



**Environmental Management Budget  
& Prioritization Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 05, 2012, 3:30 p.m.  
DOE Information Center,  
Office of Science and Technical Information**

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**Members Present**

Norman Mulvenon  
Ron Murphree, via teleconference  
Bob Olson  
Tom Valunas

**Absent**

Greg Paulus

**Others Present**

Dave Adler, Department of Energy (DOE), via teleconference  
Jeff Crane, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), via teleconference  
Spencer Gross, ORSSAB Support Office  
Roger Petrie, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), via teleconference  
Alan Stokes, DOE, via teleconference

The purpose of this meeting was to allow EPA and TDEC representatives an opportunity to provide the committee their agencies' priorities for cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Mr. Crane said representatives of DOE, EPA, and TDEC had met earlier in the day to arrive at a general consensus for cleanup under a projected budget of \$420 million for FY 2014.

He said EPA and TDEC basically agreed with DOE's primary cleanup goals under its current funding profile of continued demolition of the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park, some mercury abatement, and work outside the Federal Facility Agreement will continue to disposition half of the uranium-233 stored in Building 3019 at Oak Ridge National Lab, and process transuranic debris at the Transuranic Waste Processing Center.

Mr. Crane said the agencies are now working to agree on what to pursue at an above requirement projection of \$490 million. He said there is more work to do but the basic approach is to work on mercury source reduction and abatement at Y-12 National Security Complex and work to prevent offsite releases of contamination in groundwater.

Mr. Petrie agreed with Mr. Crane's description saying that the state's priorities are for protection of offsite groundwater, mercury abatement, and completion of K-25 in that order, but he said the state at this point agrees with DOE's approach.

Mr. Stokes said the next steps will be for DOE Oak Ridge to receive guidance from headquarters on what funding level to plan for and then it will submit a budget request based on that guidance. It will also submit an above requirement request. He said even though Oak Ridge has not received guidance from FY 2014, for planning purposes it is assuming level funding of \$420 million. He said Oak Ridge also does not know what the above requirement figure will be but it is assuming \$490 million for planning purposes. The above requirement submittal will include how the extra money would be used. He said \$490 million to \$500 million is enough to adequately address everyone's cleanup concerns.

Mr. Murphree asked what is targeted for mercury source reduction. Mr. Petrie said the construction of a small treatment facility at Outfall 163 at Y-12 will be pursued over the next four years under the \$420 million plan. Mr. Adler said leftover Recovery Act funds will be used for Outfall 163 in FY 2013. He said the plan is for the National Nuclear Security Agency to pay for the flow augmentation of East Fork Poplar Creek in 2014.

Mr. Valunas asked if storm drains collect mercury. Mr. Adler said the treatment plant traps mercury, but it is not set up for isolation and recycling of mercury; it is sent to a landfill for disposal.

Mr. Mulvenon asked about uranium-233 disposal. Mr. Stokes said half of the U-233 will be disposed by 2014. Planning will begin for the remainder of the material.

Mr. Murphree asked if Dynamic Planning Model scenarios had been run on the \$420 million and \$490 million budget cases. Mr. Adler said runs had been made, but an action from the earlier meeting with EPA and TDEC was to run scenarios based on their priorities. He said he didn't expect the results to be much different.

Mr. Murphree said he was trying to figure out how to make a strong case for \$490 million in funding to address additional work proposed by EPA and TDEC. Mr. Crane said EPA and TDEC would like to be able to identify what high priority work under the Federal Facility Agreement would not be addressed with \$420 million. Mr. Adler said \$490 million would allow for a sludge buildout schedule to meet outyear transuranic waste disposition planning milestones. The extra funding would also allow U-233 second phase planning work to meet the desired end date for disposition of the remaining material. Mr. Adler said \$420 million would get the small treatment plant for Outfall 163 started and allow for a later start on the process buildings at Y-12. The \$490 million would allow start of a more substantive water treatment facility and move up the schedule for addressing the process buildings.

Mr. Olson asked how the budget allocation affects the final completion date. Mr. Stokes said assuming flat funding of \$420 million would move final cleanup to the mid to late 2040s.

Mr. Valunas asked how an extra \$70 million would affect the lifecycle cost. Mr. Crane said the Dynamic Planning Model should clearly show a reduction in the hundreds of millions. Mr. Valunas said perhaps that should be the emphasis as to why DOE should get the extra \$70 million. Mr. Stokes said that is the question of who gets what – should money be used to reduce risk or lifecycle cost.

Mr. Murphree said when proposing the \$490 million funding, the argument could be made that it reduces lifecycle cost and risk associated with U-233 and the impact on the environment from mercury. He said it might be easier to make the case for risk reduction.

Mr. Olson said the total cost and final completion date should be part of the recommendation to DOE on its budget request for FY 2014. He said it should also mention factors spelled out in the white paper "Balancing Environmental Management Challenges with the Complexity of the Oak Ridge Reservation."

Mr. Mulvenon asked about safeguards and security at East Tennessee Technology Park. Mr. Stokes said there is no change in the \$420 million case for FY 2014, but there are planned reductions beginning this year. He said the projection is to be under \$20 million by FY 2013 and remain steady until completion of K-25/K-27 demolition.

Mr. Olson said the committee would like to see the Dynamic Planning Model scenarios for the \$420 million and \$490 million cases. Mr. Stokes said he would provide them to the committee.

The committee will set another meeting time after the planning model scenarios are provided.

### Action items

#### *Open*

1. Mr. Stokes will provide the committee the Dynamic Planning Model scenarios for the \$420 million and \$490 million budget cases.

#### *Closed*

1. Mr. Gross will invite EPA and TDEC representatives to meet with the committee in early March. **Complete.**
2. Mr. Adler will check on the status of processing and shipping waste at the Transuranic Waste Processing Center (TWPC) and when the Central Characterization Project (CCP) will return. **Complete.**  
Bill McMillan provided the following information on operations at the center:

TWPC continues with processing waste by repackaging both contact handled (CH) and remote handled (RH) waste and obtaining screening data to determine whether the waste is low level/mixed low level (LLW/MLLW) or transuranic (TRU) waste during the absence of CCP from the site. Any waste screened as LLW/MLLW is prepared and shipped to Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) for disposal. Any waste screened as TRU is retained on site for CCP certification for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) when CCP returns.

Since the first of FY 2012, TWPC has shipped 86.3 m<sup>3</sup> of CH-TRU inventory for disposal and 2.9 m<sup>3</sup> of RH inventory for disposal. The majority of this waste was shipped to NNSS as MLLW, however, there were a couple of shipments of TRU waste to WIPP in the beginning of the fiscal year to clean up what had been certified for WIPP before CCP left.

Of the original inventory of CH-TRU waste (~1500 m<sup>3</sup>), TWPC has completed physical processing of over 1200 m<sup>3</sup>, with approximately 300 m<sup>3</sup> remaining to be processed. Of the original 1500 m<sup>3</sup> of waste inventory, shipping has been completed for approximately 850 m<sup>3</sup>. Approximately 650 m<sup>3</sup> remain to be shipped.

Of the original inventory of RH-TRU waste (~560 m<sup>3</sup>), TWPC has completed physical processing of approximately 155 m<sup>3</sup>, with approximately 405 m<sup>3</sup> remaining to be processed. Of the original 560 m<sup>3</sup> of waste inventory, shipping has been completed for approximately 47 m<sup>3</sup>, with approximately 513 m<sup>3</sup> remaining to be shipped.

DOE is still planning for CCP to return in early FY2014, to resume certification of the remaining TRU waste inventory. We expect that once CCP returns, it will be approximately 4-6 months before shipments to WIPP resume due to the required re-mobilization and re-certification of their characterization program. TWPC is continuing to ship waste that characterizes as MLLW to NNSS as required.

The TWPC baseline expects that the physical processing of the CH waste inventory will be completed by the end of FY 2014, and final shipping will be completed by early FY 2017. Physical processing of RH inventory should be complete by end of FY 2016, with final shipment in early FY 2017.

The sludge schedule is a less certain and highly dependent on funding. We are currently planning for sludge buildout design to be re-initiated in FY 2013 (some alternatives work and reviews are going on in FY 2012), and it is expected that sludge processing should commence sometime in FY 2016. Sludge processing should be completed by FY 2020.

All of the above discussion is contingent on adequate funding. CCP's return is also contingent on adequate funding for the Carlsbad Field Office.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

rsg