



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

NEWS RELEASE

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Sondra Sarten Recognized for Service

Sondra Sarten was recognized recently for her service as a member of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board from mid-2006 until December 2010.

The advisory board is a federally chartered panel of citizen volunteers that provides advice and recommendations to DOE's Environmental Management (EM) program. EM is responsible for cleaning up the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation of residual contamination as a result of defense and scientific research.

"Serving the public takes a lot of different forms. This is a non-paying position, and you do it for the love of your community and the fact that you can serve in some greater capacity," said John Eschenberg, DOE Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for EM. "I certainly appreciate that. There is no better way to serve the community than a function like this. I thank you for your service and your time." Eschenberg presented Sarten a plaque for her service at the board's December meeting in Oak Ridge.



Oak Ridge Department of Energy Assistant Manager for Environmental Management John Eschenberg offers his appreciation to Lenoir City resident Sondra Sarten for her service on the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board.

Sarten is the principal owner of RS Construction and Fabrication, Inc. in Lenoir City. She and husband Steve started the company in 1998. RS Construction and Fabrication's clients include Tennessee State Parks, British Nuclear Fuels, EnergySolutions, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Loudon County Schools, and other contractors and developers. The company was recently awarded a statewide contract to provide electrical maintenance service to the State of Tennessee.

During her time on the advisory board, Sarten served as the chair and vice-chair of the board's Stewardship Committee. She presented papers three successive years at the Waste Management Conference in Phoenix and also presented a paper at the Environmental Justice Conference in Washington, DC in 2009.

"I became involved with the board in 2006 because of the region I live in," she said. "I live very close to the White Oak Dam area, and I grew up in the Melton Hill area. I became interested in DOE's long-term stewardship plans as a way to see that my family will be protected in the future."

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the DOE Information Center in Oak Ridge. Additional information about the board is available at www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab.

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