



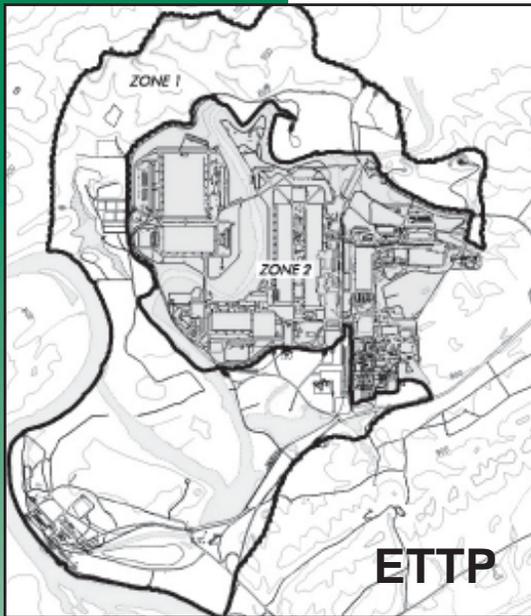
Advocate

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Zone 2 Cleanup Plan Draws Intense Debate

Cleanup of contaminated soil in Zone 2 at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) was a priority for the SSAB's Environmental Management (EM) Committee well before DOE hosted a public meeting in July to unveil the project's Proposed Plan.

home to two primary waste burial grounds. The Proposed Plan lays out five alternatives identified by DOE to support its vision of ETTP's end-state use as an industrial park.



According to Jim Kopotic, DOE's Project Manager for Zone 2, members of the core team wanted as much input from the Board as they could possibly get, so they began briefing the committee in early spring on the *Proposed Plan for Contaminated Soil, Buried Waste and Subsurface Structures in Zone 2 at ETTP*.

Committee members began meeting with DOE and its subcontractor,

Bechtel Jacobs, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in early spring. The Board took an additional step in hiring Gerald Eddlemon, a native of Oak Ridge and a retired employee of the Environmental Sciences division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Eddlemon was hired to review documents relating to ETTP Zone 2 Soils and suggest potential comments and recommendations to the ORSSAB.

Zone 2 is a former production area of 800 acres inside the main fence at ETTP and is

Alternative 1 - No Action. No remediation of existing contamination; existing monitoring, land use controls, and maintenance programs discontinued

Alternative 2 - Removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 10 feet, and full removal of the K-1070-C/D and K-1070-B burial grounds

Alternative 3 - Removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 10 feet, excavation of K-1070-B burial ground and containment (capping) of the K-1070-C/D burial ground

Alternative 4 - Removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 2 feet, no excavation of K-1070-B burial ground and containment of the K-1070-C/D burial ground

Alternative 5 - Removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 10 feet, buried waste removal from K-1070-B regardless of depth and partial removal of the K-1070-C/D burial ground

Eddlemon gave a cursory synopsis to the Committee in July.

"We wanted to know what the site is predicted to look like when DOE leaves," said committee member Norman Mulvenon.

Kopotic pointed out that the original artists' renderings of "greenfield" end states are "no longer realistic, but neither is the assumption that the end state will resemble what some members refer to as a 'war zone,' aka, a pile of rubble with a fence around it."

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Kopotic also noted his hope that any issues with the Proposed Plan's preferred alternative be raised with him as early as possible to allow appropriate response. He further suggested that issues identified by the committee as being overlooked in the Proposed Plan can be addressed in the Record of Decision, or DOE may have to develop an additional alternative.

When Eddlemon presented his final report in August, he suggested that the public would most likely prefer Alternative #2 in the plan—removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 10 feet and full removal of the K-1070-C/D and K-1070-B Burial Grounds.

EM Committee member Dave Mosby suggested that “when all the facts are taken into account,” the public might actually prefer Alternative #5, which is DOE's preferred method. Alternative #5 includes removal of contaminated soil to a depth of 10 feet, buried waste removal from K-1070-B regardless of depth and partial removal of the K-1070-C/D burial ground.

Eddlemon agreed that the concerns about rubble left in place are aesthetic in nature.

For Jeff Crane of EPA Region 4, the “primary concern is to meet CERCLA mandates by ensuring that anything left behind is protected and that no residual contamination exists,” he said. “But EPA recognizes that appearance and suitability for reuse are important to local stakeholders.”

With some reassurance that 94 percent of the rubble is destined to be removed, committee members agreed that the recommendation should endorse Alternative #5, with the stipulation that work be carried out to allow for reindustrialization following closure.

A bump in the road came at the September Board meeting, when questions arose as to the contents of classified burial grounds K-1070-C/D and K-1070-B and some members put forth the notion that Alternative 2 would be the preferred method.

At that time, Board Chair Kerry Trammell noted that he was looking for a more finely tuned, finished product than what was supplied following the July 27 public meeting and did not want to jeopardize cleanup efforts for the sake of cost savings. He also stated a concern that there is no existing concept for how the site will look. Several other members voiced concerns about leaving a classified landfill in place, both in terms of safety and eventual long-term costs.

Mulvenon, who favors Alternative 5, said he has doubts that any party will ever be willing to ever purchase and use the land, even if DOE opts to use Alternative 2 and excavate the entire classified burial ground.

At the close of voting, Trammell noted his disappointment at the Board's inability to formulate a recommendation to send forward to DOE. Members got a second chance to craft a recommendation for approval at the October Board meeting, however, when they requested and were granted an extension to the comment period.

On Oct. 13, the Board approved a recommendation that did not identify its preferred alternative, but stated that “any Plan alternative selected for implementation that does not result in cleanup consistent with and conducive to that future land use is unsatisfactory.

“We recommend the Record of Decision (ROD) commit to and define a program of cleanup and restoration that the public and prospective clients/tenants will find both aesthetically

acceptable and compatible with construction of future industrial facilities including excavation, grading, contouring and revegetation where appropriate. This cleanup would address the fate of demolition materials and underground site infrastructure remaining from other remediation and removal action projects. Further, the Board recommends that the cleanup be performed in a manner that will preserve as much as possible of the existing site infrastructure for support of reindustrialization to minimize the burden of local government to reconstruct.”

The finally approved recommendation also “makes a part of public record the Board's position on this Proposed Plan,” said Mosby. “It also asks them (DOE) to comment and respond to the report of our technical consultant who prepared a very detailed report for us on Zone 2.”

“The essence of why we do what we do is to provide advice and recommendation to the Department of Energy,” said Mosby, who presented the recommendation to the Board in October. “When we don't do that, we fall short of our mission and we're not really doing what we're supposed to do... our voice needed to be heard on this issue.”

Updated DOE-Oak Ridge Public Involvement Plan Now Available

DOE's *Public Involvement Plan for CERCLA Activities at the U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Reservation* is now available at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge (865-241-4780). It's also available on the Internet at http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/info_cntr/docs_lists/new_docs.html.

Oak Ridge Reservation Incidents Spur Investigations

After two incidents caused some members of the public to question DOE's ability to safely conduct Accelerated Cleanup, ORSSAB agreed to cosponsor a public meeting July 31 to release the findings of the incident reports.

On May 8, a reaction involving sodium and water vapor at the East Tennessee Technology Park resulted in an on-site fire and precautionary evacuation around the site. On May 14, a truck hauling materials from the Melton Valley area of the Oak Ridge Reservation leaked strontium onto State Route 95, resulting in contamination of the asphalt pavement.

An investigation team for each incident was commissioned by Gerald Boyd, Oak Ridge Operations Manager, to determine the cause of the incidents

and corrective actions to prevent future similar occurrences.

Vince Adams of DOE's Assets Utilization program attended the Board's May 12 meeting to give a report on the May 8 incident, saying the situation has been "stabilized and all activities returned to normal." Further, a stabilization and recovery team is developing and executing a plan to recover materials outside the operation area.

Execution began Monday, May 10, and was suspended May 11 and 12 to determine a more efficient means to recover the material which is large and needs to be broken up to be placed in drums. With better tools and equipment, Mr. Adams expected operation to resume on May 13, with fire and emergency personnel standing by.

Several sections of asphalt had to be replaced and a number of private vehicles were scanned for contamination following the May 14 incident that closed Highway 95. This prompted the Board to request a summary of both events at their June meeting. That's when DOE suggested the joint public meeting to roll out the reports' findings.

The reports are available at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, and (865) 241-4780. The Center's hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Corrective Action Plans are being developed and the ORSSAB will be briefed on that progress during its October 13 monthly Board meeting.

DOE-Only Haul Road Proposed Following Highway 95 Spill

Dave Adler, DOE ex officio for the Board, provided a presentation Sept. 8 to ORSSAB on a proposed haul road to transport wastes from Oak Ridge Reservation cleanup projects to the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility (EMWMF) in Bear Creek Valley and Chestnut Ridge.

Construction of the road would mitigate the risks of transporting waste from Melton Valley and the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) to the waste management facility without traveling on public roads. The process got under way in 2003 after the BJC contract was negotiated, as a way to make the work safer.

The topic came up again at the Environmental

Management Committee meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 22, after which several members said they would like to tour the area. Several tours were

given in late September and early October to prepare Board members to address the issue at a public hearing when the environmental

documentation for the project is released to the public (likely in mid-November).

Adler said proceeding with the project under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 would not nullify DOE's responsibility to fulfill substantive NEPA requirements.



ORSSAB Chair Kerry Trammell, left, and Oak Ridge reporter Paul Parsons, center, review haul road plans with Bechtel Jacobs Project Manager Joe Williams.

Stewardship Education Resource Kit Nears Completion

When members of the Stewardship Committee's Education Subcommittee unveiled a draft of their Education Resource Kit to the full Board in June, the response was unequivocal delight.

"As a former teacher, I really appreciate the effort of the subcommittee," said Pat Hill, a Board member from Knoxville. "Any time you gain knowledge about any topic it can sometimes alleviate uncertainty and fear."



said. "The kit is being formulated to communicate and identify to new generations background and historical information on Oak Ridge."

One of the subcommittee's first efforts was the Educational Resource Guide, which listed resources available to middle and high school teachers, said Campbell, who said the ultimate goal is to help students understand issues and activities relating to long-term stewardship, in addition to dispelling misinformation regarding the reservation. If those education goals are not developed, met and maintained, there is the potential for lost funding, unnecessary exposure and inappropriate use of land.

Chris Smith of Decatur, Tenn., echoed those feelings. "This is exactly the kind of product this Board should be producing," he said.

Steve McCracken, Assistant Manager of the Environmental Management Program and Deputy Designated Federal Official to the Board, said the committee's efforts to educate future generations are invaluable. He suggested that to present the material in a way that is durable and memorable could eventually result in its becoming a permanent part of the education of local students.

Donna Campbell, Heather Cothron and Linda Murawski, all members of the subcommittee, explained that the intended audience of the kit will be advanced high school science students.

Campbell noted that the educational component has "always been one of the objectives of long-term stewardship because the decision-making responsibility will ultimately rest with generations to come," she

Murawski designed the basic platform of the book's lesson plans (five stand-alone units) on topics such as Environmental Management, Legacy Waste and Stewardship. Each plan outlines course goals and objectives and contains references to additional resources. She said the finished product can also be used by any number of groups across the DOE complex. The information in the kit will be compiled on CD for easy distribution and access, and will be available in the kit.

Cothron researched case studies for the kit, noting the difficulty she had locating information beyond cleanup.

"I wound up taking an existing case study and tailoring it to be more similar to Oak Ridge," she said. A role-playing project based on the finished case study will allow students to break into groups representing real-life stakeholders (DOE, regulators, citizens) then attempt to reach resolution. She said the intent is to eventually marry Stewardship and Public Outreach efforts and broaden them in scope. She said the most important goal for the entire committee is to communicate to future generations the importance of Stewardship.

McCracken told the team they are on the right track. "If you want to have people remember what it is you've done and accept for the long term that it was done well, then it has to begin in schools," he said.

"By doing this, you're saying to students, 'The future, and whether or not you accept that what we've done here is adequate, depends on you and your knowledge and your ability to communicate that knowledge with people who move into your community over time.'"



Stewardship Education Subcommittee members (from left) Heather Cothron, Katie Meersman, and Donna Campbell compile elements of the draft Stewardship Education Resource Kit at a recent subcommittee meeting.

Annual Planning Retreat Offers Opportunities, Challenges

When members gathered August 7 for the ORSSAB annual retreat, meeting facilitator Connor Mathews opened the day with one simple rule: “Each one of you has something to teach, and each one of you has something to learn. Keep that in mind.”

The annual meeting gives members an opportunity to examine their own successes and to determine if improvements can be made in Board operations as they set about structuring a work plan for FY 2005. To begin, Mathews asked those gathered to share their visions of past accomplishments and their concerns and plans for future work.

A variety of responses came, and many members recognized the substantive recommendations sent to DOE over the past year, while urging more active committee participation.

“The real work of this Board is done in committee meetings,” said Chair Dave Mosby. “The actual Board meetings could be more streamlined if the committees were performing the way we should be.”

Kerry Trammell, the Board’s FY 2005 Chair, agreed that focus should be narrowed, but said even with a work plan, the aim of committees is often shifted by changes in DOE’s plans.

“I know some of our committees have had to adjust their schedules to things that have happened and it’s taken some of their focus away from some of the things that we decided to look at last year,” said Trammell. “One of the things we need to look at is how much change we’re going to have in our committees depending on current events, if that’s the way we want our committees to function.”

Other urged more participation by individuals on committees. Heather

Cothron encouraged others to step up to the plate for the Public Outreach Committee, a small standing committee formed in FY 2004.

understand what are the issues and topics we want to address as a body and how are we going to get our results developed.”



Luther Gibson, Chair of the ORSSAB Environmental Management Committee, leads discussion of how the committee accomplished its FY 2004 work plan and how it intends to structure its FY 2005 activities.

“We need to do more outreach and maybe partner with the Stewardship Committee to see where we’re going long-term in terms of getting people involved and trying to get more into the school systems, because that’s where you’re going to teach the kids what’s happening here and keep that thread alive for years and years,” said Cothron, an Oliver Springs resident. “The education kit that we did... I’d like to see more of that type of thing and more permanent types of resources that we have that we can use in the future.”

Donna Campbell agreed, noting that a Board exhibit being designed for the American Museum of Science and Energy would also help fill a void. The display will employ touch-screen technology to tell the story of the ORSSAB.

Mosby said one of the most important goals of the retreat is to “establish a work plan for the coming year. It’s very important that we

To that end, members reviewed projects identified by DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Department for Environment and Conservation and narrowed down by the Board’s Environmental Management and Stewardship Committees.

Mildred Ferre, DOE Project Manager for the Balance of the Reservation Project, said she attended to give thanks from DOE and to lend support.

“The Department of Energy thanks every member of this committee,” said Lopez-Ferre, who attended in Steve McCracken’s stead. “You have been doing an excellent job supporting Oak Ridge in the decisions and also in the planning. As we go further into the acceleration of our cleanup work, I’m sure this group is going to be instrumental to the successful cleanup and closure.”

SSAB Says Thanks to Former Members

The Oak Ridge SSAB bid adieu to four of its members this year – Jake Alexander, Linda Murawski, George Rimel and Luis Revilla.



Jake Alexander has been with the Board since July 1999. Jake is employed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities and is

a member of the adjunct faculty with the University of Tennessee's Engineering Graduate School. He serves on the Oak Ridge Health Agreement Steering Panel and is a former member of the Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board. In FYs 2000–2002 he was the leader of the Environmental Restoration Team, and he served on the Executive Committee. In 2003 he was a member of the Environmental Management Committee, and in FY 2004 and 2005 he served on the Stewardship Committee.



A former school teacher, Linda Murawski lives in Knoxville, where she owns and operates a consulting business providing services

in emergency preparedness and management, crisis communication and hazards mitigation. As a member of the Board's Stewardship Committee and its education subcommittee, Murawski helped formulate much of the content of the Stewardship Education Resource Kit. She is vice president of the Technical Society of Knoxville, vice president of the Tennessee Literacy Coalition, and a member of the Roane County Damage Assessment Team. She holds

both bachelor's of science and master's of science degrees in education, and is currently beginning work on her doctorate.



Luis Revilla is a Fire Systems Engineer with the Fire Department at the Y-12 National Security Complex who joined the Board in July 2001.

He is a certified paramedic, fire fighter, fire inspector, and hazardous materials technician. He holds an Associate of Arts degree and is a graduate of the Donnellson Law Enforcement Academy. Luis lives in Knoxville, where he coaches baseball and basketball in the Farragut Community and is involved in church activities. In addition to serving as Board secretary for FY 2004, Revilla chaired the Board Process Ad Hoc Committee and was a member of the Environmental Management Committee.



A member of the Atomic Trades and Labor Council and the Claxton Optimist Club, George Rimel of Clinton served on the Board for two

years, working as chair of the group's newly formed Public Outreach Committee in addition to serving as a member of the Environmental Management Committee and the Board Process Ad Hoc Committee. Rimel has been a steam plant operator/stationary engineer with BWXT Y-12 for 26 years, has been active in Behavior Safety Training and presently conducts classes in Homeland Security Training.

Tim Myrick Named to Board



ORSSAB's newest member Tim Myrick will retire in October from his position as Director of Facilities Strategic Planning for UT-Battelle at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL).

Myrick was identified during a May recruitment drive to garner applications from the public for Board membership.

Most recently Myrick has served as the program manager for the development of ORNL's new research campus but spent the bulk of his 27 years in Oak Ridge's DOE community in environmental management and waste management activities.

Myrick, who lives with his wife Teresa in the Claxton community outside Oak Ridge, holds a bachelor's degree in Nuclear Engineering from Kansas State University and a master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Florida.

He has joined the Environmental Management Committee of the ORSSAB. Other community organizations with which he is involved are Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties, Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. He also attends the First Presbyterian Church in Oak Ridge and has been involved in the early conceptual design work and fund-raising for the new Oak Ridge High School.

ORSSAB Elects FY 2005 Officers

ORSSAB officers for FY 2005 were elected following the Board's annual planning retreat in August. Serving as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, respectively, are Kerry Trammell, Bob McLeod and Rhonda Bogard.



Kerry Trammell works for NHC Healthcare and holds a Master of Science degree in health planning and administration. An Oak Ridge resi-

dent, he has served two terms on the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce and is currently president of the Anderson County Health Council.



Robert McLeod is a Registered Professional Engineer and Registered Professional Geologist with Robert S. McLeod and

Associates. He has more than 30 years experience in engineering management and environmental work. A resident of Oak Ridge, he is a member of the Environmental Management Committee and chairs its Groundwater Subcommittee.



Rhonda Bogard is Manager of RADCON Dosimetry and Records for BWXT Y-12. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree

in plant and soil science and a master's degree in Public Health in occupational health and safety. A resident of Oak Ridge for 45 years, Rhonda is active in the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club and Jewish community activities.

Cothron Receives Environmental Award

ORSSAB member Heather Cothron was recognized in April by the Department of Energy for outstanding performance as the Chemical System Operational Manager and P2 Team Leader for the UT-Battelle's Facilities Management Division at Oak Ridge National Lab.

Heather led the effort to develop a Web-based chemical purchasing system. The system's purpose is to eliminate potentially hazardous waste-generating materials by substituting "green" chemicals.

Implementing this system has resulted in a decreased generation of hazardous waste and hazardous chemicals inventory with the added benefit of projected annual savings approaching \$40,000 per year.

As a result of the positive impact of the chemical management system, Heather's project was the recipient of the National 2003 Department of Energy Pollution Prevention Award in the Environmental Preferability Category.



Heather is pictured with Joe Craver, SAIC Deputy Group Manager, after accepting her environmental achievement award on April 14, 2004, in McLean, Virginia.

ORSSAB Begins Certifying Attendance for Professional Development Activities

The board began this new service in June to offer members of the board and the public the opportunity to employ the certification in professional development or educational accreditation. ORSSAB can certify attendance at board and committee meetings but cannot award professional development hours. Only the organization to which the certificate of attendance will be presented can grant credit toward that organization's professional development requirements.



ORSSAB members Heather Cothron, Ben Adams (center) and John Million staff the ORSSAB booth at the October 6 Volunteer Fair at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

ORSSAB Seats Three New Student Representatives

Since 1999 ORSSAB has taken student involvement to heart by seating one, then two, and now three student representatives. Stephanie Jernigan, Zach Ludwig and Katie Meersman have been appointed as the ORSSAB student representatives for this year.

Each year, high school students are seated on the board to represent the views and interests of area youth. At least one student is selected from Oak Ridge High School, and others are chosen on a rotating basis from schools in surrounding areas.



Stephanie Jernigan attends Oak Ridge High School. A senior, she has been a part of the Sister City exchange program and

traveled to Japan as well as hosted several Japanese students in her home. As a member of the Oak Ridge High School orchestra, she has studied violin for eight years. She plans to put her experience from working in a law firm to work and pursue a career in environmental or health care law after graduating college.



Zach Ludwig is in his junior year at Karns High School in Knoxville. He is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Academic Team of Karns High School, in addition to holding down a part-time job. He plans to become a

doctor, pursuing a career in the field of psychiatry.



Katie Meersman, also a senior at Oak Ridge High School, is a member of the National Honor Society and the Key Club. She

spends time volunteering at Woodland Elementary School, in the children's room of the Oak Ridge Public Library and the Oak Ridge Children's Museum. She has attended a Model United Nations conference in Washington, D.C. and plans to pursue a career in education, with the intention of teaching history to junior high or high school students.

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