

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Paducah Site Specific Advisory Board**  
**September 16, 1999**

The September 16, 1999, Paducah Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) met at 5:30 p.m. at the Paducah Information Age Park Resource Center in Paducah following a tour of the Surface Water Operable Unit at the Paducah Site.

The following board members were present: Kit Atkinson, Mark Donham, Edward Duff, David Fuller, Judy Ingram, Vicki Jones, Merryman Kemp, Ronald Lamb, Doug Raper, Craig Rhodes, Rosa Scott, Jim Smart, Pat Stephenson, and Bill Tanner. *Ex officio* member present was Tuss Taylor. The facilitator present was Steve Kay. The United States Department of Energy (DOE) federal coordinator present was John D. Sheppard. Brian Begley of Kentucky Division of Waste Management (KDWM) was present. Jim Lane was present of Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Todd Adams and Eric Scott were present of Kentucky Radiation Control Branch. David Dollins, David Michaels, Walter Perry, Myrna Redfield, and David Tidwell of DOE were present. Also present were the following members of the public and employees, contractors, and subcontractors of the DOE: Martha Alls, Don Bennett, Charlene Brown, Lou Coots, Jo Tilley Dortch, T.C. Freeman, Bruce Gardner, Bob Gresham, Kristi Hanson, Clara Harding, Cindy Humphreys, David Hutcheson, Norm Jetta, Jackie Kittner, Sam Leone, Jim Malone, Chris Marshall, Dave Massey, Jimmy Massey, Celia Owens, Del Pruett, A.B. Puckett, Vivian Puckett, Shirley Speer, Susan Stanford, Doug Thompson, George Tillson, John Tillson, Mike Turner, Joe Walker, Debbie Wattier, Corinne Whitehead, and Ernest Whitehead.

## **Agenda**

Kay asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. The agenda was amended to allow time for discussion of current issues. It was agreed that administrative issues would be held until next meeting if time was needed. Kay made a specific request that the board meet back after the special public meeting. The modified agenda was approved and adopted.

## **Facilitator's Orientation**

Kay reviewed highlights of the SSAB bylaws. Kay said the facilitator's role is to help the board stay on the agenda, to reach closure on issues, and to check for consensus when there are decisions to be made. His role also includes making sure all views are heard and valued until a decision is reached.

## **Minutes**

Approval of minutes from the August meeting and corrections made to the July minutes were tabled until the October meeting.

## **Vortec Draft Environmental Assessment**

Donham made a proposal that the board approve the same recommendation it made on the first draft of the Vortec EA on April 16, 1998. Sheppard suggested the board provide details regarding this recommendation. After some discussion and an explanation of the Vortec process by Norm Jetta of Vortec Corp., Donham gave these reasons why the board should recommend an Environmental Impact Statement be performed: 1) The process involved scientific uncertainty, which requires an Environmental Impact Statement; 2) the lack of alternatives stated in the EA. Tidwell and Sheppard said DOE knows the characterization of what would go into Vortec. Donham said there are other alternatives to the Vortec process. Rhodes asked about the recipe used for making the glass in the Vortec process and said he was concerned that the EA did not specify those recipes. Transcript of Craig Rhodes and Norm Jetta discussing Vortec at the September 16, 1999, SSAB meeting.

*Rhodes:* I have questioned and it's a question that keeps reoccurring and I have never had a satisfactory answer for me, an answer that satisfies me, and that's the flux. Again, and I keep mentioning. The proposed flux in this is fifteen parts soda ash and ten parts lime. Ah, with the added material for creating the vitrification and I have a masters degree in ceramic science so I'm not totally ignorant of this process. I have dealt with both glass and on the ceramic level as well. And that proportion or recipe for that flux in my experience the opposite of what it should be. It should be ten parts soda ash and fifteen parts lime otherwise devitrification occurs. That's my first question. Now in regard to that flux it has been my experience every time I have made a glass recipe or glaze recipe that whenever I add the flux to it, depending on the ingredients, the flux had to change and the fact that we don't know what all this materials is, it's still going to have to be characterized from what I understand from Mr. Tidwell, that being the case, will this work with

the flux being static? Should not the flux change with the materials that are being added to it? And my last question is, the combustion in the combustion chamber, is the heat that is melting this glass, convection or is there combustion occurring in that chamber and if there is, when this feed stock is fed into the top CRV there's going to be a reduction of the atmosphere occur which is going to cause an increase in the effluents what is going to be done to consider that in regard to reduction atmosphere is other words incomplete combustion for those of you who don't know it. When incomplete combustion occurs there is a lot of particulate matter that goes up into the air. And lastly, what's the temperature coming out of the stack.

*Jetta:* Let me take them one at a time. First the flux. The flux is soda ash and limestone as you say and what we will do as we get the waste stream which has been characterized by DOE we will determine what the recipe will be. Now, I believe that it should say and what he read that and can be up to like 15% of either of the additives sometimes it will be all soda ash, other times it will be all limestone. Sometimes it may be a mix of the two and the reason is that we, we make a recipe depending on the waste stream that's coming in, take a look at that, the temperatures that we can operate within and the glass we want to produce. So, as each waste stream comes in, we determine a recipe for that. This is not a blanket, automatic 15% or 10% or whatever. We tailor a recipe for each waste stream.

*Rhodes:* That's not in the EA though.

*Jetta:* That should be, I believe it is in there some place.

*Rhodes:* In the EA it states that there will be 1500 truckloads of, uh, soda ash and 10,000 truckloads of lime total, uh, I have the page memorized. I didn't bring it with me... But it doesn't say that the and that's what concerns me, nowhere in the EA does it say anything about that the flux is going to have to be changed depending on what's coming in.

*Jetta:* The permit application that we have put in our test plan, which is referred to in EA which was prepared by EPA, does say that.

Following further discussion, including comments from members of the public about experiences in Oak Ridge with a TSCA incinerator, the board approved the recommendation without dissent. (*Recommendation attached.*)

### **Change of By Laws**

Ingram made a proposal to change by laws to have a chairperson instead of co-chairs. Proposal was approved by consensus. (*Change attached.*)

Rhodes made a proposal to change by laws to require two thirds instead of three fourths of board be present in order to vote. Proposal was approved by consensus. (*Change attached.*)

Sheppard asked if there could be an executive committee to expedite decisions such as moving the meeting location. Kemp proposed the chairperson be empowered to poll the board and make

administrative decisions with the approval or a simple majority. The proposal was approved by consensus. (*Change attached.*)

The SSAB meeting was recessed for a town meeting with Energy Secretary Bill Richardson at 7:15.

The board returned into session at 8:45 p.m. following the conclusion of the town meeting.

### **Community Outreach Subcommittee**

Ingram made a proposal to have SSAB logo and theme developed by Design Integration Group.

The committee recommended moving the November meeting to Metropolis, Ill., and to have presentations of interest to members of that community. The proposal was approved by consensus.

The committee proposed to place future meeting notice ads in the Southern Illinoian and Metropolis Planet newspapers. Approved by consensus.

### **Consultant**

Tanner said the consultant's position has been placed on hold because there was so much going on because of the EH investigation.

### **Administrative issues**

The board by consensus extended the contract of Kay as facilitator for one year. The board also discussed having Kay provide training to the board to assist it in running its own meetings in the future.

The board voted on a new chairman. Rhodes and Tanner were nominated. Rhodes was elected by a 7-6 vote.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held October 21, 1999 at the Information Age Park at 5:30 p.m.