

**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Citizens Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2004**

The August 19, 2004 Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting was held at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky at 5:30 p.m.

Board members present: Richard Dyer, Barry Eadens, Rhonda McCorry, Chad Kerley, Ricky Ladd, Bobby Lee, Linda Long, Douglas Raper, Jim Smart, Dorothy Starr, and Bill Tanner

Board members absent: Vicki Jones and John Russell

Ex Officio members and related regulatory agency employees present: Gaye Brewer, Kentucky Division of Waste Management; Tim Kreher, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources; and David Williams, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Designated Federal Official present: William Murphie

DOE Paducah/Portsmouth Chief Operating Officer: Rachel Blumenfeld

DOE-related employees present: Bryan Clayton, Greg Cook, Kim Crenshaw, Jim Ethridge, Bruce Ford, Steve Kay, David Kozlowski, Kendra Payne, Bruce Phillips, Laura Schachter, Joe Tarantino, Dave Taylor, and Glenn VanSickle

Public: Ruby English, Charles Jurka, Vicki Jurka, Steve Hampson, and Larry Starr

Introductions

Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He announced Mike Hardin has been appointed as an ex-officio member to the CAB to replace Wayne Davis for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. He stated Byron Forbus has resigned from the Board for personal reasons.

Agenda

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. Tanner stated the presentation on the Surface Water Operable Unit has been postponed to October. **The Board adopted the modified agenda by consensus.**

Minutes

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the draft July minutes. There were no modifications. **The Board approved the minutes by consensus.**

Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments

Murphie stated the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has extended the deadline to submit the final Risk-Based End State (RBES) document. He said the new deadline would be finalized pending a RBES stakeholder meeting in October.

Murphie reported the environmental cleanup contract for Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC has been extended for six months to get the new contracts in place and to allow for an adequate transition period.

Murphie stated DOE has been focusing a significant amount of attention on safety. He said there have been a couple of fatalities in the last few months at other sites and DOE is evaluating whether the activities are being adequately controlled at the sites.

Progress of the Paducah Project

Murphie reported July progress as follows:

- Excavation and restoration of Section 1 of the North-South Diversion Ditch has been completed five months ahead of schedule. 19,000 tons of excavated soil was disposed in the C-746-U Landfill.
- Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF⁶) Conversion Facility construction began with a groundbreaking ceremony on July 27.
- 8,412 tons of non-hazardous solid waste was disposed in the C-746-U Landfill. DOE had received the permit modification from the Commonwealth of Kentucky to allow for disposal of non-hazardous spill cleanup residue. Permitted capacity of the C-746-U Landfill is 1.5 million yards³ in 23 phases. Currently, three of five phases are being used. There are 39,000 yards³ remaining capacity in the first three phases.
- The Legacy Waste Disposition project has disposed of approximately 50,535 ft³ of solid waste in the C-746-U Landfill. The project completed shipments of 406 ft³ of waste to Envirocare.
- The Record of Decision C-400 Source Removal was submitted to the regulators for review on August 16. Fieldwork for the S&T Landfill Investigation was completed on August 2. Construction of two contingency monitoring wells and additional borings are scheduled in August. Fieldwork for the Southwest Plume Investigation was completed August 2, including video of 3,000 feet of sanitary sewer, and various borings analysis. Construction of four contingency monitoring wells are scheduled to begin in late August. Well construction will depend on the findings.
- General Scrap Metal shipments are currently suspended due to transportation issues, however, packaging of the material will continue. The projected completion date has changed from April 2006 to July 2006. Classified scrap metal shipments continue with 233 tons shipped in July.
- 1,600 ft³ of DOE Material Storage Area (DMSA) material was characterized in July. Aggressive disposal is ongoing with 126,400 ft³ disposed over the project life.

- DOE has completed the shipment of 13 Hydrogen Fluoride (HF) tanks to ToxCo for reuse. Fluorine cell blasting is ongoing at the C-410 Decontamination and Decommissioning complex. An approval was received to ship HF tank residuals and piping to Envirocare.
- Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC has recently celebrated 2,000,000 work hours with zero lost work day accidents.

Comments

Tanner asked if the sealand containers for scrap metal removal could be shrink wrapped for shipping. Murphie stated shrink wrapping is one of several options that is being researched.

Tanner expressed his concern with the RBES Stakeholders meeting being scheduled the same time as the Chairs meeting. Murphie said he would relay Tanner's comment to Washington.

Ladd asked when the actual construction of the DUF⁶ facility would begin. Murphie said the administrative and warehouse buildings would be the first to be constructed early next calendar year. He said construction of the plant could possibly be started next year pending approval of the critical design from the Office of the Deputy Secretary. Ladd asked when the final decision would be made to start construction of the administrative and warehouse buildings. Murphie said he will possibly meet with the Deputy Secretary in October and the project will then be reviewed with the Under Secretary.

Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and Environment

Hampson presented a review of the projects conducted by the Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and Environment (KRCEE) at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP).

Tanner stated the KRCEE and the CAB have some of the same concerns. He said the CAB has submitted a recommendation to DOE for a water balance cost analysis that has not received a response at this time. He stated the CAB is also concerned about possible expansion of the landfill. Tanner asked that KRCEE and the CAB continue to discuss future information. Hampson agreed.

Tanner asked if the Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment is part of the KRCEE. He said the CAB is researching participating in an independent study for reuse of the PGDP. Hampson said there is no relation; the Tracy Farmer Center is more education oriented, not research oriented. He said he would provide Tanner with a contact for the center.

Eadens asked what the life of the five million dollars for the KRCEE's project would be and who will benefit from the results of the research. Hampson said the life of the projects would be five years and the information will be provided to DOE, contractors, and the state regulatory agencies to be discussed at project and decision making levels. Tanner asked that the CAB be added to the mailing list for the results. Hampson said he would add the CAB to be an official recipient. Tanner asked if the five million dollars is part of the agreement in principle. Murphie said the projects are totally separate. He said the KRCEE is an earmark from Congress.

Kreher stated several government agencies have asked at various times for an ecological strategy framework document that reviews how the ecology has been effected at the plant and surrounding areas. He asked why this study was not incorporated into the research by KRCEE. Hampson stated DOE did not choose the projects that KRCEE would conduct. He said the projects are decided by the universities based on the expertise of the individuals involved in the study and he said the ecological framework would be looked into and discussed. Tanner requested the ecological strategy framework be added to the Long Range Strategy/Stewardship task force.

Task Forces/Presentations

Waste Disposition Task Force

Tanner reported the Waste Disposition task force is preparing for a presentation on the C-746-U Landfill and continuing their study on the Burial Grounds Operable Unit. He stated the task force would meet on September 14.

Water Quality Task Force

Lee reported Long will present information on the Surface Water Operable Unit at the October Board meeting. She said fieldwork will begin in November. Lee said the Water Quality task force had received updates on the Southwest Plume and the C-746-S&T Landfills. She stated the Water Budget recommendation and the C-400 Source Removal recommendation have not received a response from DOE at this time.

Smart asked if written responses to the recommendations would be issued to the Board. Murphie said written responses would be provided for future recommendations and the verbal responses for recommendations that were received in the past will also receive a written response from DOE.

Long Range Strategy/Stewardship

Kerley reported the Long Range Strategy/Stewardship task force had received a presentation on the C-410 Decontamination and Decommissioning. He said the task force is discussing Paducah Area Community Reuse Organization's request for a master plan.

Kerley said a copy of the revised Operating Procedures and Bylaws have been provided in the Board packets for approval. Blumenfeld requested the right to comment on the Operating Procedures and Bylaws at a later date due to David Dollins' absence. Kay asked if there were any proposed concerns or objections. There were no objections. **The Board adopted the revised Operating Procedures and Bylaws by consensus.**

Tanner stated the agenda for the Chairs meeting has been included in the Board packet. He requested that all members review the agenda and provide the support staff with any comments or questions before the September Board meeting.

Community Outreach

Lee said the task force is progressing on the website and should be receiving a cost estimate from an Internet company.

Community Survey

Dyer presented a review of the CAB's 2001 Community Survey.

Eadens asked if it would be possible to seek assistance from a consultant to develop a better survey. Tanner requested this issue be added to the Annual Planning Retreat agenda.

Murphie asked who received the previous survey. Dyer stated it was sent to stakeholders, businesses, and plant neighbors.

Public Comments and Questions

English stated that in Hampson's presentation he said the KRCEE would support an effort to obtain viable remediation of the PGDP, the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area, and surrounding areas. She asked him to define surrounding areas. Hampson said surrounding areas would be defined as the immediate vicinity of the PGDP, north to the river, east to Metropolis Lake Road, and west to Bethel Church Road.

English asked how far from the C-746-U Landfill will be included in the seismic testing and what area of the landfill will be expanded. Hampson identified the borders for the investigation. He said the areas investigated are adjacent to both sides of the landfill to determine Holocene displacement. He said if the study shows movement in that area, the landfill will have to be moved 200 feet from the fault where movement is shown. English asked if the wetlands within close proximity of the landfill are being considered in the study. Hampson said no; this study is to determine Holocene displacement.

Jurka asked Hampson if the KRCEE was aware of the RBES document. Hampson said yes, they had provided comments on the document. Jurka stated she is concerned these studies that are being conducted will support the remedies for remediation that will leave a great amount of contamination still in place, which the community opposes. Hampson said the dissolve phase contamination is very hard, if not impossible to address. He stated the KRCEE is evaluating several paths that would involve active remediation. He said natural attenuation is being studied in terms of the model to address how long contamination will be around and pose a risk.

Jurka said she is concerned about seismic issues with the potential use of natural attenuation for addressing groundwater issues. Hampson stated KRCEE has not collected sufficient amount of data at this time to indicate if the groundwater will reverse direction and if contamination in the dissolve phase will move vertically.

Jurka stated the Active Citizens for Truth are not in favor of technical waivers that Hampson mentioned for geophysical and groundwater investigation. She said if the modeling and monitoring are inconsistent, why did the government agencies use this modeling and monitoring in all of their studies. Hampson said DOE would partly rely on a groundwater model if technical waivers were used to determine how long the contamination would pose a risk, not that the Little Bayou Creek seeps are

inconsistent with the groundwater modeling. He said the model does not show the movement of contamination to the creek at the level that has been measured in the past. He said this does not mean the model is not accurate. He said the groundwater seeps developed after the groundwater modeling was conducted.

Jurka said she is concerned nickel stored at the PGDP has other contaminants than technetium. Hampson said there are trace amounts of uranium, plutonium and strontium. He said he is only aware of the radionuclide analysis. He said additional testing would be conducted. Jurka inquired about a water main or conduit that had broken near the C-746-S&T Landfills. She asked if the borings were completed before or after the water break. Clayton said the borings were completed in July or August 2004. Kreher said the water line breakage occurred in December 2003.

Administrative Issues

Review of Workplan

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the workplan. There were none.

Review of September Agenda

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. There were none.

Action Items

Payne reported Ladd was provided with information on the drilling release and exposure occurrence at SWMU 4 to close that action item.

Kay reported that all action items are now closed except for the preparation of the Risk Assessment Workshop.

Subcommittee Reports

Executive Committee

Tanner announced there would be a Chairs conference call on August 25 at 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. He stated the Executive Committee is working on items for the Annual Planning Retreat agenda. He said one of the items on the agenda is technical assistance in writing recommendations. The retreat is scheduled for November 5 and 6.

Tanner stated DOE plans for the 8(a) support staff contract for the CAB to be in place by October 1.

Tanner requested that nominations for Chair and Chair-Elect be sent to Kerley and Raper.

Membership Ad Hoc

Long reported the Membership Ad Hoc subcommittee has received five applications. She said according to the demographics, female applicants are needed. She stated the deadline to receive applications is August 20, and the subcommittee would meet on August 22.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.