

**PGDP Citizens Advisory Board
Water Task Force
February 7, 2003 * CAB Office**

CAB Members Present: Merryman Kemp
Linda Long
Jim Smart
Dorothy Starr
Bill Tanner

DOE Representatives Present: Gary Bodenstein

KY Division of Waste Mgt: Leroy Chittenden (via teleconference)
Brian Begley (via teleconference)
John Maybriar (via teleconference)

Support Staff Present: Kendra Payne
Stacey Young

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.

Sewer Rehabilitation Recommendation

Tanner reported the Department of Energy (DOE) was not going to take the Citizens Advisory Board's (CAB) recommendation and would like to readdress the issue. Tanner said the recommendation should be resubmitted, be more specific and should encourage DOE to, at a minimum, conduct an investigation.

Tanner said Bodenstein had given him some additional information that DOE used in its decision making process regarding the recommendation. He stated the information showed that the water underneath the plant is not coming from the plant. Tanner said the Paducah Water Budget Analysis showed that 1 and one half million gallons of water leaves the plant each day but does not show the source of the water. He said the documents he has seen avoid the issue and are based on assumptions.

Smart asked what the upper limit was on how much is leaving the plant. Tanner stated he thinks it is about 2-3 million gallons a day.

Tanner said the original recommendation suggested that DOE conduct audits to see how bad the problem might be, then decide to proceed with sewer rehabilitation. Kemp stated the Board should formulate another recommendation suggesting that DOE conduct an investigation.

Tanner suggested a television inspection of the internal sewer lines, which will be of little cost to DOE. Bodenstein stated the source of trichloroethylene (TCE) needs to be reduced before repairing leaking sewer lines. Tanner said that letting pipes leak and

spread contamination sends a message that DOE is not concerned about the spread of contamination to private properties.

Bodenstein said he would meet with Tanner to discuss DOE's response to the recommendation in depth. A meeting was scheduled for February 13 at noon in the CAB office. Begley said he would be interested to sit in on the meeting. Young stated she would provide Begley with a call in number.

Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) Permit

Smart stated the existing permit expires on March 31, 2003. Maybriar said it was his understanding that the permit will be extended a few months. He also said the proposed permit will be very similar to the existing permit. Tanner asked if the proposed permit is a no-limits (monitoring report only) permit. Maybriar said it is mainly a no-limits permit, however a few limits are established on a report-only basis.

Tanner asked if DOE is in compliance with the existing permit. Maybriar reported DOE is in compliance, however, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has seen some exceedences in iron levels from time to time. Maybriar said they clearly see polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination, leaving Outfall 001, moving downstream into Little and Big Bayou creeks. He said the releases are affecting the fish, which is a concern. Tanner asked if limits are established on the release levels of PCBs. Maybriar said yes, the Warm Water Aquatic Standard set actionable levels for a number of contaminants. Tanner asked if PCBs are being detected at those levels. Maybriar said no, but they are being detected at low levels in the sediment of the receiving stream. Tanner asked if the presence of PCBs is from a release in the past five years. Maybriar stated it is likely from a historical release as well as an ongoing residual release. He also said an increase in metals was detected after the Scrap Metal Removal project began. Maybriar conveyed to the task force that he will be meeting with Dr. Birge, a UK researcher who has been contracted to do additional environmental monitoring, next week to obtain the most recent sampling results.

Tanner asked if a toxicity test had been done on receiving waters. Maybriar said DOE does the test for Outfall 001. Bodenstein added that DOE is having some difficulty at Outfall 001. Maybriar reported DOE is now in a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). Tanner asked if the detected contamination is coming from the sediment basin or uncontrolled areas. Bodenstein said the suspected source is building C-612, the Northwest Pump and Treat facility, which is also discharged through Outfall 001.

Kemp asked if any recent Notices of Violation (NOVs) have been issued in connection with Outfall 001. Bodenstein answered no, but reported that preliminary reports indicate C-612 as the problem. Tanner suggested that monitoring be put in place to anticipate when the fish may die. He asked Bodenstein if DOE would prefer to add more monitoring points. Bodenstein said DOE has suggested pushing permitted outfalls to sources such as C-612 and C-616 Lagoons, much the same as Y-12 in Oak Ridge developed. However DOE has just begun these discussions. He said this would help in

ensuring compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations.

Maybriar reported the Site-Wide Surface Water Discharge Control Strategy has been taken off the table due to the Accelerated Cleanup Plan negotiations.

Six-Phase Heating System

Bodenstein reported that the Six-Phase system was activated earlier that morning (February 7, 2003).

Smart said he has a concern that not all of the condensed TCE vapors will be contained. Bodenstein stated if any vapors are released they will be detected. Tanner asked if air monitoring at the plant will be increased, and if an air permit was issued for this project. Bodenstein said an air permit is not required because the project is testing technology under CERCLA. However DOE is performing air monitoring at the Six-Phase Discharge Stack. In the event of detection above the KDEP approved limits, the system will automatically shut down.

Tanner asked if the system will be used in other areas of the plant if the pilot project is successful. Bodenstein said DOE is looking at putting 72 electrodes in the southeast corner of the plant in the event that the project is successful.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Action Items:

- Staff: Provide Begley with a call-in number for the meeting between Bodenstein and Tanner.
- Staff: Add Starr to Water Task Force distribution.