



September 16, 2013

**Chair**  
Ralph Young

**Vice-Chair**  
Ben Peterson

**Board Members**

Glenda Adkisson

Renie Barger

Judy Clayton

Robert Coleman

Eddie Edmonds

David M. Franklin

Tom Grassham

Kyle Henderson

Jonathan Hines

Mike Kemp

Maggie Morgan

Kevin L. Murphy

Dianne O'Brien

Richard Rushing

Jim Tidwell

Roger Truitt

Ken Wheeler

Rachel Blumenfeld  
*DOE DDFO*

Buz Smith  
*DOE Federal Coordinator*

**Board Liaisons**

Todd Mullins  
*Division of Waste  
Management*

Turpin Ballard  
*Environmental Protection  
Agency*

Mike Hardin  
*Fish and Wildlife Resources*

Stephanie Brock  
*Radiation Health Branch*

**Support Services**

EHI Consultants, Inc.  
111 Memorial Drive  
Paducah, KY 42001  
Phone 270.554.3004  
Fax 270.554.3248

[www.pgdpcab.org](http://www.pgdpcab.org)  
[info@pgdpcab.org](mailto:info@pgdpcab.org)

## Agenda for the Burial Grounds Subcommittee Meeting

### Time 5:30 pm

Call to order, introductions

Review of agenda

### Comments led by Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection And Environmental Protection Agency

### Public Comment Period

-- 15 minutes

### Path Forward

-- 15 minutes



# PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

---

115 Memorial Drive • Paducah, Kentucky 42001 • (270) 554-3004 • [info@pgdpcab.org](mailto:info@pgdpcab.org) • [www.pgdpcab.org](http://www.pgdpcab.org)

## Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board Burial Grounds Subcommittee Meeting Summary September 16, 2013

*The Burial Grounds Subcommittee met at the Environmental Information Center (EIC) in Paducah, Kentucky on Tuesday, September 16th at 5:30 p.m.*

**Board members present:** Ralph Young, Ben Peterson, Glenda Adkisson, Mike Kemp, Judy Clayton, Jim Tidwell, and Robert Coleman.

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and contractors:** Buz Smith, Jennifer Woodard, Lisa Santoro, DOE; Elizabeth Wyatt, Joe Walker, Bruce Ford, LATA KY; Jim Erickson, Stoller; Todd Mullins, Gaye Brewer, Mike Guffey, KDWM; Jennifer Tufts, Jon Richards, EPA; Nathan Garner, KY Radiation Health Branch; Jim Key, USW; Eric Roberts, Jim Ethridge, EHI

**Public:** Diana Yancy, Jeanie Embry, Gary VanderBoegh, Tony Graham, WPSD photographer

### Burial Grounds Subcommittee Meeting

**Young** opened the meeting and asked for introductions. He then turned the meeting over to **Kemp**, who is the Burial Grounds Subcommittee Chair. **Kemp** gave a brief overview of SWMUs 5&6 and the subcommittee's understanding of their status. He proposed the following questions:

- Is the EPA and KY opposed to excavation of the Burial Grounds? If so, why?
- What is the harm if the decision is delayed on how to handle SWMUs 5&6?

**Mullins** indicated that the State would not be opposed to excavation. Through investigation it was determined that the main problem with excavation was that the material was determined to be classified, and the cost for disposal would be much more: \$200 million as opposed to \$71 million if the burial ground material was not classified. **Mullins** went on to point out that non-classified material excavation costs would be \$71 million, compared to \$10 million if it was capped.

**Young** asked about pushing the dates out to a later time. **Mullins** answered that he thought it could be done, but once DOE signs up to a milestone, the State doesn't like to change it. Once those dates are accepted there is a reluctance to change it. There is concern that once the schedule is pushed out, things could force them to be continually pushed out.

**Tufts** indicated that there would be a huge difference in cost if the burial ground is excavated instead of capped. She also said that the EPA would not be in favor of pushing out the date of the work on the burial ground because she thought that once you start changing the date, that it would be easier to continue pushing out the date.

**Young** said that due to the fact that the overall situation at the site is changing with USEC shutting down operations of the plant. He went on to say that the Board would be voting on a Recommendation during its next Board meeting that asks DOE to postpone its decision on the Burial Grounds Proposed Plan until a decision was made about the possible CERCLA cell construction at the site.

**Clayton** asked **Woodard** if the burial ground was postponed, is there another project that could be agreed to and the \$10 million set aside for the burial grounds be used for. **Woodard** said that DOE did not currently have the funds in hand. The funds that would be used for the burial grounds would be requested for the year that the work would be done, which right now is 2014-2015. **Tufts** indicated that delaying the project would possibly be problematic because once a milestone is agreed to, they don't like to change it. She said that that decision would come from her superiors.

**Peterson** asked how long had SWMUs 5&6 been in their current state. **Clayton** indicated that they had been in their current state about 40 years. **Young** asked where SWMUs 5&6 in the CERCLA process. **Woodard** said that the second version of the Proposed Plan was with EPA and KY for review. A decision from those regulators was due the next week, and then there would be a public comment period of 45 days. Also, the Record of Decision (ROD) on this project was due in December 2014, and there would be another public comment period at that time.

**Kemp** asked if monitoring of a waste cell would be as difficult on a clean site and opposed to one over the burial grounds. **Tufts** answered that the burial grounds were on top of the groundwater contamination plume making it difficult to monitor. **Clayton** asked if monitoring would be difficult or so difficult that it could not be done. **Mullins** said that using standard approached to monitoring, it would pretty much be impossible. **Tufts** said that EPA did have flexibility in the decision to push the milestone date back or not, but it was a tri-party decision (DOE, EPA, and KY). She also said that they were trying to get the site cleaned up by following the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA). **Clayton** said that that was before USEC announced that they were shutting down the plant. She said that the Board was just asking them to step back and take a new look at the process since things had changed. **Young** offered to invite Franklin Hill from EPA to visit the Board to discuss their concerns. **Tufts** said she would take that invitation back to Atlanta to present to Mr. Hill. **Mullins** indicated that his supervisors were well aware of the CAB's concerns.

#### **Public Comments:**

**Diana Yancy:** I am Diana Yancy and I have a comment and I have a question. I grew up at Grahamville at the corner of McCaw Rd. and Metropolis Lake Rd. I can remember in 1967 they started talking about bringing city water to Grahamville. We were all excited because, city water, color us happy. What I think it was was they knew that some of our wells were contaminated and they didn't have the guts to tell us, or they suspected somebody's well water was contaminated. My question is if we are on this list of safe places to store nuclear waste, I don't understand because we're on the New Madrid fault line. If we have a major earthquake, it's all going to open up and we're all going to experience the Big Bang Theory. Another question is what does all this really mean, what we are talking about tonight? Does this mean we are going to become a national nuclear dump site? I think those are all good questions. Thank you all very much.

**Woodard:** The proposed waste cell will not take waste from anywhere but the current site. The take down of the plant will be the only waste to go into a waste cell at this site. We would not be taking waste from any other sites across the nation.

**Tufts:** One of the citing criteria for a waste cell is that it can't be within 200 feet of a known fault. There have been several studies addressing this very situation, and I would be happy to get you those study results, if they are not publically available.

**Diana Yancy:** We had an earthquake that caused Reelfoot Lake. They keep talking about how we are going to have a big one. Are we going to experience the Big Bang Theory? Just a question, and I think it is a very good one.

**Gary VanderBoegh:** My name is Gary VanderBoegh, vice president of Commonwealth Environmental Services. I want to thank the CAB for at least presenting a consistent position here for the community and I think, uh, I can't remember your name but we worked together I think. Of course Ms. Woodard here, we worked together and now for DOE. I see all the same friends we have had over the last few years. I'm a DOE whistleblower. I'm proud of it because we are about safety in this community and I believe even Buz sitting there, he knows what I try to do. We're coming from the perspective, we've got all these workers, Jim Key, they're all going to be laid off. They're coming to me with stories I can't tell anybody. I've got to go straight to DOJ with them. We know there is stuff buried all over the countryside out there. In fact I think if you go back to some of the people that are going to be involved in the next federal lawsuit downtown with me, because I'm a national whistleblower now and we've reinstated the federal case. All of this evidence is coming out, we feel with all the dog and pony shows that we've had, Robert you've heard me get up and Mr. Tidwell you've heard me get up, Todd we've worked together a long time. We've actually located all the buried waste located around the plant, not just the northwest corner. But those are areas that should never have any mound of dirt placed over them. They should be hauled out, take them out to Clive, Utah, that's where DOE has been spending all the money anyway. But the community has spoken. What shocks me is now we are re-hashing this CERCLA issue, and I know Ralph, we are going to have a chance to discuss some of that. I think as a community, this community is losing 1,100 jobs. When I started getting calls, people were worried that a lock was going to be put on the gate, and Jim Key and all of his union members that are qualified to do the work, now are no longer around after the first of January, and it's going to affect this community. I think what I've heard, when it comes down to the CERCLA cell or putting another 20 foot cap on the pile of material over there that's supposedly is classified, well put a blanket over it for God's sake. None of us could tell what classified means. Now Judy, you've done the work for others, and you have more qualifications than anybody, but the public has spoken. They've gone to Ballard County, they've pushed the little buttons, and all of them have said "ship your waste, clean up the plant, get it out of our community, we're tired of this." And quite frankly, I'm getting tired of watching sick young men come in from the remediation project that have now become disabled because they were working in the remediation program. As shocking as all this is, we know what's going on. We feel that the jobs are important. So where are the 4,000 jobs to come in here to help get these workers back to work? We don't feel, and I'm probably going to contradict Mr. Key, you build a CERCLA cell, you're going to spend what, probably 50 workers or 100 workers out there, you're going to put 4 or 5 back to work. I'm the one that designed the existing CERCLA cell. You know where it is? Todd, you know where it is? You know the CERCLA cell that DOE is using now? (The U landfill) is the de-facto CERCLA cell. DOE already proposed that as the reuse of a CERCLA cell because of the hazardous waste violations, and the \$1 billion false claims qui tam that is actively being processed. If you all remember I asked if you are aware of the DOJ investigation. EPA surely should be. So when we are talking about radioactive material buried under the ground that's going to spontaneously combust, we all know it, we're Lockheed. We're from Lockheed Martin. These are not new things. You all are newcomers. So just remember the public is becoming aware and I commend this Board for at least coming out, and ironically go back to all my video tapes, you know I've got all the meeting Minutes here. Ralph and I go way back. I didn't even want to make it a problem when the city and county had their joint meeting. But the people in the community want to see Robert Coleman step up. We want to see Ralph step up. Buz has got a special reason to step up. He's been a city commissioner. We want the Mayor to step up. We don't a CERCLA cell and here is a monument to the deaths that I'm seeing in the sick worker program. We're just lucky nobody found out about this but me today, I read the Paducah Sun, or you would have had a hundred sick workers wanting to talk about this. WPSD is here. You don't see Mallory (Panuska). You're not going to see any of this on TV. It will be captured and will be put on YouTube, like I've been telling all of you. So let's make everybody accountable. Jennifer, you've been one of my project people at Lockheed. You're very familiar with what we faced at Lockheed. Glad that you all can at least come to consensus that the public is requiring and demanding, no CERCLA cell, no waste pile, get it dug up, get it out, put

a blanket over it if it's got something in it that we don't need to see. Quite frankly I don't think there is a public person anywhere that would be able to tell the difference between something classified and something not. I'll let you all correct me if that's the case.

**Young** adjourned the meeting at 6:23 pm.