



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes March 20, 2008

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) met at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky, March 20, 2008, at 6 p.m.

Board members present: John Anderson, Allen Burnett, Judy Clayton, Shirley Lanier, Jim Smart and Don Swearingen

Board members absent: Bobby Lee, Alex Roman, Elton Priddy and John Russell

Board Liaisons and related regulatory agency employees: Todd Mullins, Kentucky Division of Waste Management

Deputy Designated Federal Official: Reinhard Knerr

DOE Federal Coordinator: Mitch Hicks

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) related employees: David Ashburn, Rich Bonczek, Russ Boyd, Paul Corpstein, Kim Crenshaw, Tracey Duncan, Bruce Gardner, Steve Manning, Jerry Mayes, Jim McVey, Bill Murphie, Todd Nelson, and Eric Roberts

Public: Gary Long

Agenda

The proposed March agenda was modified to include DOE presentations on the C-746-U Landfill Leachate Treatment System and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 DOE Environmental Management (EM) Budget Development at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP). In addition, discussion of the policy statement on the management of DOE's excess uranium inventory was included. **The Board approved the agenda as modified.**

Deputy Designated Federal Official Comments

Knerr presented project updates and presentations to the Board on the C-746-U Landfill Leachate Treatment System and the FY 2010 DOE EM Budget Development at the PGDP. All presentations are available on the CAB Website at www.pgdpcab.org. Questions and answers (paraphrased) appear below.

Questions/Comments	Answers
Project Updates	
Burnett: Were cure notices issued to the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF ₆) Conversion Facility contractors at both Paducah and Portsmouth?	Murphie: Yes.
Burnett: The United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) had requested that DOE transfer some of the DUF ₆ tails to them. What is the status of the request?	Murphie: There have been several other companies with the same request. All of the requests have been denied and it is anticipated that there will be a competitive procurement process and possible legislative issues beyond DOE's control.
Burnett: Has DOE agreed to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) position on treatment at the source for the Southwest Plume?	Knerr: DOE, EPA and Kentucky have the same goals for cleanup. DOE is following the EPA direction.
Burnett: Are the proposed enforceable milestones in the D1 FY08 Site Management Plan (SMP)?	Knerr: Yes, the milestones within the three year window are included in the SMP.
Burnett: Will the Electrical Resistance Heating at C-400 begin in November as planned?	Knerr: That will depend on how quickly comments are received from EPA and Kentucky and the nature of the comments. The Remedial Action Work Plan and the Remedial Design must be approved before fieldwork can begin. DOE is working on procurement and fieldwork preparation to minimize schedule delays.
C-746-U Landfill Leachate Treatment System	
Burnett: Will the existing capacity of the C-746-U-Landfill be exhausted in August 2008?	Knerr: September 2008 is the current date. DOE is anticipating having additional leachate tank capacity in place with Phases 4 and 5 operational to support operational needs and avoid any slow down of waste disposition activities.
Burnett: Does the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit only address solids and volatile organics? There have been past public concerns of radioactive materials in the leachate such as uranium.	Knerr: DOE samples for uranium in outfall discharges. All limits are met for the discharges and all sampling data is reported to the state. The treated leachate is sampled once a month at the outfall.

FY 2010 DOE EM Budget Development at the PGDP

<p>Burnett: How does DOE plan to meet the milestones with the decrease in the budget?</p>	<p>Knerr: A few projects have been delayed due to DOE and regulator agreements on the cleanup actions. DOE does not anticipate missing current milestones or any layoffs for the remediation work due to the shortfalls.</p> <p>Murphie: There is a large amount of carryover funds at this time and there is a flywheel effect with Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) activities that are not driven by regulatory commitments. Paducah DOE is fortunate to have an FY09 budget request that meets milestone commitments. Some of the other sites are not able to meet their milestone commitments.</p>
<p>Burnett: Headquarters has asked the CABs to review the site budgets and provide input.</p>	<p>Murphie: The goal for this presentation is to begin discussions on the budget.</p>
<p>Smart: Will the \$20 million shortfall for FY09 affect the cleanup efforts in Paducah?</p>	<p>Knerr: It will not affect the ability for DOE to meet the Federal Facilities Agreement milestones in the SMP.</p> <p>Murphie: FY 2010 and later milestones may be affected because carryover funds may not be available.</p>

Excess Uranium Inventory Policy Statement

Murphie discussed the Secretary of Energy’s policy statement on management of DOE’s excess uranium inventory. The policy states that DOE is looking to create different options that would result in the potential sale and/or re-enrichment of the tails, reduce the amount of natural uranium for enrichment, and downgrade the highly enriched uranium for non-proliferation objectives. This is potentially DOE’s first step to enter into the process of the sale or disposition of the depleted uranium that might return to the site and extend the life of the PGDP. The policy will be distributed to the Board.

Liaison Comments

Knerr said David Williams, EPA, has been promoted at Region 4. Jennifer Tufts will provide support until a new FFA Manager has been named. Tufts work schedule does not include Board meeting dates and asked if the Board would be interested in changing the regularly scheduled meeting to Tuesdays for EPA participation. FFA meetings would be changed to Tuesdays if the Board opted to change their schedule.

Public Comments

Todd Nelson, United Steel Workers, said there will be a Congressional Hearing regarding the uranium tails on April 3. The Union President will be testifying at the hearing and could provide an invitation list to the CAB, if interested.

Administrative Issues

Motions

Burnett presented a recommendation to DOE regarding Long Term Strategy for Disposal of Recyclable Material at the PGDP. The recommendation suggests development of a strategy for disposal of all recyclable metals that will be generated during the Decontamination and Decommissioning of the gaseous diffusion plants to maximize reuse/reclamation. This strategy should include:

- Preparation of an overall strategy for disposition of all D&D recyclable metals, including final disposition of nickel in process equipment
- Formulation of an incremental release strategy for recyclable metals to avoid unacceptable market upsets
- Development of acceptable release criteria to private sector for radiation levels within all recyclable metals.
- Reconsideration of moratorium conditions for free release of volumetrically contaminated metals.

The Board approved the proposed recommendation.

The top three issues selected by the Board for the Spring Chairs Meeting are long term strategy for disposal of recyclable materials, C-400 area groundwater remediation and proposed waste disposal options. Timeliness of DOE documents and the shortfall of the EM budget are important issues and may be considered a top issue for the Fall Chairs Meeting. Murphie requested that the CAB inform DOE which particular documents the CAB has concern. Some of the timeliness issues DOE may be able to help with and some are outside their control. The Executive Committee will revise the subpoints of each issue before issuing to DOE Headquarters on March 28.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.