



Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board



FY 2009 Annual Report

October 2008 - September 2009

A Message from the Chair



Ron Murphree, Chair

FY 2009 (October 2008-September 2009) proved to be another year of important events and milestones for the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) and the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB).

In November 2008, DOE Oak Ridge received good news as outgoing DOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) James Rispoli approved the Integrated Facility Disposition Program (IFDP). This plan will essentially complete the cleanup of the ORR, although it won't be finished any time in the near future. The schedule goes out as far as 2039, but approval of the plan is an important step because it identifies more

than 400 unused, outdated facilities that can be eliminated, freeing up valuable space at the Y-12 National Security Complex and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The 'official' demolition of the gigantic K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) began in December 2008. It was an occasion to celebrate with speeches by local and visiting dignitaries. Another important milestone was reached in February 2009 when the first shipment of remote-handled transuranic waste left Oak Ridge for final disposition in New Mexico.

Even though the nation was in the midst of a serious recession, DOE Oak Ridge received more good news in March 2009 when it was announced that Oak Ridge would receive \$755 million in stimulus funding for cleanup work. This money was in addition to annual funding earlier approved by Congress. DOE went to work quickly to finalize contracts and a number of projects were underway by the end of the fiscal year.

ORSSAB kept busy monitoring all of these activities at the board and committee level. The committees generated, and the board approved, seven recommendations that dealt with IFDP, historic preservation, the DOE Oak Ridge EM budget, progress of cleanup projects, and waste disposal capacity. Details of those recommendations are found on pages 4-8.

The board was also pleased to learn that cleanup of the David Witherspoon site in South Knoxville had been accomplished and the ponds remediation project at ETTP was well on its way toward completion.

In addition to all those activities, board members were engaged with public outreach, participation at a number of conferences, and the semi-annual EM SSAB Chairs' meetings held in Augusta, Ga., and Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Please take the time to read about all the major events that took place related to Oak Ridge EM work and many activities of ORSSAB.

I hope you will consider attending our board meetings and becoming part of our various committees. The board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, Tenn. Committee schedules are available by calling 865-241-4583 or 241-4584 or by visiting our website at www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Advisory Board at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is to provide meaningful opportunities for collaborative dialogue among the diverse multicultural communities surrounding the Oak Ridge Reservation, EM, and the U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Office (ORO). The Board is chartered under the EM Site Specific Advisory Board Charter. At the request of the Assistant Secretary, the ORO Manager, or the ORO Assistant Manager for EM, the Board may provide informed advice and recommendations concerning the following EM site-specific issues: cleanup standards and environmental restoration, waste management and disposition, stabilization and disposition of non-stockpile nuclear materials, excess facilities, future land use and long-term stewardship, risk assessment and management, and cleanup science and technology activities. The Board may also be asked to provide advice and recommendations on any other EM project or issue. The Board ensures early, ongoing community access to information (and its interpretation and implications) and dialogue that improves the quality of the decision-making process of EM and ORO.

On the cover left to right: demolition of the K-1035 Building, demolition of the K-25 Building, and the K-1007 Ponds Remediation Project at East Tennessee Technology Park.

Introduction

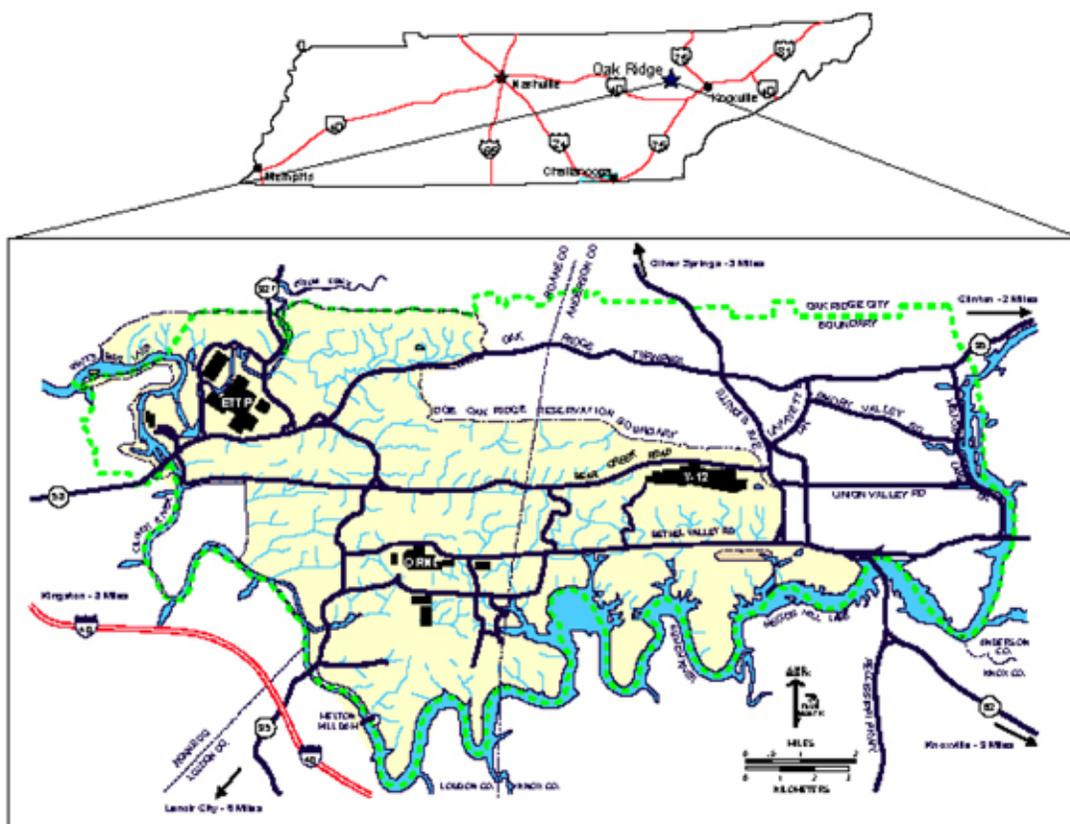
ORSSAB is an independent, federally appointed citizens' panel that provides advice and recommendations to DOE on its Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) Program. Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the board began its work in 1995. DOE Oak Ridge considers ORSSAB its primary source for community input on decisions related to the cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR).

The board provides informed recommendations and advice to the DOE EM program regarding environmental restoration and waste management, as well as long-term stewardship, land use, and economic development of contaminated areas.

Recommendations regarding environmental justice, health and safety issues, historical preservation, and other issues may be developed at the request of the DOE Assistant Secretary for EM or the DOE Oak Ridge manager or assistant manager for EM.

The board is committed to reflecting the concerns of the communities impacted by EM activities on the ORR and to serving as a communications link between the public and relevant government agencies, including local governments.

The board is composed of up to 20 voting members, chosen to reflect the diversity of gender, race, profession, views, and interests of persons living near the ORR. Members are



Map of the Oak Ridge Reservation showing East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Y-12 National Security Complex.

appointed by DOE and serve on a voluntary basis, without compensation. At the close of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, the board consisted of members from five counties: Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, and Roane. Two non-voting student participants also serve on the board to represent the viewpoints and concerns of area youth.

Non-voting liaisons include representatives from DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. These liaisons advise the board on their agencies' policies and views.

ORSSAB provides a number of avenues for the public to learn about and express views on

DOE Oak Ridge EM work. All board and committee meetings are open to the public and are announced in newspaper advertisements and at the DOE Information Center in Oak Ridge (865-241-4780).

Board meetings are also advertised in the *Federal Register* and are video recorded and broadcast on local cable television stations. Copies of the meeting videos are available at the Information Center.

The board maintains a web site at www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab. Information is also available by calling the ORSSAB support office at 865-241-4583 or 865-241-4584.

Board Meetings

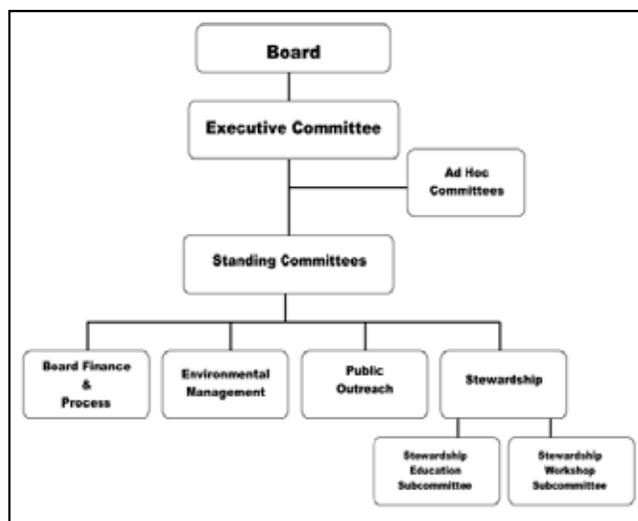
The board meets each month to hear presentations by personnel working on relevant EM topics, listen to and discuss

input from concerned citizens, consider recommendations to DOE developed by the various ORSSAB committees, and conduct other business. Each August, board members gather for an annual retreat to evaluate the board's work for the year and plan activities for the next fiscal year.

The board conducts its deliberations under ORSSAB bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order and strives to consider all relevant positions in reaching decisions.

Committees

The accompanying diagram shows the board's structure. General board business is handled at the monthly Executive Committee meeting.



FY 2009 ORSSAB board structure.

This committee, which is composed of the elected officers of the board and the standing committee chairs, holds general administrative authority to set board agendas, coordinate the work of committees, and transact business as necessary.

ORSSAB committees usually meet monthly, and all meetings are open

to the public. Each ORSSAB committee creates its own work plan to guide its activities during the year, and these work plans are updated continually as the board year progresses. Information about ORSSAB committees can be found in the "Committees" section of this report.

FY 2009 Board Officers

ORSSAB officers for the year were Steve Dixon, Chair; Ted Lundy, Vice Chair; John Coffman, Secretary.

Key Issues

FY 2009 was filled with a number of important milestones and events – the beginning of demolition of the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), the first shipment of remote-handled transuranic waste (RH TRU) off the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) to New Mexico, the kick-off of a number of projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), a proposed major modification to the Oak Ridge Federal Facility Agreement, and others.

ORSSAB made recommendations to DOE on several of those topics, and for those where it didn't provide formal input, it monitored events closely with keen interest, remaining ready to offer comments or recommendations if deemed necessary.

Following are a number of ORSSAB recommendations and important events in FY 2009.

Recommendation 175 on the Integrated Facility Disposition Program

In FY 2008 the board received full details on the plan to add more than 200 additional facilities to the DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) baseline. The Integrated Facility Disposition Program (IFDP) calls for finishing all demolition of excess facilities on the ORR.

Including the facilities in the current baseline, the additional 237 excess and deteriorating facilities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the Y-12 National Security Complex would bring the total to more than 400. The date for the completion of cleanup would be around 2040.

While the board fully supports implementation of the plan, it was concerned that it didn't account for the rapid deterioration of some of these old buildings, which, if not monitored and maintained at least in a minimal way, could become more difficult and dangerous to demolish.

In FY 2009 the board recommended that DOE should keep a close watch on these buildings and provide sufficient funding for surveillance and maintenance. The board

also said the facilities should be adequately evaluated for historical significance.

DOE responded saying it would do everything it could within allotted budgets to maintain the facilities to avoid future problems. It also said it would continue to hold consultation meetings to gather public input on potential historic buildings.

Recommendation 176 on Alternatives to Memorialize the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park

The historic preservation of a portion of the K-25 Building at ETTP was the dominant topic of discussion during the previous fiscal year of 2008; the board and its Stewardship Committee heard several presentations and ORSSAB hosted a public meeting on K-25 preservation in February 2008.

In 2005 DOE had signed a memorandum of agreement to preserve the North Tower and make it available for use as a museum that would tell the history of this historic structure. However, as time went by and the building deteriorated rapidly, it became apparent that DOE was going to declare the

building unsuitable for preservation and ask for a change of the agreement.

A group called the Partnership for K-25 Preservation put forth a plan to build a staffed interpretive center at the south end of the site, opposite the North Tower, after demolition is complete.

In an attempt to give DOE another option to consider, ORSSAB suggested an un-staffed, self-guided interpretive center with a more comprehensive exhibit at the American Museum of Science and Energy.

DOE responded saying, in fact, it would not try to save the North Tower and was developing a plan for an interpretive center at the site, but it did not provide any details.

Recommendation 177 on the National Historic Preservation Act

Related to historic preservation and as a result of discussions about K-25 preservation, in March 2009 ORSSAB approved a recommendation to DOE saying it should initiate consultation meetings with the public early in the process of facility cleanup.

The board believed the public should be given sufficient time to offer comments on potential historic facilities during the planning phase of demolishing excess buildings under IFDP.

In its response DOE said it had initiated consultation meetings regarding buildings that might be part of IFDP work and noted that the majority of them had been deemed as having no historical value.

Recommendation 178 on the FY 2011 DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management Program Budget Request

Each year ORSSAB is given the opportunity to provide input on the DOE Oak Ridge EM budget. Budgets are prepared two years in advance so the board offered general comments on the proposed 2011 budget request.

The board said it was unacceptable for DOE Oak Ridge cleanup efforts at the Y-12 National Security Complex and ORNL to be impacted significantly year after year because of a Congressional mandate to dispose of surplus uranium-233 at the Building 3019 Complex at ORNL while no additional funding is provided to do the work. As a result, DOE Oak Ridge must take funds from other projects leading to delays and disputes with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation over agreed-to milestones.

The board also requested that sufficient funding be in the budget to deal with RH TRU wastes that had been left in Melton Valley Trench 13. During the Melton Valley remediation project some pyrophoric transuranic waste was encountered during the cleanup of Trench 13. A flare-up occurred, work was immediately shut down, and Trench 13 was covered with coke and sand. Remediation of Trench 13 would complete all of the work in the Melton Valley cleanup project.

As part of the post-remediation monitoring efforts in Melton Valley to determine if any contaminated groundwater is leaving the valley and moving westward toward the Clinch River, a line of monitoring wells was installed on the east side of the river. Contamination from Melton Valley has been detected in some of those monitoring wells, and efforts are underway to determine if

contamination is moving under the Clinch River and off DOE property onto private land on the west side of the river.

The board was concerned that perhaps some of that contamination possibly might be coming from hydrofracture wells that had been drilled between 1959 to 1983 to inject low-level radioactive wastes in deep geologic strata. It recommended that funding be provided for an investigation to determine further if contamination is associated with the injection sites.

In its response DOE said it realized the uranium-233 removal competed with other cleanup projects but said the budget request appears adequate to meet all commitments. DOE said it was working with the state of Tennessee to find an acceptable disposition for the remaining waste in Trench 13, but in the meantime the material would be kept in safe storage. And regarding the investigation of the hydrofracture wells, DOE said its monitoring efforts were focused on groundwater to determine if any contamination was leaving the Melton Valley burial grounds and moving off the reservation.

Recommendation 179 on Providing Information in the DOE Quarterly Project Reviews

In August 2008, the combined chairs of the eight EM SSABs requested that information on budgets and progress of work at their respective sites be provided through quarterly project reviews (QPRs).

In March 2009 DOE responded to the chairs saying QPRs were internal documents for DOE managers and often contain preliminary or business sensitive information. DOE Headquarters encouraged each local board to request specific information from their site offices.

ORSSAB in June 2009 asked for detailed information associated with the major EM projects in Oak Ridge. DOE Oak Ridge said at the end of each quarter it would provide to the Board Finance & Process Committee a quarterly report for review and distribution to the board. The first report was provided in October 2009.

Recommendation 180: Recommendations on Expansion of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 Waste Facility and Sorting and Segregating of Wastes Destined for the Facility

To accommodate all the waste generated by the cleanup of the ORR, a number of destination points are needed. Some waste is sent to disposal facilities in New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah. But most of it is either remediated in place, such as in Melton Valley, or it is building debris that is sent to onsite landfills.

The onsite landfills are designated to accept 'clean' uncontaminated waste or, in the case of the landfill in Bear Creek Valley near Y-12, low-level contaminated waste.

That landfill, commonly known as the EM Waste Management Facility (EMWMF), was opened in 2002 and with four completed cells can accept 1.2 million cubic yards of waste. A fifth cell is being built with a completion date expected in August 2010.

But with all the cleanup work in the current baseline and all that is expected to be generated through IFDP, EMWMF will require a sixth cell and even more space will be required to handle it all.

ORSSAB recommended that DOE proceed with a 'sense of urgency' to evaluate the need for additional landfill space and, if warranted, begin planning to expand to a sixth cell at EMWMF and determine if another location should be sought for a second low-level waste landfill.

The board also recommended that DOE sort and segregate waste to maximize the capacities of the EMWMF and the sanitary landfills also located at Y-12.

In its response, DOE said the design of a sixth cell is already underway that will bring capacity to 2.2 million cubic yards and should support cleanup operations to at least 2016.

DOE said it will initiate a feasibility study to establish a path forward for waste that exceeds the final capacity of the landfill. It agreed with the board about sorting and segregating waste and said evaluation of such opportunities are incorporated into project planning.

A number of key events occurred in FY 2009 that, while ORSSAB might not have provided formal comments, the board had been following for some time. It was also keenly interested in how money from ARRA would be used in Oak Ridge.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

In March 2009, ORSSAB heard the first details regarding an infusion of money from ARRA.

Steve McCracken, the DOE Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for EM, told the board that ARRA funding would augment the Oak Ridge EM base budgets for FYs 2009-2011.

He said the work is defined as that which can be started and completed within that two-year period.

At the board's May meeting, J.T. Howell, the DOE Portfolio Manager for ARRA work, provided additional information on specific projects and how money was allocated in four areas:

- Y-12 - \$327 million
Major projects:
Removal of legacy material from Alpha 5 and Beta 4,
Demolition of the Biology Complex,
Remediation of West End Mercury Area,
Scrap Yard Removal Project,
Expansion of landfills.
- ORNL - \$230 million
Major projects:
2000 Complex Demolition,
Building 3026 Wooden Structure Demolition,
3026 Hot Cell Removal,
Tank W-1A Removal Action,
Bethel Valley Burial Grounds Project,
Melton Valley Monitoring Wells.
- ETTP - \$118 million
Major work:
Prepare K-27 Building for demolition.
- TRU Waste Processing Center - \$80 million
Additional shifts to accelerate processing.

K-25 Demolition

In one of the most incredible scientific and engineering feats in history, the massive K-25 Building was built in 18 months during World War II. But it took years just preparing the building for demolition to begin.

ORSSAB and its EM Committee received many updates on the progress, and the delays, toward beginning of demolition. In FY 2008 the board actively engaged the public on how to preserve its significance and issued recommendations on the topic.

Finally, on December 16, 2008, an air horn gave the signal to four heavy equipment operators to fire up their track-driven machines equipped with rotating shears on long arms to begin pulling apart the south end of the west wing.

It's expected to take another couple of years, near the end of 2011, to finish the demolition. (For accuracy, the first actual demolition was during the summer of 2008 to remove the connector between the west wing and the North Tower, which at the time was still slated for preservation.)

Ponds Remediation at ETTP

Work began in summer of 2009 to remediate the K-1007 Ponds at ETTP, which had been contaminated primarily with PCBs from operations at the site.

The contamination was in the sediments of the ponds, which were continually disturbed by bottom-feeding fish. Contamination collected in the fish tissue, and those fish were preyed upon by larger bass. Potential harm existed for birds and mammals, including humans, that might consume the bass.

The remediation strategy was to remove all fish from the ponds, put clean fill over contaminated sediment, and introduce non-bottom feeding fish, but no predator fish. The board's EM Committee received periodic updates on the work, which was almost complete by the end of FY 2009.

TRU Waste Processing Center

In September 2008 the first shipment of contact-handled TRU left Oak Ridge for New Mexico. A few months later on the morning of February 26, 2009, the first load of RH TRU left the TRU Waste Processing Center and, 1,300 miles later, arrived safely at its destination a little after noon the next day.

With an infusion of \$80 million in ARRA funds, the center was able to add a second production shift and a third logistics/support shift will be added in FY 2010 to accelerate the processing schedule by about a year.

A major milestone was reached in FY 2009 when the center completed processing of 274 cubic meters of contact-handled TRU.

Service Hours Contributed to DOE by ORSSAB Members



ORSSAB members spent more than 1,400 hours in FY 2009 participating in board activities including attending meetings and conferences that had bearing on the goals of the board. This figure does not include travel time or time spent away from meetings writing recommendations and studying DOE-related materials. Board members and student representatives are volunteers and serve without compensation.

Community Outreach

The goal of ORSSAB outreach is to achieve the board's mission as it relates to community involvement. To do this, ORSSAB invites public participation in a variety of board activities.

Meetings/Presentations

- Notices are placed in the *Federal Register*, *Oak Ridger*, and *Oak Ridge Observer* to inform the public of board and all standing committee meetings.



Board members Bill Bass, left, and Ron Murphree, center, join Downtown Sertoma Club President Tim Curbow following Bill's presentation to the club on May 20, 2009.

- Presentations are made by board members to local civic, educational, and government organizations to inform the public about the board and DOE cleanup activities.

Special Events/Exhibits/Internet

- Members represent the board at events such as festivals and expos, where informational brochures and ORSSAB logo items are distributed to interested individuals.
- Educational materials, including teacher resources, are prepared to aid public understanding of cleanup and post-cleanup issues.
- Board members participate in high-profile awareness events, such as the teacher's workshop on the ORSSAB Stewardship Education Resource Kit, and plan new ways to reach out to the community.
- A toll free number (1-800-382-6938) and web site (www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab) provide avenues for information.
- ORSSAB maintains a permanent exhibit at the American Museum of Science & Energy in Oak Ridge, using touch-screen kiosks, posters, and displays to tell the Oak Ridge cleanup story.

- Monthly board meetings begin with a relevant environmental management-related presentation. This portion of the meeting is subsequently broadcast on local public access cable TV stations.

Publications/Reports/Presentations

- The ORSSAB annual report is prepared and distributed to state legislators, government agencies, and local media and organizations to summarize annual board activities and promote awareness of the board's mission.
- The board's *Advocate* newsletter is distributed quarterly to inform stakeholders about recent board activities and DOE cleanup issues.



Kevin Westervelt, Steve Stow, and Maggie Owen staff the ORSSAB booth at the East Tennessee Chapter of the Health Physics Society's Vendor's Meeting on December 9, 2008.

The Year's Top News

Assistant Secretary Approves CD-I Document for the IFDP

In November 2008, then-Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) James Rispoli approved the proposal for the Integrated Facility Disposition Program, the plan to add more than 200 outdated or surplus facilities at Y-12 and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) to the existing Oak Ridge cleanup baseline.

Approval of the Critical Decision 1 document paved the way for the next step of the plan to set budgets and priorities.

The plan would essentially complete the cleanup in Oak Ridge at an estimated cost of \$9.4 to \$14.5 billion over the next 25 to 30 years.

Demolition of K-25 Begins

The long-awaited 'official' start of demolition of the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) began on the afternoon of December 16, 2008.

It was an occasion that called for speeches by a number of VIPs including Inés Triay, the Acting (and later confirmed) Assistant Secretary for EM, and Gerald Boyd, Manager of the DOE Oak Ridge Office.

Board members David Martin and Sondra Sarten and student representative Claire Campbell were among those who attended the event.

It's expected to take another two years to complete demolition of the structure that was built in about 18 months.

The milestone for completion is near the end of 2011.

Preparations Began in FY 2009 to Close TSCA Incinerator

After operating for about 18 years the Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator (TSCAI) began to wind down operations for final closure during the first quarter of FY 2010.



TSCAI completed its work in December 2009.

The last waste was fed into the unit on the morning of December 2, 2009, and about two hours later it ceased operations permanently.

During FY 2009 TSCAI burned almost 1.7 million pounds of liquid waste and 142,000 pounds of solid waste. Over its lifetime it incinerated more than 34 million pounds of solid and liquid waste material.

ARRA-funded Work Commences

In May 2009, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) money began arriving in Oak Ridge and work began in earnest to award cleanup contracts. Money had to be committed by the end of September and must be spent by the end of September 2011.

By July a number of field activities had gotten underway including the stabilization of Building 3026 at ORNL in preparation for demolition and the initial shipping of junk

from the Y-12 Scrap Yard. Later in the summer work began at the K-27 Building at ETTP to prepare the building for demolition. The initial preparatory work included setting up work lights and developing procedures for the project.

Shortly after ARRA money was available, characterization of legacy materials at the Alpha 5 and Beta 4 Buildings at Y-12 had begun. By the end of the fiscal year other projects engaged at Y-12 were the demolition of the Biology Complex, the West End Mercury Area storm sewer cleanup, and the expansion of the low-level waste landfill in Bear Creek Valley and one of the sanitary landfills along Chestnut Ridge near Y-12.

David Witherspoon Cleanup Completed in Knoxville

In March 2009 DOE completed the cleanup of the David Witherspoon, Inc., site at 1630 Maryville Pike in South Knoxville.



More than 15,600 truckloads of waste were shipped from the two Witherspoon sites in Knoxville to Oak Ridge without a single accident.

This finished a two-stage project that started five years earlier up the street at 901 Maryville Pike at the David Witherspoon Recycling site. DOE was charged with cleaning up both locations because years ago contaminated material had been shipped there from Oak Ridge.

The cost to remediate both sites was about \$31.9 million dollars, less transportation costs.

Contamination Detected in Melton Valley Monitoring Wells

In February 2009, Dave Adler, DOE Oak Ridge liaison to ORSSAB, told the EM Committee that strontium had been detected in monitoring wells along the western boundary of DOE property in Melton Valley. He said that while concentrations were relatively low, DOE was taking steps to determine if any contamination in groundwater was going under the Clinch River to the other side.

Adler said DOE planned to install another line of monitoring wells on private property to detect any migration of contaminated groundwater from the east side of the river. He said DOE would ask property owners to take existing wells out of service in exchange for connections to a public water supply and payment of water bills for as long as water quality was monitored.

Work to lay water lines began a couple of months later and was completed with residents connected to a public water supply in mid-October 2009. ARRA money is being used to install the monitoring wells.

McCracken Announces Retirement

Steve McCracken, the Oak Ridge DOE Assistant Manager for EM, advised the board at its August meeting that he planned to retire after the first of the year 2010.

His successor, John Eschenberg, comes to Oak Ridge from Hanford, Wash., where he was the manager of Waste Treatment and Immobilization.



John Eschenberg, left, is the new DOE Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for EM, taking over from Steve McCracken who held the position from 2003 to 2009.

Milestones & Special Events

ORSSAB Co-hosts Public Meeting on IFDP and Recovery Act

During FY 2009, ORSSAB was actively involved in two major programs that had significant impact on the Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) program this year and will continue to have ramifications for years to come: the Integrated Facility Disposition Program (IFDP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

In October 2008, the board passed a recommendation supporting the DOE Oak Ridge Critical Decision 1 document proposing the implementation of IFDP. The program is designed to add more than 200 additional facilities at



In February 2009 ORSSAB hosted a public meeting to explain proposed changes to the Federal Facility Agreement as a result of additional work planned through IFDP.

Y-12 and Oak Ridge National Lab to the EM baseline and extend DOE's mission to clean up the Oak Ridge Reservation as far out as 2039.

In February 2009, ORSSAB co-hosted a public meeting with DOE Oak Ridge to explain how the Federal Facility Agreement would be modified to include the additional work. During this same time, information was coming out of Washington about ARRA.

Through presentations at the ORSSAB meetings in March, April, and May, the public was given detailed briefings on how Recovery Act funding would augment the Oak Ridge EM budgets for FYs 2009–2011.

ORSSAB Continues Involvement on Oral Histories Project

ORSSAB continued its involvement in Oak Ridge oral histories this year and celebrated the development of a sister organization to the one the board helped create in 2007.

Networking Oak Ridge Oral History (NOROH) is a four-agency Federal program task team formed to support the Center for Oak Ridge Oral History (COROH), which ORSSAB took the lead role in forming two years ago.

The purpose of COROH is to consolidate existing publicly available oral histories concerning Oak Ridge and to collect additional ones. ORSSAB turned over day-to-day management of COROH to the Oak Ridge Public Library, but the library relies on the input from an Oral History Steering Committee, which includes ORSSAB representative Steve Stow.

NOROH will develop an implementation plan to support the goal of interviewing current and former DOE staff who were involved in key programs throughout the history of the site. A list of key programs to be supported by this initiative will be prioritized and approved by the program managers for the DOE Office of Science, the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Office of Scientific and Technical Information, and EM.

Community Outreach Expands

ORSSAB posted a record year in FY 2009 in its mission to inform and involve the public in the Oak Ridge EM program. Key accomplishments include setting a new record for presentations to local media, civic organizations, schools, and elected officials (22 events), and a new record for news releases (15).

The board also instituted a program this year to provide local newspapers with guest



Betty Jones and Ron Murphree staff the ORSSAB Secret City Festival Booth.

editorials on a quarterly basis. Interaction with local media representatives was a cornerstone of the board's outreach program this year, with meetings with reporters and editors from six area newspapers to discuss how the board can work more effectively with news organizations to get the word out about ORSSAB and the DOE EM program.

This year the board also began development of new interactive displays for the ORSSAB exhibit at the American Museum of Science and Energy.

And throughout the year, the board kept up an aggressive outreach effort that included participation in the Earth Day and Secret City festivals; an ongoing program of advertisements, newsletters, and cable television broadcasts; and publication of the quarterly Advocate newsletter.

ORSSAB Weighs In on Historic Preservation of K-25 Building

The question of how best to preserve the historical significance of the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park provided ORSSAB with an active role to play again this year.

In its February 2009 "Recommendation on Alternatives to Memorialize the K-25 Building," ORSSAB recommended that DOE build an unmanned interpretive center at the site and that Manhattan Project exhibits at the American Museum of Science and Energy be expanded.

In March, ORSSAB followed up with its recommendation on the "National Historic Preservation Act Implementation," in which it recommended that DOE initiate consultation meetings with stakeholders to allow early public input into the planning for IFDP.

DOE agreed, and in May ORSSAB participated in the two-day meeting of the consulting parties to the 2005 Memorandum of Agreement for Historic Preservation of the K-25 Building.

As recommended, the second day of the meeting was dedicated to discussing facilities at Oak Ridge National Lab and Y-12.



Skip Gosling, left, DOE Historian, talks with board member Steve Stow during a break of the consulting parties meeting to discuss historic preservation of the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park.

Board Meetings

ORSSAB meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, Tenn. Each meeting features a presentation like the ones described below. Board meetings also include regular business items, such as approval of recommendations and status reports from DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and the various ORSSAB committees. The public is always welcome to attend and participate.

October

Tammy Blaine, DOE Oak Ridge, and Steve McCracken, DOE Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for Environmental Management (EM), explained to the board the steps involved in developing cleanup budgets. The budget process is a lengthy one that begins two years prior to the target year.

November

Dr. Vince Adams, the director of the DOE Office of Soil and Groundwater Remediation, talked about how his office is responsible for developing technology and new approaches in solving environmental problems.

His office is responsible for overseeing 60 sites in 22 states that have contaminated soil or groundwater plumes.

December

The background and status of remaining transuranic waste in Trench 13 in Melton Valley was the topic of discussion. Dave Adler, the DOE liaison to the board, said there is an agreement among DOE and the regulators to have all material from Trench 13 removed by the end of the year, but it was unlikely to happen as scheduled because no plan or budget is in place to complete removal. He said options include continuing with removal as planned, but precautions must be taken to prevent another pyrophoric event, which shut down operations early.

Also at this meeting McCracken announced that DOE Headquarters had approved the concept for the Integrated Facility Disposition

Program (IFDP), which allowed the next step of setting priorities and budgets.

January

With the approval of the Critical Decision 1 document for IFDP, McCracken briefed the board on the status of the project. He said if all goes according to plan actual work to eliminate an additional 200+ plus excess facilities would begin in the 2010/2011 timeframe.

February

Joan Hughes of UT-Battelle provided an overview of the 2008 Annual Site Environmental Report for Oak Ridge. The report indicated the Oak Ridge Reservation was well within the compliance range for health and human safety.

A guest at the meeting was the new DOE Designated Federal Officer for all the EM SSABs around the country Cate Brennan.

March

McCracken briefed the board on the status of the FY 2009-2011 budgets.

He said EM work in Oak Ridge was formulated related to money expected to be received from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which would augment the base budgets for those three years.

April

Bill McMillan, DOE Oak Ridge, provided an update of the status of transuranic waste processing in Oak Ridge and how ARRA funding will be used to accelerate the disposition

of contact- and remote-handled transuranic waste and sludge by about a year.

May

J.T. Howell, the DOE Portfolio Manager for ARRA-funded work in Oak Ridge, told the board that DOE Oak Ridge EM had received about \$604 million of \$755 million earmarked for Oak Ridge.

Twenty-four projects had been identified across the reservation for ARRA funding.

June

McCracken reported that about 80 percent of the \$755 million in ARRA funds had been received by DOE Oak Ridge. He said EM was working with contractors to get designated projects under contract by September.

The presentation was on the Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation by David Kosson, a professor at Vanderbilt University. He said the mission of the organization is to support risk informed management of existing and future nuclear waste from government and civilian sources.

July

Laura Wilkerson, DOE Federal Project Director for Y-12 Projects, reported on the low-level waste landfill in Bear Creek Valley and the three sanitary landfills located along Chestnut Ridge at Y-12. She said expansion of the low-level landfill and Landfill V on Chestnut Ridge was being done using ARRA funds.



Laura Wilkerson



Bill McMillan

August

McCracken reported that he would retire as DOE Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for EM after the first of the year and would be replaced by John Eschenberg from Hanford, Wash.

Kathy Johnson, the facilitator for the board's annual retreat, reviewed the results of the board's annual member survey. The purpose of the survey was to identify issues for the board to consider at its annual retreat later in August.

Annual Retreat

The board held its annual planning meeting at RT Lodge in Maryville, Tenn. It reviewed its accomplishments for FY 2009 and discussed issues to address in FY 2010.

September

The board heard a presentation by John Michael Japp, DOE Oak Ridge, on the history of mercury use and cleanup efforts at Y-12.

He said 240,000 to 470,000 pounds of mercury had been lost to the environment, much of which went into East Fork Poplar Creek, which runs through Y-12.

He discussed remediation efforts to date to reduce the concentrations of mercury in the creek.



John Michael Japp

ORSSAB meetings are televised the first Monday after the meeting on Knox County Cable Charter Channel 6 and Comcast Channel 12.

Meetings are also televised the first Tuesday after the meeting on Oak Ridge Cable Channel 12.

Members & Liaisons



Following are ORSSAB members and student representatives who served all or part of the year during FY 2009.



Darrell Akins is the co-owner of AkinsCrisp Public Strategies, an Oak Ridge-based strategic communications firm. He is the former CEO of the Greater Knoxville Chamber of Commerce and served in the cabinet of former Governor Lamar Alexander. He resides in Oak Ridge.



Darryl Bonner is employed by Bechtel Jacobs, Co., as the emergency management task lead. He is an engineer with experience in facility management, pollution prevention, and industrial hygiene. Darryl resides in Oak Ridge.

Bill Bass retired from Sears Holdings Corporation after 39 years in senior management. He currently volunteers with the American Red Cross, where he serves as a liaison for governmental agencies and as a disaster services instructor. Bill served one term from FY 2007 to FY 2009.



Claire Campbell was one of the board's student representatives during FY 2009 from Oak Ridge High School, where she was leader of the band's flute section. She has volunteered at the American Museum of Science and Energy and participates in the First United Methodist choir and First Presbyterian youth program.





Miranda Clower was also a student representative to the board from Roane County High School, where she was a member of the Young Republicans Club and the Beta Club.



Charles Jensen is the owner and manager of Diversified Technologies, which manufactures, designs, and services wastewater treatment systems for nuclear power plants. He has founded three technology companies and

is operating a third. He has authored several technical papers regarding waste processing in the commercial nuclear industry. Charles is a Knoxville resident.

John Coffman is the president of DeNuke Services in Oak Ridge, which provides technical support to DOE contractors. He is a Certified Health Physicist and has worked in radioactive waste management and remediation activities for more than 25 years. John lives in Clinton.



Betty Jones lives in Oak Ridge and is employed by B&W Technical Services Y-12 as a Chemical Operations Relief Supervisor. She holds an associates degree in Applied Science in Environmental Health Technology from Roane State and a bachelor of science in Organizational Management from Tusculum College.



Steve Dixon is the owner of Spectra Environmental Group and has worked as the director of management for the Metro Knoxville Airport Authority and as the finance director for the Knoxville Community Development Corp. Steve lives in Louisville.



Edward Juarez lives in Loudon and is a retired utility worker who was employed at the commercial Fermi 2 nuclear reactor site in Michigan for 15 years as a trainer, outage management expeditor, and senior maintenance planner. He holds degrees in sociology and criminal justice.

Bob Hatcher is a research scientist in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UT) and holds the position of Distinguished Scientist and Professor. He worked 14 years under a joint appointment between UT and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) as part of the UT/ORNL Distinguished Scientist Program. Bob lives in Oak Ridge.



Ted Lundy taught in the University of Tennessee College of Engineering and then joined the ORNL Metallurgy Division in 1957. Upon retirement from the lab, he joined Tennessee Tech's Center for Manufacturing Research and became its director in 1989, retiring in 2000. Ted is a resident of Knoxville.



David Martin is a self-employed engineer who has worked on a wide range of power engineering assignments worldwide. He resides in Harriman, where he operates his family's farm, which is registered with the Tennessee Century Farms Program.



Ron Murphree is a professional engineer and certified professional estimator with 25 years of construction-related experience. Since 1996 he has been the chief estimator for Denark Construction Co., in Knoxville, where he lives.



Steve Mead is employed by B&W Technical Services Y-12 as a Shift Technical Advisor. He has extensive experience with nuclear criticality safety, hazardous material storage and transfer, and emergency management. He has worked with both DOE and naval

nuclear reactors weapons systems. Steve lives in Oak Ridge.



Tim Myrick is the former director of facilities strategic planning for UT-Battelle. He has also worked in the environmental restoration and waste management fields in several senior management positions. Tim lives in Powell.

Gloria Mei is a Senior Health Physicist at ORNL, where she manages and conducts program activities in radiological design and radiation safety. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Health Physics and is an adjunct associate professor of the Nuclear Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee. Gloria lives in Oak Ridge.



Bob Olson is a retired nuclear engineer who lives in Oak Ridge. He worked at the Savannah River Laboratory as an experimental physicist and probabilistic risk analyst, and as a nuclear licensing engineer for Sargent and Lundy.



Lance Mezga lives in Knoxville and is employed by UT-Battelle as the project manager for environmental integration for new facilities development at ORNL. He has more than 30 years experience in environmental and waste management.

Lance has served as a technical expert to national and international agencies.



Maggie Owen lives in Oak Ridge and is employed by Safety and Ecology Corp. as a Health Physics Supervisor on the K-25 Decontamination and Decommissioning Project. She is co-owner of Good DeeDs of Oak Ridge LLC which provides assistance to the elderly and disabled through adaptive home modifications.

Josh Pratt is one of two student representatives to the board for FY 2009-10. He is senior at Hardin Valley High School where he is a member of the track team. He attended the Tennessee Governor's School for the Sciences and Engineering.



Steve Stow is retired from UT-Battelle, where he worked as director of the American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge. He is the author or coauthor of more than 70 publications and reports and has been involved with remediation and land use issues on the Oak Ridge Reservation for 25 years. Steve lives in Knoxville.



Sondra Sarten is the owner of RS Construction and Fabrication in Lenoir City, which provides metal products and construction services to a variety of organizations, including DOE. Sondra is a Lenoir City resident.



Kevin Westervelt is the civil/structural engineering department manager at Mesa Associates in Knoxville. He is a member of the Tennessee Structural Engineers Association and has more than 25 years of experience in civil/structural engineering as well as experience relating to site environmental compliance. Kevin lives in Knoxville.

Sidney Sherrill is the other student representative for FY 2009-10 from Oak Ridge High School where she is a senior. She is a member of the Environmental and Interact Clubs and serves on the Student Council and the Recycling Committee.



ORSSAB's Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Federal Coordinator, and Liaisons



Left to right: Pat Halsey, ORSSAB Federal Coordinator; Dave Adler, DOE Liaison; John Eschenberg, DOE Deputy Designated Federal Officer; John Owsley, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Liaison; and Connie Jones, Environmental Protection Agency Liaison.

Committees

Board Finance & Process

This committee has overall responsibility for budget prioritization for the board, including setting budget targets for each type of expenditure, proposing general budget guidance, and reviewing monthly costs. The committee also serves as the board's forum for initial discussion on issues involving the ORSSAB Bylaws and Operating Procedures, retreat planning, and preparation of the board's annual work plan. Lastly, the committee reviews and provides input to the board on the Environmental Management (EM) program's FY +2 budget and prioritization.

FY 2009 members: Ed Juarez (Chair), Maggie Owen (Vice Chair), Steve Dixon, Betty Jones, Ted Lundy, Lance Mezga.

Environmental Management

The mission of this committee is to evaluate and make recommendations on DOE's planning and implementation of Oak Ridge Reservation environmental restoration projects and on the treatment, storage, disposal, and transportation of wastes and materials for which the DOE Oak Ridge EM program is responsible.

FY 2009 members: Ron Murphree (Chair), Tim Myrick (Vice Chair), Darryl Bonner, Claire Campbell, Miranda Clower, John Coffman, Chuck Jensen, Betty Jones, Gloria Mei, Lance Mezga, Bob Olson, Maggie Owen.



Board member Darryl Bonner, foreground, at an ORSSAB Stewardship Committee meeting. Background left to right are Jason Darby, DOE Stewardship Committee Liaison; Sally Brown, Bechtel Jacobs, Co., Stewardship Committee Liaison; and board member Sondra Sarten.

Executive

General board business is handled by the Executive Committee, which is composed of the elected officers of the board and the standing committee chairs. The committee holds authority to set board agendas, coordinate the work of the committees, and transact business as necessary between regular board meetings.

FY 2009 members: Steve Dixon (Chair), Ted Lundy (Vice Chair), John Coffman, Ed Juarez, Ron Murphree, Sondra Sarten, Kevin Westervelt.

Public Outreach

The Public Outreach Committee is responsible for finding ways to educate and inform the public about the EM program and ORSSAB's mission and accomplishments. It does this through publications, presentations, briefings, displays, and exhibits.

FY 2009 members: Kevin Westervelt (Chair), Bill Bass (Vice Chair), Darrell Akins, Ed Juarez, Steve Mead, Steve Stow.

Stewardship

This committee serves as a forum for discussion of topics relevant to the long-term stewardship of the reservation and as a liaison between DOE and the community. This latter aspect is becoming increasingly important as the committee also acts as a *pro tem* Citizen's Board for Stewardship until DOE appoints a formal board.

FY 2009 members: Sondra Sarten (Chair), Darryl Bonner (Vice Chair), Ted Lundy, David Martin.

Abbreviations

