



Department of Energy

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
1017 Majestic Drive, Suite 200
Lexington, Kentucky 40513
(859) 219-4000

February 17, 2005

Mr. Chad Kerley, Acting Chair
Citizens Advisory Board
111 Memorial Drive
Paducah, Kentucky 42001

PPPO-02-234-05

Dear Mr. Kerley:

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATION 05-02 (WASTE PROJECTION UPDATE AND DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE DISPOSAL OPTIONS)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is in receipt of the Citizens Advisory Board's (CAB) Consensus Recommendation 05-02, dated January 26, 2005. The CAB recommended that DOE review and update as needed the waste projections for site remediation and plant decommissioning activities to achieve a sufficient level of precision to support investigation of disposal options.

DOE agrees with the recommendation and has enclosed for your information Table 1, the C-746-U Landfill Waste Generation Forecast. Our latest lifecycle baseline (completed in 2004) includes the waste generation forecast for years 2006-2019, with updated projections for 2005, including carryover amounts from 2004. The lifecycle baseline and waste volume forecast focuses on DOE's current scope of work for environmental cleanup. The forecast does not include out-years beyond 2019 that will likely encompass aspects such as Decontamination & Decommissioning of facilities currently in operation by the United States Enrichment Corporation.

To accommodate the waste projected for disposal in the C-746-U Landfill based on the current waste generation forecast and lifecycle baseline, DOE will need to construct and operate Phases 1-11 of the 23 total phases included under the current landfill permit (see enclosed Figure 1). Through September 30, 2004, waste volume totaling 50,959 cubic yards was disposed at the C-746-U landfill. DOE is currently projecting 338,425 cubic yards of additional waste will be disposed at the C-746-U Landfill from 2005 through 2019, which will leave 366,011 cubic yards of unused capacity remaining in Phases 1 – 11.

Should DOE require additional waste capacity, Phases 12-17 are permitted for 402,402 cubic yards. These six phases are within the current fence line and will not affect the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area. Phases 18 – 23, also with a total capacity of 402,402 cubic yards

permitted by Kentucky, are located outside the current fence line and would provide another disposal area if the need arises.

DOE has a number of options for waste disposal if waste cannot be disposed in the C-746-U Landfill. Waste that does not meet the C-746-U Landfill Waste Acceptance Criteria may be considered for off-site disposal at the Nevada Test Site, Envirocare or other waste disposal sites, as appropriate, pending approval from the receiving facility. Additionally, DOE may consider constructing and operating a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Disposal Facility at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. Public involvement will continue to be a key component in DOE's consideration of waste disposal options.

DOE appreciates the time and effort the CAB and the Waste Disposition Task Force invested in this recommendation. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call David Dollins at (270) 441-6819.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "WE Murphie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William E. Murphie
Manager
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:

G. Bazzell, PPPO/Paducah
R. Blumenfeld, PPPO/Lexington
J. Brandstetter, EHI/Paducah
Senator Jim Bunning
DMC/Kevil
Senator Richard Durbin
B. Eadens, CAB/Paducah
T. C. Freeman, Bunning Field Representative
Representative Steven Rudy
M. Hardin, KDFW/Frankfort
S. Kay, Roberts and Kay/Lexington
C. Kerley, CAB/Paducah
R. Ladd, CAB/Paducah
S. Lanier, CAB/Paducah
B. Lee, CAB/Paducah
Senator Bob Leeper
L. Long, CAB/Paducah
J. Miller, CAB/Paducah
Senator Mitch McConnell
R. McCorry, CAB/Paducah
McCracken County Judge Executive Danny Orazine
Mayor Bill Paxton
Representative Frank Rasche
J. Russell, CAB/Paducah
E. Scott, RCB/Frankfort
Congressman John Shimkus
J. Smart, CAB/Paducah
D. Starr, CAB/Paducah
T. Taylor, KDEP/Frankfort
G. VanSickle, BJC/Kevil
Congressman Ed Whitfield
D. Williams, EPA/Atlanta