due to the contamination that has migrated beyond the wildlife refuge boundaries. Jurka said the plant has a 50-mile hot zone of radiological contamination. She said Kentucky regulators have found state industrial arsenic levels in gardens of plant neighbors and during the Garden Vegetable project plutonium levels through airborne disposition were found. Williams said he would contact Jurka on information about the hearing. Long asked if the fish in her pond could be dangerous. Kreher asked Guffey if someone from CHS could check Long’s pond being that it is a radiation issue. Guffey said he would bring it to someone’s attention in Frankfort. Lee asked if there was a general fish consumption warning in Kentucky. Guffey said that was not his division, he did not want to misspeak. Lee said she believed the Kentucky Division of Water has made public the warnings of the mercury content in the water surrounding the plant. Dollins said DOE has not seen the fish report, so they cannot speak to the environmental indicators. He said if DOE thought there was human exposure, they would work to prevent surface exposure. DOE is interested in seeing the report to evaluate the content.

Meiners said Steve Hampson, KRCEE, wanted to report that the Holocene Displacement document is in the final draft and he would report the findings of the report to the CAB if there is interest.

Task Forces/Presentations Attachment 2

Kreher provided a presentation on the Wildlife Management Area. Questions and answers (paraphrased) appear below.

Question/comment	Answer
Ms. Lee – Are there signs that delineate property boundaries?	Mr. Kreher – Yes, the boundaries are delineated by track numbers and letters. After September 11, signs were posted for unauthorized users approximately every 100 yards around DOE owned property.
Ms. Lee – Are there signs that let people know about contamination?	Mr. Kreher – This information is made available at the clubhouse and at hunter check stations. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) has worked with BJC to develop signage and welcomed comments when the need for signing was brought up.
Ms. Lee – Is KDFWR taking a look at the EPA concerns?	Mr. Kreher – That is the first time I have heard of the EPA concerns. KDFWR may need to take a look at additional security.
Ms. Lee – Have any tissue samples been taken for contamination? What are the findings?	Mr. Kreher – Fish out of six different ponds are tested periodically. Quail and rabbits have been tested and deer are tested once a year. The findings indicate extremely low levels of PCB in white tail deer. Detection levels have been very low on most other testing.
Ms. Lee – Are the findings from these samplings public information?	Mr. Kreher –The information is located in the yearly Annual Site Environmental Report.
Ms. Smith – Is the test program outlined where it can be obtained by the public?	Mr. Kreher –The human health exposure information was done in conjunction with the remediation contractor at the current time. It should be available on the Oak Ridge Environmental Information System (OREIS) Web site.
Ms. Smith – Are there signs posted that indicate the deer may contain contamination?	Mr. Kreher – We feel that the sampling results do not warrant that there may be contamination in the deer. There is posting at Big and Little Bayou Creeks about the consumption of the fish due to the Ohio River. He said there is a proposal for sampling of turtles.

Waste Disposition/Water Quality Task Force

Lee said the Waste Disposition/Water Quality task force received updates on several ongoing projects and reviewed an End State map with overlays that Dollins and BJC had provided. She said the task force requested an additional overlay identifying residential homes and a map showing current use of the site. She requested that Board members provide a list of questions to the staff indicating what they would like to see on the maps and overlays.

Administrative Issues

Budget Review

Smith asked if EHI had received the contract amendment from DOE to increase the budget to \$345,000. Dollins said he is working on that. He said he would talk to Oak Ridge to see how they can modify the contract to accommodate the numbers that Headquarters has given to the CAB. Burnett asked that the spreadsheet indicate how much of the budget is EHI's and how much is Board expenditures.

Review of Workplan and April Agenda

Dollins suggested postponing the Site Management Plan presentation until May and allow time in July for PRS to provide a brief presentation. Blumenfeld asked Dollins to discuss the presentation with Razor before deciding on a date. Smith said additional time would need to be allotted next month for Chairs Meeting preparation. She said this topic is on the Executive Committee meeting agenda. Burnett requested that the topics for the Chairs Meeting be mailed out with the April Board packets for review.

Action Items

Blumenfeld said DOE is working with the University of Kentucky (UK) on the scope for the land buy-out study. She said DOE will keep the CAB informed. Eadens said he had spoken with Blumenfeld on DOE participation at Community Outreach meetings and she has agreed to provide participation on an "as needed basis." He said Sandra Bastin is unable to locate her materials from the Garden Vegetable Study. Eadens said he wanted this information to validate whether the plant neighbor's vegetables are safe and the CAB may want to look at the non-response from UK, but the action could be closed. Lee asked if the staff could take the information from OREIS and provide that to the CAB. Kay suggested adding this issue to the Community Outreach agenda. Dollins said the land use maps were provided to the task force and would be an ongoing effort and the membership package has been sent to Headquarters. Those actions can be closed.

Subcommittee Report

Executive Committee

Smith requested that all Board -members send their top three issues to be discussed at the Chairs meeting to staff by Monday, March 21 for discussion at the Executive Committee meeting on Tuesday.

Other

Smith read a resignation letter from Eadens to the Board effective on March 17. Blumenfeld thanked Eadens for his service, ideas and energy while on the Board.

Anderson provided an article on the new task force that is charged with helping the community address future issues at the plant. The task force includes Paducah Mayor Bill Paxton, McCracken County Judge-Executive Danny Orazine, USEC Plant Manager Steve Penrod, Director of Field Services Charlie Martin, PACRO Director John Anderson, NewPage Director of Environmental Affairs Ray Daily, former DOE Site Manager Jimmie Hodges, former USEC General Manager Howard Pulley and Purchase Area Development District Director Henry Hodges. Smith requested a presentation from the task force for CAB support and Anderson said the task force also wants to support the CAB.

Burnett said he would like some follow-up on Jurka's question regarding airborne plutonium found during the Garden Vegetable Study. He requested that the staff contact Jurka for documentation on her findings and if the area she was discussing was the Golonda, Ill., area. Kay suggested Community Outreach look at the information Jurka provides.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.