



Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Citizens Advisory Board

Recommendation: 08-04

Approved at the Citizens Advisory Board Meeting, July 17, 2008

Title: Path to Increase Local Public Communication with the Department of Energy

Background:

The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 1994. As a consequence of being placed on the NPL, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) was required to commence cleanup of PGDP, in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Commonwealth of Kentucky entered into the Federal Facility Agreement for PGDP in 1998 that established the regulatory framework for CERCLA projects at the PGDP. A variety of CERCLA waste is expected to be generated throughout the cleanup process. DOE is currently evaluating waste disposal alternatives to handle wastes generated under CERCLA actions at the PGDP. The disposition options include off-site disposal, on-site disposal or a combination of both on-site and off-site disposal.

Funded by DOE, the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) provides independent advice and recommendations on cleanup activities at the PGDP. CAB members represent a broad spectrum of the community with diverse perspectives and experiences. Non-voting, ex-officio members include representatives from DOE's Portsmouth/ Paducah Project Office, EPA, EPPC (represented by Kentucky Division of Waste Management), KDFWR, and Kentucky Department for Public Health. These members advise the CAB on their agencies policies and perspectives related to PGDP cleanup.

All CAB meetings are open to the public and present an opportunity for the board members and general public to obtain information, ask questions, and interact with DOE and PGDP personnel. Through the CAB, DOE gains valuable input on FFA- related cleanup and other PGDP issues to consider in making decisions.

Recommendation:

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) recommends that DOE incorporate the following into its public communication plan:

- 1) **Determine when (A) public education is appropriate vs. (B) public information gathering activities and clearly inform the community of the intent (A or B) prior to each public meeting. Public education is perceived as DOE presenting its decisions to the community in primarily a one-way communication path. Structuring an information gathering meeting would emphasize a two-way communication feedback system, with direct solicitation of stakeholder knowledge and opinions as the primary objective. DOE would be clear that it desires and needs public input to best manage environmental clean-up within the local community.**

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Environmental Protection
Agency

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Fish and Wildlife Resources

Dr. John Volpe
Radiation Health Branch

Support Services

EHI Consultants, Inc.
111 Memorial Drive
Paducah, KY 42001
Phone 270.554.3004
Fax 270.554.3248
www.pgdp CAB.org
paducahcab@bellsouth.net

- 2) **DOE should expand its use of communication tools to disperse their information and fact sheets. Specifically,**
 - a. **Preparing and distributing press releases to all regional media outlets prior to public meetings to demonstrate the DOE objective of including diverse stakeholders. A list of suggested media outlets is attached.**
 - b. **Establishing an identity in the community through continuous monthly or bimonthly presence with local media outlets including on the public radio station, WKMS**
 - c. **Producing non-technical print, video and Internet material for public consumption to communicate its mission, strategy and successes to the public as needed or at a minimum of once per year.**
 - d. **Scheduling DOE presentations to community organizations at least once each quarter to educate the public and for information gathering purposes from the community.**
 - e. **Sponsoring a yearly event with other organizations in the community to establish support of local development.**
 - f. **Coordinating a Media Day Event for print media, radio, television and internet news people in order to explain the basic terminology, the CERCLA process, and critical issues and major benefits surrounding the PGDP cleanup effort.**

Media Contacts

Kentucky Major City Newspapers

Lexington Herald-Leader	859-231-3446
Louisville Courier-Journal	270-443-1802
Associated Press	812-423-8136

Regional

Fulton County		
Fulton/Hickman Free Press	Tina Forrest	270-442-7389
Hickman County		
Hickman County Gazette	Gaye Bencini	270-653-3381
Marshall County		
Marshall County Tribune Courier	Misti Strader	270-527-3162
Livingston County		
The Livingston Ledger	Todd Hansen	270 928-2128
Calloway County		
Murray Ledger & Times	Eric Walker	270-753-1916
Massac County, Illinois		
Metropolis Planet	Linda Kennedy	618-524-2141

West Kentucky Newspapers (counties adjacent to plant)

McCracken		
*Paducah Sun	Joe Walker	270-575-8656
West Kentucky News	Gary Miller	270-442-7389
Ballard		
The Advance Yeoman (LaCenter)	Teri Davis	270-442-7389
Carlisle		
Carlisle County News	Teresa LeNeave	270-628-5490
Graves County		
The Mayfield Messenger (Mayfield)	Jim Abernathy	270-247-1515

Industry Publications

*Weapons Complex Monitor	Mike Nartker	202-296-0750
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West Kentucky TV Stations

*WPSD-TV (NBC), Paducah, KY	Lauren Adams/Jennifer Horbelt	270-415-1944	*WSIL-
TV (ABC), Cartersville, IL	Rachel Gartner	618-985-2333	
*KFVS-TV (CBS), Cape Girardeau, MS	Holly Brantley	573-335-1212	

Radio

Region		
WKMS (NPR)	Bryan Bartlett	270-762-4666
WCBL	Stephanie Waters	270-527-3102

Surrounding Counties

WKYX/WKYQ/WPAD/WDDJ	Donna Groves	270-444-6397
WGKY	Larry Kelly	270-335-3696
WLIE		270-247-5122
WRKY/WNBS/WFGE	Scott Swalls	270-753-2400
WMOK/WREZ	Cale Simmons	618-524-9209
WJPF/WUEZ	Tom Miller	800-455-3243

*Primary Interfaces

■ Most Active