

**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Citizens Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2002**

The March 21, 2002 Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting was held at the Environmental Information Center in Paducah, Kentucky, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Nola Courtney, Mark Donham, Judy Ingram, Vicki Jones, Merryman Kemp, Ronald Lamb, Linda Long, Douglas Raper, John Russell, Jim Smart, Bill Tanner, John Tillson, and Gregory Waldrop.

Board members absent: Rebecca Lambert, Craig Rhodes, Rosa Scott.

Ex Officio members and related regulatory agency employees present: Gaye Brewer, Kentucky Division of Waste Management (KDWM); Carl Froede, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Tim Kreher, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR).

The Deputy Designated Federal Official present: Dave Dollins.

The DOE Federal Coordinator present: None.

DOE-related employees present: Dan Burris, Gordon Dover, Jim Ethridge, Bruce Gardner, Jill Holder, Steve Kay, Lynn Link, Chris Marshall, Lauren McDonald, Glenn Van Sickle, and Stacey Young.

Public: Brian Bell, Ruby English, Mary Hall, Charles Jurka, Vicki Jurka, Al Puckett, Andrew Smith, Tom Stone, Corrine Whitehead, and Pete Whitehead.

Agenda

Kay called the meeting to order. Courtney proposed adding a discussion about the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry response to the board recommendation and a recent Worker Health Protection Program meeting. **The Board approved the modified agenda by consensus.**

Minutes

Kay asked if there were any modifications to the February draft minutes. **The Board approved the minutes by consensus.**

Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments

Dollins, representing DOE Deputy Designated Federal Official Don Seaborg, commented on recent activities at the site.

Regarding the board action item list, DOE has arranged for Marshall Davenport to be at the April meeting of the Waste Task Force to discuss waste disposal cost estimates related to the CERCLA waste disposal facility project.

At last month's CAB meeting, Ruby English, a plant neighbor, asked about the distance of the C-746-U Landfill to her property. A map is now available that details that information, along with the distances from the nearest road and other private properties.

DOE will send a letter to Long with data about her wells.

DOE has sent the request for Ricky Ladd to be appointed to the CAB.

DOE has not determined the closure date for providing the sewer maps that Tillson requested, but will keep the board updated.

ES&H Issues

DOE has received two Notices of Violation from the State – one on Feb. 28 and another on March 11 – both related to the improper storage of material in a DOE Material Storage Area. DOE is working on responses.

Budget Update

DOE will provide an update as soon as possible.

Project Updates

Dollins indicated the updates were included in the board packets.

Recommendation Status:

The board should receive a response at the April meeting regarding the original Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis on Site Wide Sediment Controls.

Questions

Donham asked about the request for funding cleanup at the Paducah site. Dover said a proposal has been made to DOE Headquarters.

Ex-Officio comments

Froede said a meeting was held in Lexington earlier in the day to discuss a path forward on projects.

Public Comments

Vicki Jurka asked for a list of subcommittees. Kay indicated they were listed on the agenda and the meeting dates were listed on the calendar.

Donham asked if the meeting in Lexington was to resolve a dispute that has gone through the FFA process. Froede said the meeting was held to look at budget issues and work to be done. DOE is making proposals based on the new Top-To-Bottom Review.

Corrine Whitehead read comments to the board from the Coalition for Health Concern. She said the group supported the desires of landowners and residents to have their property purchased in order to move to a safer location and to leave those who do not wish to relocate undisturbed. Donham suggested she stay for the subcommittee reports to hear the recent Community Concerns Subcommittee Recommendation. Smart asked about the number of people in the coalition that voted. Whitehead said she did not know because the vote took place ten years earlier, but said the group has never been large.

Ingram suggested that the public get involved in task force meetings.

Stone, an owner of a small subdivision near the Paducah plant, said he has not sold any property in four years. Stone said he would like to see what the board could do because he believes contamination is destroying the property value in the area. He suggested DOE buy the property.

Presentations

Status: Recommendation to Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

In response to the ATSDR document released last year, Courtney said that the board had asked that more consideration be given to effects. This was not in the scope of the ATSDR study. The board had also asked that a study be done concerning the health situation for residents living on Bradford Road. ATSDR cannot recommend a detailed health study for the Bradford Road residents in the public health assessment because exposure pathways for site related chemicals to those residents do not exist. Courtney said she would like to locate another person or agency to investigate this further.

Courtney said the Western Baptist tumor registry did reflect a higher incidence of bladder cancer in Ballard County. This does not mean the cancers are linked to site activities.

Donham said there could be data gaps or not enough information in the study to reflect any pathways.

Long commented on the pathways. She said contaminants from cooling towers could have been in the air and extended to Bradford Road.

Kay said it seems there are some restrictions within the agency concerning studies like this.

Russell said a statistical study could examine whether or not the incidence of cancer was significant in the population.

Donham asked Long about steam from the plant. Long said she had seen steam from the plant east of Metropolis Lake Road. Ingram said the pathways are visible because the steam visibly freezes on the trees in the winter.

Courtney said bladder cancer and Bradford Road may not be linked, but the CAB could study the incidence of cancer at Bradford Road.

Tillson said there is a groundwater plume in the area that is related to other plants. Tanner said there is a plume like this in the Mayfield Metropolis Road area, north of Bradford Road.

Jurka commented that she had concerns about the ATSDR study. She said there were data gaps concerning TCE in wells. She said one group wanted to do a study on worker health.

Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP)

The WHPP is funded by Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers and DOE. Students and instructors from Queens College in New York and the University of Massachusetts conduct the study by using screenings for early lung detection, blood tests, and hearing loss. The study discovered three people with chronic beryllium disease. About 1,000 claimants have been paid in Paducah. There is a special exposure cohort composed of people from the Oak Ridge, Paducah, and Portsmouth area. There have been some issues analyzing data quality. Courtney said there was a lot of testing on workers in early plant operations, but there are data integrity issues. Mark Griffin is currently reviewing some of this information.

Groundwater Operable Unit Task Force Report

Smart asked if the board would vote on the recommendation from the Savannah River groundwater conference discussed at the last meeting. Kay asked if there were any objections. **The Board approved the recommendation by consensus.**

Smart said the task force minutes for the March meeting were in the packet. Due to budget constraints, DOE will have to prioritize groundwater remediation projects. DOE in Paducah has been working with Oak Ridge risk assessors. DOE will produce a map with areas of priority.

Donham said he thought Six-Phase Heating Technology was funded. Smart said funding is available for the pilot study and the contract has to be awarded. Donham asked if C-Sparge is funded. Dover said C-Sparge is fully funded, but a grant will have to be received to fund the demonstration.

Russell asked about phytoremediation, a process using trees to remediate contaminated areas. Smart said that Bodenstein said DOE is currently discussing this remediation method.

Russell asked about availability of the electronic file on risk assessment map. Young said the administrative staff would get the map to the board members.

Donham asked if this was a new risk assessment. Smart said this risk assessment targeted more specific areas.

Surface Water Operable Unit Task Force Report

The Surface Water Operable Unit Task Force met Tuesday, March 12 at the CAB office. Notes from the meeting, were in the board packets for tonight's meeting.

Tanner said in July 2001, the board made a recommendation concerning the Site-Wide Sediment Controls Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis. The task force will address this at the April task force meeting and compare the revised EE/CA to the recommendation.

Tanner said that those in attendance at the March task force meeting suggested changing the wording on the proposed recommendation and adding references to support the need for rehabilitation and the possible reduction in risk by taking the action. He said the task force would hold the recommendation until April.

Waste Operations Task Force Report

The Waste Operations Task Force met Wednesday, March 13 at the CAB office. Kemp said the minutes were in the packet.

Kemp said that a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Scrap Metal would be available in July. The task force would like the board to send a letter to the team concerning the promise of a Paducah meeting. Kemp said Czuchna answered questions at the meeting concerning waste disposal costs.

Tillson said workers found a buried storage tank in the southwest corner of the plant. Maps showing the original buildings used to house construction materials were provided to the plant. He said he was concerned that no one had researched the maps.

Tillson said that he was concerned with the method workers would use to dig and sample soil in the North-South Diversion Ditch. Dollins said workers would excavate to three feet, segregate, and excavate one more foot. It is believed the worst contamination is between three and four feet. Workers may have to dig deeper in the case of hot spots. The range of excavation is 15-30 feet wide.

Tillson asked if the samples that have been put in piles would determine final waste disposition decisions. Dollins said the ditch and the dirt piles would be sampled after excavation. Tillson commented that under RCRA, waste couldn't be blended. He said it would be a better idea to get core samples at various depths to help prevent blending. After more discussion, Tillson's question about blending was referred to the task force to examine at its April meeting. Kemp said she wanted regulators to participate in that discussion.

Kreher said his concern was loss of topsoil outside the fence. KDFWR is concerned about

vegetation after work completed.

Donham asked if clean soil was placed a significant number of feet above the contaminated soil, would there be no risk? Dollins said risk levels inside the plant after the excavation is complete and clean soil placed on top would be 10^{-4} .

Russell asked about the final profile of the ditch. Dover said the profile would be fairly rectangular. Dollins added that the backfill would include two feet of clay, soil and a vegetative cover. Russell asked where workers would get backfill. Dover said a certified off-site supplier. Russell said he was concerned about where excavated soil would be placed. Dover said the soil would be placed on a plastic surface designed to prevent runoff.

Russell asked if the NSDD was a groundwater contamination source because the maximum contamination was at three feet. Dollins said it is a contributor to contamination.

Dollins said he has asked for a presentation to examine the restoration side of environmental cleanup.

Donham asked what the risk level 10^{-6} means. Russell said that based on recreational use, if one million people used the area for a lifetime of recreational use, one person would die from the use. Russell said he would like to see data showing what areas of the NSDD have a risk greater than 10^{-6} . Dollins said some, not all areas of the ditch are at this level or more. Some of the areas are clean.

Donham asked if it cost more to sample than to dig. Dover said that environmental sampling is expensive and a slow process.

Froede asked if DOE had settled on a sampling plan. Dollins said DOE was trying to determine a sampling plan before many activities were put on hold.

Froede suggested a short presentation for the next board meeting.

Kay suggested that this subject be put on the April board agenda as a placeholder should the task force decide that further discussion is warranted.

Kemp proposed the board send a letter to DOE about the PEIS team's promise concerning a Paducah meeting. **The Board approved the proposal by consensus.**

Long Range Strategy Task Force Report

The task force did not meet in March.

Budget, Finance and Administration Report

The task force did not meet in March.

Community Concerns Report

Tillson provided a copy of the revised committee recommendation. He said the subcommittee would hold discussion until the next meeting.

Kemp asked if Bradford Road residents would fall into this area. Donham said that the task force was only discussing property affected by groundwater and possibly surface water contamination.

Donham said he wanted to gauge public interest in the recommendation. Jurka asked if the discussion of landowner compensation is within the scope of the board because of pending litigation. Kay said the board was not restricted in this way.

Lamb asked if he should recuse himself from discussing this issue. Kay said no.

Smart said that this recommendation may suggest that DOE is admitting that there has been damage and they want to use outside appraisers.

Stone said he is a member of a class action lawsuit, which concerns Union Carbide, not DOE. Other firms were operating the plant while DOE was the landlord. He added DOE has been hesitant to produce information related to this lawsuit.

Tanner said he might have a problem with the recommendation because it only concerned groundwater contamination and there are other contamination issues.

Ingram said the board could encourage DOE to set up temporary housing for people living on damaged property.

Public Involvement Report

Ingram indicated that the most recent CABfare was in the packets.

Nomination and Membership

Courtney said six new applications were in the packets. The potential members were ranked. The subcommittee proposed accepting members as needed in the following order: Richard Dyer, Fred Jones, Al Puckett, Dorothy Starr, Byron Forbus, and Damaris Gray.

Tillson asked if Gregory was contacted. Young said she had tried to contact him at work and home on several occasions.

Kay asked the board if they were comfortable with this ranking. Young said a packet will have to go to headquarters after Seaborg identifies new potential members. If the board waits until April, the board may not get any of these members until August. This will also offset some of the board rotations.

Ingram said the board needed a certain percentage of minorities to meet compliance.

Courtney said the bylaws indicated the board could have up to 18 members, but did not have to have a total of 18 members.

Waldrop suggested adding a statement to the application about attendance. Young said the operating procedures were sent with application requests.

The Board approved the proposal by consensus.

Young discussed election of subcommittee chairs. Kay asked the subcommittees to place this item on monthly agendas.

The board discussed combining task forces and committees.

Ingram proposed combining the Public Involvement and Membership and Nomination subcommittees.

Tanner proposed eliminating the Budget and Finance Committee and transferring the work to the Long Range Strategy Task Force.

The board discussed combining the Waste Operations Task Force and the Community Concerns Subcommittee. The members decided not to combine the two groups.

The Groundwater and Surface Water Task Force members will discuss at their April task force meetings whether or not they want to consolidate.

The Board approved combining the Public Involvement and Membership and Nomination subcommittees by consensus. The Board approved combining the Budget and Finance Committee and the Long Range Strategy Task Force by consensus.

Retreat Follow-up

Kay said Donham and Raper could review the self-evaluation forms for the next meeting.

Review of Workplan and Agenda

Kay said discussion of the Chairs meeting and the Side-wide Sediment Controls would be appropriate at the next meeting. Donham suggested placing the Waste Disposition Environmental Assessment on the agenda.

Young said a Notice of Availability would soon be out for the petroleum spill in the cylinder yards.

Kay asked the board if they were interested in monitoring the ongoing budget dispute and suggested these comments could be part of the Site Manager's comments. Donham said an

e-mail could be sent to the board members with this information.

Federal Coordinator Comments

Young said Raper, Long and Lambert would attend the chairs meeting.

Meeting adjourned.