

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Site Specific Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

September 18, 1997

The September 18, 1997, Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meeting took place at Heath High School at 6:00 p.m.

The following board members were present: Nola Courtney, Mark Donham, W. G. Harvey, Vicki Jones, Ronald Lamb, Linda Long, Ray McLennan, Connie Sykes, and Bill Tanner. Ex Officio members present were: Wayne Davis, Carl Froede and Jimmie Hodges. Facilitator Present: Steve Kay. Also present were: Carlos Alvarado, Patricia Barnhill, Jeannie Brandstetter, Teresa Fields, Shelley Hawkins, Jimmy Massey, Craig Rhodes and Matt Vick.

A modified agenda was handed out to everyone.

Shelley Hawkins handed out copies of the EM Progress Publication. She also stated that she had a document pertaining to Prioritization that anyone was free to look at during the break.

A fact sheet was handed out on the Ruptured Waste Drum inside C-746-Q RCRA Waste Storage Facility at PGDP. Mark Donham asked what process did the waste come from. Jimmie Hodges stated that the investigation team is checking into it, and it appears that the material came from processes performed in C-400 to recover transuranic material or technetium material. Possibly in the late 50's or early 60's. Mark asked if anyone had taken radiation samples immediately after it was found. Jimmie stated that there were samples taken. He said that the drum had been opened, sampled and resealed on July 28. A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) inspection was conducted at C-746-Q on September 12, and conditions appeared normal. The transuranics in the drum were very low, too low to be classified as transuranic waste. A Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Operations Type B investigation team is conducting the investigation. Jimmie drew an illustration of the overpack drum and gave details of what was found. He explained what actions were being taken. Ray McLennan asked if they found any signs of leakage when they sampled the drum the first time. Jimmie stated that they did not find any signs of leakage when they sampled. Mark asked if the sampling event had anything to do with the incident. Jimmie stated that it was doubtful but they are investigating to determine what initiated the event. Mark asked if they had ruled out the possibility that some sort of nuclear reaction might have contributed to the event. Jimmie stated that there was not enough nuclear material to cause that kind of reaction. Ray McLennan asked about the treatment schedule for the waste that is stored there. Jimmie stated that it is in the 1999 timeframe.

The minutes from the July 17, 1997, meeting were approved by consensus. The August 21 informational meeting minutes were approved by consensus. Steve Kay asked for approval of the September 4, 1997, special meeting. Mark Donham requested that the record show that he had concerns and that those concerns should be interpreted as his abstention from the consensus approval to obligate \$30,000 to the Jacobs SSAB support task. The amended minutes from the September 4, 1997, were approved by consensus.

The next item on the agenda was the Environmental Management and Enrichment Facilities (EMEF) updates. Ray McLennan asked about new maps showing the present location of the plumes. Carlos Alvarado stated he would check and let him know if there is a new one available. He will be mailed a new map, if available.

The next item on the agenda was the Community Relations Plan (CRP). The following comments were discussed and approved by consensus:

1. If DOE proposes an action that affects a particular group of citizens, then that group of citizens should be notified specifically.
2. The SSAB questions the plan's date given for the discovery of groundwater contamination.
3. The SSAB would like more publicity informing citizens how to get on the DOE mailing list for receiving Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) notices.
4. DOE should appoint a full-time public affairs officer for Paducah.
5. The first update to the CRP should include a valid survey method by an independent source. The scientific methodology used should be included in the results.

The draft SSAB Workplan was the next item on the agenda. Each item was discussed and dates for discussion were marked. The workplan will be updated and sent out with the minutes. The workplan will be on the October agenda.

Membership status was the next item for discussion. Carlos stated that the package had gone out in the mail that day. He stated that he felt approval would be given for the new members within a month. Carlos stated that he felt that the applications should be modified to include some additional questions. Mark stated that one of the potential members was called and asked questions that he (Mark) considered personal. Carlos stated that he had requested this. Craig Rhodes stated that they were biographical questions. He had assumed that it was a standard procedure. Jeannie Brandstetter stated that it had been done in the past for everyone but the original board members. Carlos stated that if the applications could be modified to ask these questions he would not have anyone call the potential members. Nola Courtney stated that the present applications were very sketchy. A recommendation was made that the Membership Committee review the application and present its draft to the board.

The next items on the agenda were administrative duties. Everyone was asked to let Teresa Fields or Jeannie know about any changes to phone numbers, addresses, fax numbers or e-mail addresses. Attendance was discussed and the current policy was read. Vicki Jones stated that she felt the operating procedures needed to be changed. The current mission/scope only calls for quarterly meetings and the board is holding monthly meetings. The board felt that this should be reflected in the mission/scope. It was determined that no policy changes could be made due to the fact that less than 75% of the board were in attendance. It was suggested that board members with low attendance be called to see if they are still interested in participating on the board. There are three board members whose terms are up. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the three people to see if there is still interest. Nola Courtney

stated that she would contact them to see if they are still interested and tell them that all appointments now are for three years. She will report on this at the next meeting. **Need to have at least 10 board members present at the next meeting in order to make changes to the mission/scope.**

The co-chairs are elected to either one year or six month terms. It was suggested that one of the co-chairs take the position for six months and the other one take the one year term. Motion was made and seconded that Mark Donham be elected as a co-chair for one year. He was elected by acclamation. The motion was made and seconded that Vicki Jones be elected for the six month co-chair term. She was elected by acclamation.

The next administrative duty discussed was the annual evaluation. The EM SSAB evaluation was done by questionnaire. It was suggested that the board think about how they want to do this. Mark Donham and Vicki Jones volunteered to do the evaluation. In the future the board might want to get an independent person to do the evaluation.

Meeting location was the next administrative duty on the agenda. Several different locations were discussed. It was suggested that sometime in the future that the board vary the meeting locations to include out lying communities. It was suggested that a notice be put in the paper. The away meetings might be considered a good time to bring in technical authorities. It was suggested that Bill Tanner talk to the Community Outreach Committee about establishing a home base for the monthly meetings. Jeannie Brandstetter explained to everyone the information she had gotten on office spaces. Carlos suggested that the Environmental Information Center/Jacobs building might have office space. It was suggested that a secretary be hired for this office and to take care of clerical matters. Carlos stated that Jacobs could provide these services through the \$30,000 that was put in the Jacobs SSAB task order. Vicki suggested that a cost estimate be prepared and presented to the board at the next meeting. It was also suggested that an estimate be prepared from another agency outside of DOE. Bill Tanner will check into this and present the board with his findings.

The next meeting will be held on October 16, 1997, at the Heath High School at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Tentative Agenda for the October 16, 1997, meeting:

Minutes
Information (Handouts)
EMEF Project Updates
Review of the Water Policy
Review of the SSAB Draft Work Plan
An update on the new members
Administrative Plans for the board

Action Items

DOE will provide Ray McLennan with an updated map showing the present location of the groundwater plumes.

Membership committee will review application and present a draft modified application to the board

for consideration.

Nola Courtney will contact the three board members whose terms are up and see if they are still interested in participating.

Mark Donham and Vicki Jones will perform the annual evaluation.

Bill Tanner will check into cost estimates for providing clerical help.