



Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Citizens Advisory Board

Recommendation 07-03
January 18, 2007

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Approved at the Citizens Advisory Board Meeting, January 18, 2007

Title: Continued Use of the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area During Remediation of Soil and Rubble Piles

Background:

During routine surveys by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) contractor Paducah Remediation Services (PRS) Radiation Control Technicians on November 3, 2006, contaminated soil piles were discovered outside the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) site fence near McCaw Road. These soil piles are located in the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (WKWMA) on the east side of the plant and may have been created by dredging of Little Bayou Creek several years ago. Low levels of radiological contamination were detected in the piles. Institutional controls have been put in place to restrict access to the contaminated areas. The controls include posting of restricted areas, alerting security and the WKWMA Manager, and providing maps delineating the restricted areas. The Kentucky Department of Waste Management (KDWM) has performed additional walkdowns of the area surrounding PGDP and has identified additional soil and rubble piles for evaluation.

Preliminary monitoring results indicate that, while contamination levels in some areas exceed action levels, there is no immediate danger to public health. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet (EPPC) have directed DOE to submit a Sampling and Analysis Plan by February 11, 2007 to determine the extent of radiological and chemical contamination.

The WKWMA is an important recreational resource for Western Kentucky and is used by more than 10,000 people each year. Major recreational activities include camping, canoeing, hunting deer and small game, field trials for dogs and horses, trail riding, fishing, and skeet and target shooting.

Recommendation:

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) recommends that: (a) DOE expedite development and implementation of the Sampling and Analysis Plan and remediation of the contaminated soil and rubble piles; (b) institutional controls be maintained as necessary to protect the public health and safety; and (c) maximum access to the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area consistent with protection of the public health and safety be maintained during investigation and remediation efforts.