

# OAK RIDGE SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD



# FY 2004

## ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2003—AUGUST 2004

# WELCOME TO THE ORSSAB 2004 ANNUAL REPORT



*David N. Mosby, Chair*

Several key events made this a pivotal year for the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) and for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management (EM) program. In October 2003 DOE signed a 5-year, \$1.8 billion contract with Bechtel Jacobs to clean up and close the books on a significant

portion of contaminated sites at the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation. The contract marked a milestone in DOE's Accelerated Cleanup plans for Oak Ridge, which call for, among other things, cleanup of high-risk contamination areas in Melton Valley by the end of FY 2006 and completion of work at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) by the end of FY 2008.

The contract also calls for removing thousands of depleted uranium hexafluoride cylinders from ETTP. That project got underway in April 2004, with shipments starting to roll toward DOE's Portsmouth, Ohio, site where a conversion facility is to be built. Overcoming the hurdles involved with the project marked a significant achievement for DOE.

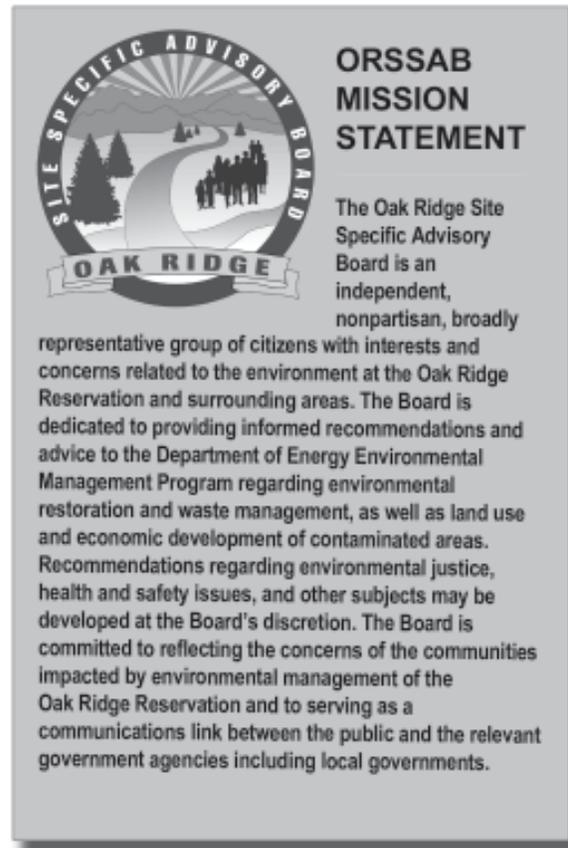
Unfortunately, not everything in 2004 went according to plan. Two high-profile incidents in May prompted DOE and ORSSAB to take a long, hard look at the safety of the EM program. On May 8 a sodium fire at ETTP led to a large-scale emergency response and voluntary evacuation of plant neighbors. Just six days later, a strontium-90 spill on Highway 95 forced the closure and repaving of portions of the road. The financial costs of the incidents were huge but not nearly as important as the message they sent to DOE and the community about the importance of making safety the first goal of accelerated cleanup.

For ORSSAB, the year brought an unprecedented change in the way we manage our affairs. DOE-Headquarters mandated that support for the Board could no longer be supplied by Bechtel Jacobs, so the Board was faced with the decision of self-performing support services for the Board by

incorporating as a separate entity or obtaining support services from an 8(a) contractor. The Board chose the latter course and established a new committee solely to deal with issues related to the changeover and handling of Board finances.

Many other events and issues made news in FY 2004, and the Board and I hope you'll take a few moments to look through this annual report to see how they affected cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation. Many challenges lie ahead of us, but we think you'll agree that many significant cleanup accomplishments were made this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Mosby' with a stylized flourish at the end.



**ORSSAB MISSION STATEMENT**

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board is an independent, nonpartisan, broadly representative group of citizens with interests and concerns related to the environment at the Oak Ridge Reservation and surrounding areas. The Board is dedicated to providing informed recommendations and advice to the Department of Energy Environmental Management Program regarding environmental restoration and waste management, as well as land use and economic development of contaminated areas. Recommendations regarding environmental justice, health and safety issues, and other subjects may be developed at the Board's discretion. The Board is committed to reflecting the concerns of the communities impacted by environmental management of the Oak Ridge Reservation and to serving as a communications link between the public and the relevant government agencies including local governments.

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[www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab)

*On the cover:* FY 2004 ORSSAB members, ex officios, and student representatives. Standing, left to right: Steve McCracken (Deputy Designated Federal Officer), Dave Adler (DOE Ex Officio), Kerry Trammell (Chair), John Kennerly, Christopher Smith, Zach Ludwig (student representative), Luther Gibson, John Million, Ben Adams, Donna Campbell, Rhonda Bogard (Secretary), Bob McLeod (Vice Chair), Connie Jones (EPA Ex Officio), John Omsley (TDEC Ex Officio), Dick Berry. Seated, left to right: Pat Halsey (DOE Coordinator), Heather Cothron, Luis Revilla, Dave Mosby, Norman Mulvenon, Katie Meersman (student representative), Linda Murawski, Jake Alexander. Not pictured: Amy DeMint, Pat Hill, Stephanie Jernigan (student representative), Tim Myrick.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) is an independent, federally appointed citizens' panel that provides advice and recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on its Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) Program. The group was formed in 1995.

The Board is dedicated to providing informed recommendations and advice to the DOE EM Program regarding environmental restoration and waste management, as well as land use and economic development of contaminated areas. Recommendations regarding environmental justice, health and safety issues, and other subjects may be developed at the Board's discretion. The Board is committed to reflecting the concerns of the communities impacted by

EM activities at the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) and to serving as a communications link between the public and the relevant government agencies, including local governments. A map of the ORR is shown in Figure 1. The Board is composed of up to 20 members, chosen to reflect the diversity of gender, race, occupation, views, and interests of persons living near the ORR. Members are appointed by DOE and serve on a voluntary basis, without compensation. At the close of Fiscal Year (FY) 2004, the Board consisted of 19 voting members from five counties: Anderson, Knox, Loudon, Meigs, and Roane. Non-voting members include representatives from the DOE-Oak Ridge Operations (DOE-ORO), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). These

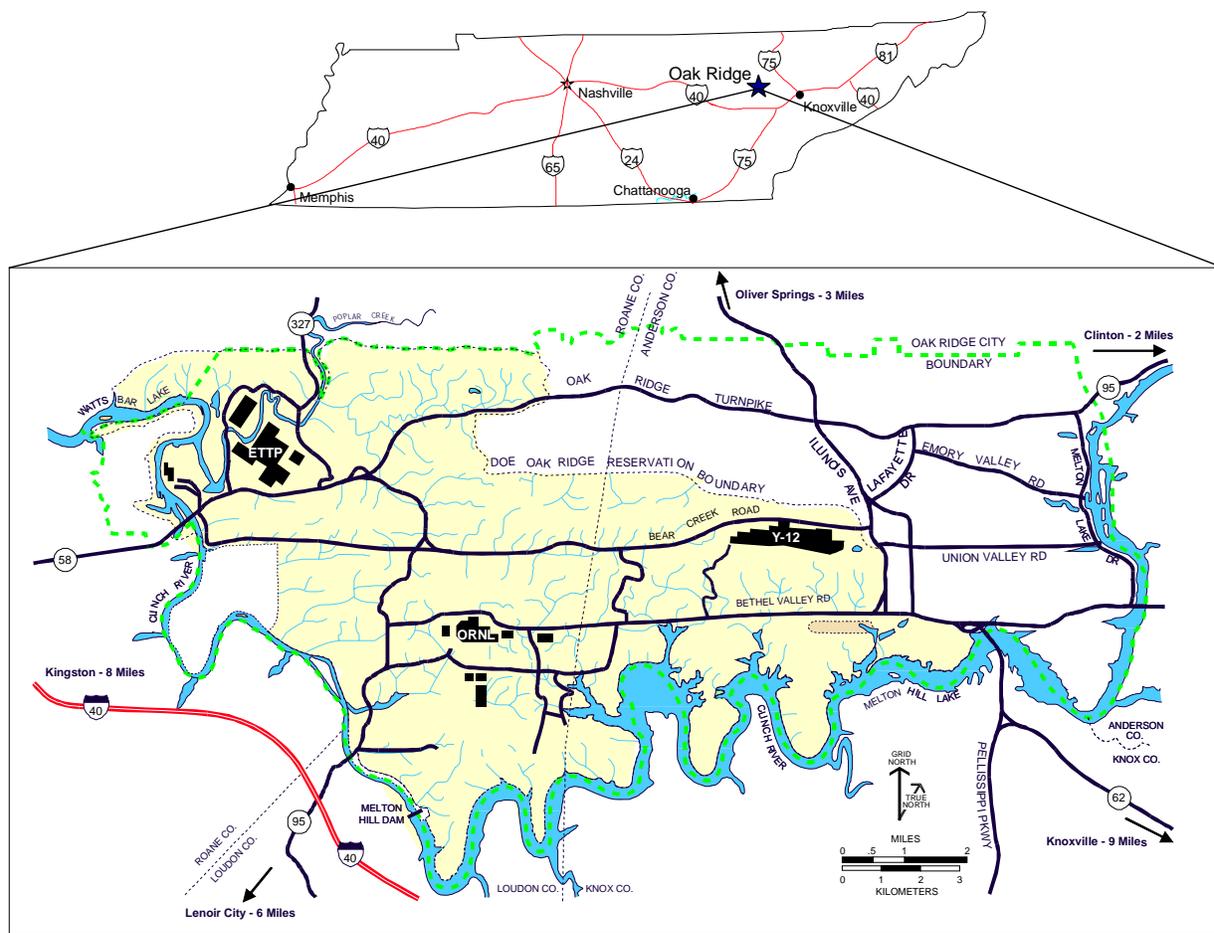


Figure 1. Map of the Oak Ridge Reservation showing East Tennessee Technology Park [ETTP (formerly the K-25 Site)], Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and the Oak Ridge Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12).

members advise the Board on their respective agency's policies and views. Nonvoting student participants also serve on the Board to represent the viewpoints and concerns of area youth.

ORSSAB provides a number of avenues for the public to learn about and express views on DOE-ORO 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. Board meetings are also advertised in the *Federal Register* and are video recorded and broadcast on local cable television stations. Copies of the tapes are available for public review. The Board maintains a Web site at [www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab) where information can be found. Information is also available by calling the ORSSAB support office at 865-576-1590.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The Board meets monthly 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. The Board conducts its deliberations under ORSSAB Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order and strives for consensus in reaching decisions. See Appendix A for a listing of FY 2004 Board meetings.

## COMMITTEES

At the start of FY 2004, the Board established standing committees to review issues concerning four broad topic areas: EM, Stewardship, Public Outreach, and Board Finance. General Board business is handled at the monthly Executive Committee meeting. 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. An ad hoc Board Process Committee meets as needed to address parliamentary matters and other process concerns related to operation of the Board. A diagram of the Board's FY 2004 structure is shown in Figure 2. Each ORSSAB committee creates its own work plan to



Figure 2. FY 2004 ORSSAB organization. Additional ad hoc committees may be formed to address mission-related topics on a short-term basis.

guide its activities during the year. Suggestions for committee work plan topics were provided at the beginning of the year by DOE, TDEC, EPA, ORSSAB members, and stakeholders (via the Board's "Stakeholder Survey"). Topics were evaluated at the Board's Annual Planning Retreat on four criteria: (1) importance to ORSSAB and the public, (2) opportunity for impact, (3) what information will be needed for Board action, and (4) when is action likely. Selection of final work plan topics was made at the retreat by the Board membership. These topics were then formed into committee work plans, which were "living documents" to be updated continually as the Board year progressed.

## FY 2004 BOARD OFFICERS

Officers for the year were Chair: Dave Mosby; Vice Chair: Norman Mulvenon; Secretary: Luis Revilla.

# KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## ANNOTATED OUTLINE FOR A LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP

### IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Stewardship of contaminated areas of the ORR following cleanup has long been an ORSSAB priority. So when DOE signed the “Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan for the ORR” in March 2004, the Board’s Stewardship Committee took the next logical step by producing an “Annotated Outline for a Long-Term Stewardship Implementation Plan.”

The outline is specifically tailored to the known contaminated areas of the reservation, with the hope that this approach will result in an implementation plan that provides detailed functional specifications. A solid implementation plan will enable the design and execution of an ORR-specific stewardship system that meets both current and future needs and also has the acceptance of local stakeholders.

DOE has responded favorably to the outline, noting that it provides a firm framework for the implementation plan, which is tentatively slated for publication in Spring 2005.

### GIS/LAND-USE INFORMATION

Meetings sponsored by the Stewardship Committee in FY 2004 led to an effort to ensure that DOE’s web-based geographical information system (GIS) mapping and land-use restriction information is provided to the city of Oak Ridge, Anderson and Roane counties, and non-governmental entities.

The meetings, which were held with Anderson County’s Register of Deeds Tim Shelton and Property Assessor Vernon Long, were instituted because studies performed by Stewardship Committee members identified several variations in DOE land information in the city and county systems. Each parcel could be accessed with an online search, but beyond that the information varied, and some plots had no description at all. Members recommended to DOE that a uniform quality control process be put in place to guarantee that all municipalities that govern land held by or transferred from DOE have parallel sets of publicly-available data. This will help ensure that records of contaminated areas of the reservation are available to future generations.

## STUDENT SUMMARY OF THE ORR STAKEHOLDER

### REPORT ON STEWARDSHIP

ORSSAB published the second volume of its two-volume “ORR Stakeholder Report on Stewardship” in 1999. As time passed, though, it became apparent that the report was too detailed for some audiences— notably the high school students the Board was trying to reach through its public outreach program.

To address the problem, the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee asked advance placement science classes at Oak Ridge and Roane County high schools to summarize the report. The resulting “Student Summary of the ORR Stakeholder Report on Stewardship” was published in May 2004 and does an outstanding job of distilling the original reports into language easily understood by high school students.

The student summary was widely distributed to local schools and libraries to help ensure long-term awareness and understanding of the community’s responsibility for stewardship of contamination that will remain on the reservation following completion of DOE’s cleanup program.

### TRENCHES 5 AND 7 SCHEDULE

In Spring 2004 DOE proposed a change in the Melton Valley Record of Decision (ROD) to alter the planned remedial action for Trenches 5 and 7 in the Melton Valley area of ORNL. The proposal was to switch from in situ vitrification of the trenches to in situ grouting.

ORSSAB supported the change and recommended that DOE amend the ROD through the Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) process, which would expedite the amendment procedure. EPA, however, required that the change be made through the “ROD amendment” process, which requires a more rigorous and typically more lengthy amendment procedure.

Because of the Board’s involvement, though, the schedule for ROD amendment was compressed to match that of the shorter ESD process. This allowed approximately one year to be shaved off the schedule, saving time and money on the project.

# FY 2004 RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS

In FY 2004 the Board studied a variety of issues related to DOE EM activities. Review of an issue usually begins in the standing committees, which prepare draft recommendations and comments for Board review and approval. The review process often includes detailed briefings in Board and committee meetings where members of the Board and the public may ask questions and discuss their views. Each monthly Board meeting includes time for public input and response, and citizens

attending the meetings are invited to ask questions and express views following technical briefings.

Following is a list of the recommendations and comments submitted during FY 2004. A summary of each recommendation is given in Appendix B. Complete text is available on the Board's Web site at [www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab).

Number	Recommendations & Comments	Date Approved
R1/14/04.1	Recommendations on Funding of SSABs and the Transition of Sites from EM to the DOE Office of Legacy Management	1/14/04
R1/14/04.2	Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statements for Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (UF <sub>6</sub> ) Conversion Facilities	1/14/04
R1/14/04.3	Recommendations on ORR Groundwater Strategy	1/14/04
C3/10/04.4	Comments on the ORR Risk-Based End State Vision, Revision D1, February 1, 2004	3/10/04
C4/14/04.5	Comments on Soil Vapor Results for Winter Sampling for Buildings K-1007, K-1225, K-1330, K-1400, and K-1580 at ETPP	4/14/04
R4/14/04.6	Recommendations on Proposed Change to the Remediation Strategy for Trenches 5 and 7 in Melton Valley	4/14/04
C6/9/04.7	Recommendations and Comments on the Public Involvement Plan for CERCLA Activities at the DOE ORR (DOE/OR/01-2163&D0)	6/9/04
R7/14/04.8	Annotated Outline for a Long-Term Stewardship Implementation Plan	7/14/04
R7/14/04.9	Recommendation on the Proposed Plan for the Amendment of the ROD for Interim Actions for the Melton Valley Watershed: Revised Remedial Action for Seepage Trenches 5 and 7	7/14/04

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## SEMIANNUAL CHAIRS MEETING

Twice yearly, participants from the nine SSABs across the DOE complex meet to discuss EM projects and policy, share ideas and concerns among sites, identify and work on common issues, and gain understanding of relevant technical issues. The Fall 2003 meeting was held September 25–27, 2003, in Paducah, Kentucky. The meeting, which was hosted by the Paducah Citizens Advisory Board, included a tour of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and a reception at the Yeiser Art Center in historic downtown Paducah. ORSSAB members Dave Mosby and Norman Mulvenon represented ORSSAB.



*Oak Ridgers relax between sessions at the Fall 2003 SSAB Chairs Meeting in Paducah, Kentucky. Left to right are Dave Mosby, ORSSAB Chair; Dave Adler, DOE ex officio; and Norman Mulvenon, ORSSAB Vice Chair.*

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING WITH DOE

This special meeting was sponsored by DOE to deliver a consistent message to all intergovernmental groups, to provide an opportunity for senior officials of DOE to talk with these groups collectively, and to provide an opportunity for communication and coordination between the groups. The meeting was held November 4–6, 2003, in Arlington, Virginia. Participants included SSAB members, the Energy Communities Alliance, the Environmental Council of the States, the National Association of Attorneys General, the National

Governors Association, and the State and Tribal Government Working Group. The meeting provided an unusual opportunity to hear from senior DOE officials and learn the status of Risk-Based End States submissions and the strategic plan for the Office of Legacy Management. ORSSAB member Luther Gibson attended for ORSSAB.

## IT3 PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The purpose of the meeting was to prepare for the May 2004 International Conference on Incineration and Thermal Treatment Technologies (IT3) by reviewing and selecting abstracts, organizing papers into sessions, and advising on issues associated with the conference. The meeting allowed ORSSAB member Luther Gibson to provide input to the IT3 technical program in May. The meeting was held November 7–8, 2003, in College Park, Maryland.

## MEETING WITH STEVE MCCrackEN

Members of the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee held a special meeting with DOE-ORO Assistant Manager for EM Steve McCracken on December 5, 2003, to discuss unresolved stewardship issues. Among the issues were DOE endorsement of the “Stakeholder Stewardship Report,” development of the ORR Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan, and establishment of a stewardship information and tracking system. The meeting offered an opportunity for Stewardship Committee members to speak directly with Mr. McCracken about key issues.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT 2004

Over 2500 representatives from government, industry, and academia attended this annual conference to discuss and evaluate current and evolving technologies in waste management. This year’s meeting was held February 29–March 4, 2004, in Tucson, Arizona. The conference featured workshops, panel discussions, and presentations on various topics related to the storage, treatment, transportation, and disposal of hazardous and mixed waste. ORSSAB members Ben Adams and Kerry Trammell attended the conference and

participated in a poster session by presenting “Two Counties—One City...Long-Term Stewardship Information.” The presentation focuses on how ORSSAB is working with DOE, the City of Oak Ridge, Roane County, and Anderson County to make sure that contamination information is available in all applicable land record systems.

### **SEMIANNUAL SSAB CHAIRS MEETING**

The Spring 2004 meeting was held April 21–22, 2004, at DOE-Headquarters (DOE-HQ) in the Forrestal Building in Washington, D.C. The meeting provided SSAB members from around the country with the opportunity to discuss EM projects and policy, gain understanding of relevant technical issues, and develop personal contacts with their counterparts at other sites. Assistant Secretary for EM Jessie Roberson spoke to the group at length on a variety of topics. ORSSAB member Norman Mulvenon participated in the meeting.

### **IT3**

This conference is held annually to offer the perspectives of regulators, designers, operators, program managers, and research scientists on a variety of incineration and thermal treatment technologies. The conference included numerous speakers, field trips, and optional courses. ORSSAB member Luther Gibson chaired and co-chaired sessions on gasification. The meeting was held May 10–14, 2004, in Phoenix, Arizona.

### **NATIONAL ACADEMIES LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP**

Sponsored by the National Academies of Science Board on Radioactive Waste Management, the workshop was held to discuss the need for a National Academies study on long-term stewardship implementation at DOE sites. Lorene Sigal, a citizen member of the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee, was an invited speaker. ORSSAB member Jake Alexander also attended. The workshop was held March 15–17, 2004, at the Keck Center in Washington, D.C.

### **ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT**

Each year ORSSAB holds a planning retreat to determine how best to address its mission and determine what its committee structure should be. This year’s retreat was held August 7, 2004, at the DOE Information Center in Oak Ridge. Because each ORSSAB committee creates its own work plan to guide its activities, a prime objective of the retreat is to discuss committee plans for the coming year. Working with ex officios from DOE, TDEC, and EPA, ORSSAB members developed lists of work plan topics for each of the standing committees.



*ORSSAB Chair Elect Kerry Trammell makes a point at the annual planning retreat held August 7, 2004.*

### **PUBLIC MEETING ON ACCIDENT REPORTS**

On August 31, 2004, ORSSAB cosponsored a public meeting with DOE at which DOE presented the results of the Type B investigations into two high-profile incidents that occurred in May 2004. On May 8 a sodium fire at ETTP led to a large-scale emergency response and voluntary evacuation of plant neighbors. Six days later a strontium-90 spill on Highway 95 forced the closure and eventual repaving of portions of the road. ORSSAB Chair Kerry Trammell opened the meeting, which was held at the American Museum of Science and Energy. Approximately 60 people attended.

# COMMITTEES

## BOARD FINANCE



*Committee members, clockwise from top left: Christopher Smith (Vice Chair), Dave Mosby (Chair), Norman Mulvenon, Kerry Trammell.*

The Board Finance Committee has overall responsibility for budget prioritization and control for the Board. With the approval of the Executive Committee and in accordance with ORSSAB bylaws, the Board Finance Committee sets budget targets for each type of expenditure, proposes general budget guidance, determines funding availability for travel requests, and reviews monthly costs.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In late 2003 the Assistant Secretary of Energy for EM issued a directive that prime contractors performing cleanup work at DOE sites could no longer provide support for SSABs. At that time ORSSAB support was provided by Bechtel Jacobs Co., which was, and still is, the prime cleanup contractor for DOE on the ORR. The Board Finance Committee, working with the ORSSAB Federal Coordinator, worked out an agreement with Oak Ridge-based Spectrum, Inc., to provide ORSSAB support. The new arrangement gives ORSSAB greater control over the way it uses government funds and allows it to provide greater value to DOE and the public.

Because ORSSAB is now responsible for budgeting funds provided to it by DOE, the Board Finance Committee was charged with formulating and submitting a yearly budget request. In 2004 the

committee created a process for developing ORSSAB standing committee budgets, which were then assessed and compiled into the FY 2005 budget request that was submitted to DOE.

To ensure that requests for expenditure of Board funds are handled quickly and fairly, the committee developed a procedure for approval of ORSSAB expenditures. The procedure includes a form Board members and committees can use to request expenditures and a flowchart of the expenditure approval process.

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



*Committee members, clockwise from top left: John Million, Dave Mosby, Dick Berry (Vice Chair), Luis Revilla, John Kennerly, Bob McLeod, Norman Mulvenon, Luther Gibson (Chair), Kerry Trammell. Not pictured: Amy DeMint, Pat Hill, George Rimel.*

The mission of the committee is to evaluate and make recommendations on DOE's planning and implementation of ORR environmental restoration project and on treatment, storage, disposal, and transportation of wastes and materials for which the EM Program is responsible. The committee will facilitate public participation in providing feedback to DOE on these decisions and consider health and safety, environmental justice, and DOE complex-wide concerns related to its mission topics.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2004 the committee formed a Groundwater Subcommittee, which identified seven areas of concern

on the ORR. The subcommittee reviewed the *ORR Groundwater Strategy* and in January 2004 wrote the ORSSAB recommendation on the document.

In December 2003, DOE issued draft environmental impact statements for the construction of depleted UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities at Paducah, Kentucky, and Portsmouth, Ohio. In January 2004, the EM committee wrote comments on the environmental impact statements reaffirming ORSSAB's position on shipping the depleted UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders out of Oak Ridge.

In April 2004, the EM committee wrote the ORSSAB comments on the Soil Vapor Results for Winter Sampling at ETPP.

Also in April, the committee wrote the recommendation on the proposed change to the remediation strategy for Trenches 5 and 7 in Melton.

In May 2004 Luther Gibson attended the IT3 Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, where he chaired and co-chaired sessions on waste gasification and pyrolysis.

## STEWARDSHIP



*Committee members, clockwise from top left: John Million, Rhonda Bogard, Ben Adams (Chair), Linda Muranski, Katie Meersman, Norman Mulvenon, Lorene Sigal, Heather Cothron. Not pictured: Jake Alexander, Donna Campbell (Vice Chair).*

The goal of the committee is to serve as a forum for discussion of topics relevant to the long-term stewardship of the ORR and to act as a liaison between

DOE and the community at large. This latter aspect is becoming increasingly important as the committee also acts as a *pro tem* Citizen's Board for Stewardship until such time as DOE appoints a formal board.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In July 2004 the committee submitted to DOE an annotated outline for a stewardship implementation plan. The outline provides DOE with a framework to create an implementation plan for the ORR.

The committee formed a Stewardship Status Team to review regulatory and legal foundations for stewardship.

The committee asked advanced placement science classes at Oak Ridge and Roane County high schools to summarize the *ORR Stakeholder Reports on Stewardship*. The summary was published in May 2004 and does an outstanding job of distilling the original documents into easily understood language. The summary was widely distributed to local schools and libraries.

The committee worked with DOE to make sure the agency was attaching notices of contamination on land parcels, which could then be tracked to see if those notices were appearing in Anderson County and Roane County deed records and tax assessments.

Committee members Al Brooks and Ben Adams developed a paper and poster presentation entitled "Two Counties – One City: Long-term Stewardship Information for Anderson County and Roane County and the City of Oak Ridge, Tenn." The presentation tracks how notices of contamination are sent from DOE to the county registrars of deeds and property assessors and how they are subsequently made available to the public. The presentation was given at the Waste Management Conference in Tucson, Arizona.

Committee member Lorene Sigal made a presentation at the National Academies Stewardship Workshop, held March 15–17, 2004, in Washington, D.C.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH



*Committee members, left to right: Heather Cothron, Norman Mulvenon, Donna Campbell. Not pictured: George Rimel (Chair).*

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

### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2004 the committee developed its public outreach plan, which included:

- Regular updates on the ORSSAB website
- Monthly newspaper ads announcing Board meetings
- Taped broadcasts of ORSSAB meetings on local cable TV stations
- Posting of meetings on Y-12, ORNL, E'ITP, and Oak Ridger websites, and publication of Board meetings in the DOE "Public Involvement News"
- Quarterly publication of the *Advocate* newsletter
- Distribution and collection of results of the annual Stakeholders Survey
- Publication of the annual report
- Presentations to schools, civic organizations, and elected officials
- Distribution of news releases and articles for periodicals
- Membership recruitment support

Also in 2004, the committee began development of an ORSSAB exhibit for the American Museum of Science and Energy, revised the "Many Voices Working for the Community" booklet, participated in the Secret City Festival, coordinated final comments on the DOE *Public Involvement Plan*, and revised the ORSSAB poster.

## BOARD PROCESS



*Committee members, clockwise from top left: John Million, Luis Revilla (Chair), Dave Mosby, Norman Mulvenon, Rhonda Bogard. Not pictured: Pat Hill, George Rimel.*

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The Board Process Committee is concerned with how the Board operates and conducts business. The committee reviews the "ORSSAB Bylaws, Special Rules of Order, and Standing Rules," and offers proposed changes to the Board. The committee also monitors Board meeting structure, standards and formats for submitting recommendations and comments to DOE, new member training, retreat planning, and processes for preparing the Board work plan.

## EXECUTIVE



*Committee members, clockwise from top left: Dave Mosby (Chair), Luther Gibson, Luis Revilla, Ben Adams, Norman Mulvenon (Vice Chair), Kerry Trammell. Not pictured: George Rimel.*

General Board business is handled by the Executive Committee, which is composed of the elected officers of the Board and the committee Chairs. The committee holds general administrative authority to set Board

agendas, coordinate the work of the committees, and transact business as may be necessary between regular Board meetings.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

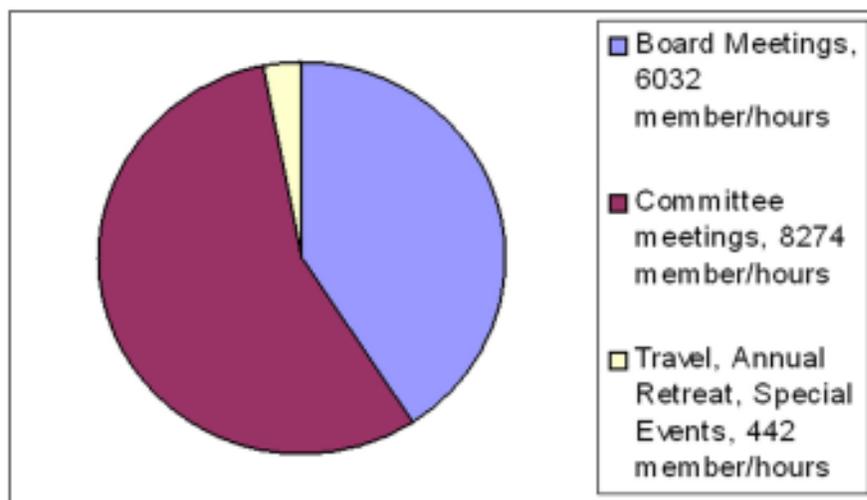
The committee voted in September 2004 to make Public Outreach and Board Finance standing committees. It was felt that by making Public Outreach a standing committee, committee members would take on more responsibility rather than shifting work to ORSSAB support staff. Making Board Finance a standing committee would allow the Chair of the committee to act as the *de facto* treasurer for the Board.

Board Chair David Mosby, acting with the Chairs of Fernald and Rocky Flats SSABs, drafted a letter to Robert Card of DOE-HQ regarding recommendations on funding of SSABs and transition of sites from EM to Legacy Management.

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## SERVICE HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO DOE BY ORSSAB MEMBERS

This graphic shows that ORSSAB members spent 14,748 hours in FY 2004 achieving the Board's mission of providing informed advice and recommendation to DOE. This figure does not include time spent away from meetings writing recommendations and studying DOE-related materials. All Board members and student representatives serve on a volunteer basis, without compensation.



# MEMBERSHIP

## BEN ADAMS

Ben is a registered professional engineer, landscape architect, and land surveyor with 41 years of practice in design sciences. He is employed by ACHW, Inc., and holds a B.S. degree in civil engineering. Ben is a member of the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce and the Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club, and he is on the board of the East Tennessee Economic Council. Ben lives in Oak Ridge.

## JAKE ALEXANDER

Jake is a regulatory compliance manager with British Nuclear Fuels, Ltd., in Oak Ridge and a member of the adjunct faculty with the University of Tennessee's Engineering Graduate School. He serves on the Oak Ridge Health Agreement Steering Panel and is a former member of the Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board.

## RICHARD (DICK) BERRY

Dick is the former chairman and CEO of Rembco Geotechnical Contractors, Inc., based in Knoxville. He now consults in the geotechnical field. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. A resident of Knoxville, Dick received his B.S. degree in chemical engineering and an M.S. degree in business administration.

## RHONDA BOGARD

Rhonda is Manager of RADCON Dosimetry and Records for BWXT Y-12 at the Y-12 National Security Complex. She holds a B.S. in plant and soil science and an M.S. in public health in occupational health and safety. A resident of Oak Ridge for 45 years, Rhonda is active in the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club and Jewish community activities.

## DONNA CAMPBELL

Donna was a charter member of ORSSAB and served two terms (1995–1999) in addition to her current term, which began in July 2001. She is a librarian for Tetra Tech FW, Inc., in Oak Ridge and holds B.S. and M.A. degrees in biology and an M.S. degree in library science. A Harriman resident, Donna is a preschool teacher and

is active in the jail ministry at First Baptist Church of Kingston. She also volunteers with local public libraries and is a member of the Special Libraries Association.

## HEATHER COTHRON

Heather is employed by Science Applications International Corporation as an engineer and project manager at ORNL. She holds a B.S. degree in biology and an M.S. degree in chemical engineering and is a certified Project Management Professional and a Registered Environmental Manager. In 1997–1999 she was the DOE representative on the FUSRAP community/stakeholder group, and she formerly worked as a regulator with TDEC. Heather is a resident of Oliver Springs.

## AMY DEMINT

Amy has lived in Kingston for the past 20 years and works as a metallurgical engineer in the BWXT Y-12 Technology Development Organization, focusing primarily on processing uranium metal. She has B.S. and M.S. degrees in metallurgical engineering.

## LUTHER V. GIBSON, JR.

Luther works in the BWXT Y-12 Analytical Chemistry Organization and holds an M.S. degree in chemical engineering. He has worked for DOE contractors for 28 years on environmental technologies. He served as ORSSAB chair in FYs 2001 and 2002 and is the 2004-05 chair of the East Tennessee Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association. He is also a member of the Citizens Advisory Panel of the Local Oversight Committee and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Luther resides in Roane County.

## PATRICIA H. HILL

Pat is an artist and teacher who has worked as an art director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Knoxville, as a graphic artist at the *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, and as a teacher at the Apostolic Christian School in Knoxville. She is a member of the Pellissippi Genealogical and Historical Society, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Pat resides in Knoxville.

### **STEPHANIE JERNIGAN**

Stephanie is serving as a student representative for the term May 2004–April 2005. She is a senior at Oak Ridge High School. She is a member of the Oak Ridge High School orchestra and has participated in Oak Ridge’s Sister City exchange program and has traveled to Japan as well as hosted several Japanese students in her home. She has spent this past year working at a law firm and wants to pursue a career in environmental or health care law after college.

### **BARBARA KOSNY**

Barbara served as the ORSSAB student representative from Oak Ridge High School for the term May 2003–April 2004. She is the co-founder and president of the Environmental Club in Oak Ridge and has participated in Envirothon—a national environmental science competition. She is also a member of the Technology Student Association. Barbara intends to study environmental science or international relations in college.



*Assistant Manager for EM Steve McCracken presents service awards to Atur Sheth and Barbara Kosny at the April 14, 2004, Board meeting.*

### **JOHN KENNERLY**

John is a retired chemical engineer who worked for Lockheed Martin Energy Systems. He has broad experience in environmental management technology areas, such as environmental restoration, waste management, permitting, planning, and cost estimating. He also has experience in process development and design and other areas of technology. He is a member of the Sierra Club, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Society of Testing and Materials, the Board of Directors for Tennessee Wesleyan College, and the program advisory committee for the yearly Waste Management Conference. John is a Knoxville resident.

### **ZACH LUDWIG**

Zach is serving as an ORSSAB student representative for the term May 2004–April 2005. He is a junior at Karns High School and has served as a member of the Karns Academic Team, the Future Business Leaders of America, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Following graduation, Zach plans to attend college to pursue a career in psychiatry.

### **ROBERT MCLEOD**

Robert is a Registered Professional Engineer and Registered Professional Geologist with Robert McLeod and Associates. He has more than 30 years experience in engineering management and environmental work and has managed numerous DOE projects, including two remedial investigation/feasibility studies and the program to implement the DOE Hazardous Waste Remedial Actions Program. From 1988 to 1996 he managed the Oak Ridge office of Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. Robert resides in Oak Ridge.

### **KATIE MEERSMAN**

Katie is serving as an ORSSAB student representative for the term May 2004–April 2005. She is a senior at Oak Ridge High School. She is a member the National Honor Society and the Key Club, and she attended a Model United Nations conference in Washington, D.C. Katie volunteers at Woodland Elementary School, the Oak Ridge Library Children’s Room, and the Oak Ridge Children’s Museum. She plans to study political science or history in college and wants to eventually be a lawyer.

### **JOHN MILLION**

John is retired chemist who worked at the K-25 site, now known as ETTP. A resident of Oak Ridge since 1957, John has a high interest in the well-being of the community. He is a member of the Woodland Neighborhood Association, which is in close proximity to Y-12.

### **DAVID MOSBY**

Dave is a project manager in the Project Management Organization at BWXT Y-12, where he manages engineering and construction projects at Y-12. He was ORSSAB Chair in FY 2003 and served in that capacity again in FY 2004. An Oak Ridge resident, Dave is a member of the Oak Ridge City Council and serves as a community representative for the NAACP.

### **NORMAN MULVENON**

Norman is retired from EG&G ORTEC, where he held a series of positions in marketing and sales. He is the current Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Panel of the Local Oversight Committee and is a member of the NAACP-Oak Ridge Branch, the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge, and the Oak Ridge Environmental Justice Committee. Norman holds a B.S. degree in biological sciences and has lived in Oak Ridge for the past 32 years. He was ORSSAB Vice Chair in FY 2003 and served in that capacity again in FY 2004.

### **LINDA MURAWSKI**

Linda lives in Knoxville, where she owns and operates a small business providing consulting services in emergency preparedness, emergency management, crisis communication, and hazards mitigation. She is Vice President of the Technical Society of Knoxville, Vice President of the Tennessee Literacy Coalition, and a member of the Roane County Damage Assessment Team. Linda holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in education.

### **LUIS REVILLA**

Luis is a Fire Systems Engineer with the Fire Department at the Y-12 National Security Complex. He is a certified paramedic, fire fighter, fire inspector, and hazardous materials technician. He holds an Associate of Arts degree and is a graduate of the Donnellson Law

Enforcement Academy. Luis lives in Knoxville, where he coaches baseball and basketball in the Farragut community and is involved in church activities. Luis served as the ORSSAB Secretary for FY 2004.

### **GEORGE RIMEL**

George has lived in Clinton for the past 6 years and has worked as a steam plant operator/stationary engineer with BWXT Y-12 for the past 26 years. He is a member of the Atomic Trades and Labor Council and the Claxton Optimist Club. He has been active in behavior safety training and presently conducts classes in homeland security training. George resigned from the board in June 2004.

### **ATUR SHETH**

Atur served as the ORSSAB student representative from Farragut High School for the term May 2003–April 2004. Atur ranked second in his junior class with a grade point average of 4.14. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the Science Honors Society. He has competed on the math team, the Science Olympiad, and the science bowl. Atur has served as a docent at the Knoxville Museum of Art, assisted in the Farragut branch of the public library, and volunteered at the East Tennessee Baptist Hospital. Atur plans to pursue a career in medicine.

### **CHRISTOPHER SMITH**

Chris is a self-employed computer consultant specializing in database and GIS consulting. He is a former foreign service officer and holds an A.B. degree in political science and an M.S. degree in biosystems engineering technology. Chris lives in Decatur and serves on the Meigs County E-911 board.

### **KERRY TRAMMELL**

Kerry works for NHC Healthcare and holds an M.S. degree in health planning and administration. An Oak Ridge resident, he has served two terms on the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce and is currently president of the Anderson County Health Council.

# PUBLIC OUTREACH

The goal of ORSSAB public outreach is to achieve the Board's mission as it relates to community involvement: "The Board is committed to reflecting the concerns of the communities impacted by environmental management of the ORR and to serving as a communications link between the public and DOE."

ORSSAB invites public participation in Board activities and uses a variety of means to achieve its outreach goals. Following are the methods and materials used by the Board to advertise ORSSAB and its activities.

**800 number**—Stakeholders from outside the local calling area can get in touch with the support office by calling toll free: 1-800-382-6938.

**Advocate newsletter**—One thousand newsletters are distributed quarterly to inform stakeholders about ORSSAB activities and maintain an ongoing dialogue with the community.



*Vice Chair Bob McLeod mans the ORSSAB display at the Secret City Festival, June 26, 2004. ORSSAB members Heather Cothron and Norman Mulvenon also participated in the two-day event.*

**Annual report**—The ORSSAB annual report is sent to state legislators, local media and organizations, and governmental agencies to promote awareness of Board activities.

**Briefings and presentations**—Presentations to local civic, educational, and governmental organizations serve to encourage public participation in Board

activities, and they are an important way to achieve the Board's educational and communication goals.

**Brochure**—Distributed at meetings, conferences, and presentations, the brochure draws a quick portrait of Board activities and includes a reply card that makes it easy to get more information about the Board.

**Cable TV**—Most Board meetings begin with an EM-related presentation, and this portion of the meeting is broadcast on local cable stations to help educate the public about EM activities.

**Conference presentations**—Board members periodically make presentations at local and national conferences on EM- and ORSSAB-related topics.

**Information booklet**—This guide to ORSSAB is distributed to the public at the DOE Information Center and on the Board's web site (see below).

**ORR Educational Resource Guide**—The guide offers comprehensive lists of information sources related to DOE's EM program.

**Newspaper ads**—Ads are placed each month in the *Oak Ridger* and the *Oak Ridge Observer* to inform the public about Board and committee meetings. Ads are also used to advertise special meetings and events.

**News releases**—Releases are developed on topics, such as appointments to the Board, public meetings sponsored by ORSSAB, and special presentations at Board meetings.

**Stakeholder survey**—The survey is sent out annually to persons and organizations on the Board's mailing lists and is available on the Board's web site.

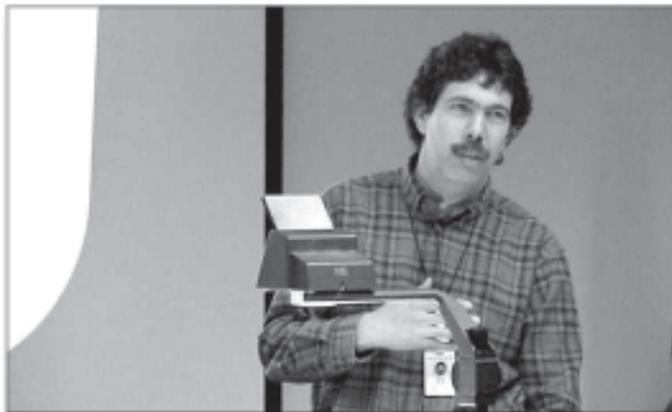
**Web site**—([www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab)). The web site provides information about the Board to the public, including up-to-date information about meetings and special events.

# APPENDIX A: FY 2004 BOARD MEETINGS

The tasks facing DOE-ORO EM are varied and complex, and the numerous programs involved in cleanup work are constantly evolving to meet EM needs. Keeping up with all those programs and activities is a challenge, and one way ORSSAB does so is by devoting time during each monthly Board meeting for

presentations by individuals who play key roles in cleanup and management of the ORR. Following is a list of FY 2004 presentations and a sampling of photos from Board meetings. Video tape recordings of meetings may be viewed by calling the DOE Information Center at (865) 241-4780.

Date	Presentation	Speaker
September 10, 2003	TDEC's Environmental Monitoring and Oversight Program	John Owsley, TDEC
October 8, 2003	Overview of ORSSAB Bylaws, Special Rules of Order, and Standing Rules	Dave Mosby, ORSSAB
November 12, 2003	Draft Risk-Based End State Vision Document for the ORR	Ralph Skinner, DOE
December 10, 2003	General business (Followed by a public meeting on the DOE-ORO EM Program)	
January 14, 2004	Overview of the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Core Team Concept	Dave Adler, DOE Doug McCoy, TDEC Jeff Crane, EPA
February 11, 2004	Focused Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan for ETPP Zone 2	Julie Pfeffer, Bechtel Jacobs Company
March 10, 2004	Covenant Deferral Process and Soil Vapor Sampling at ETPP	Susan Cange, DOE-ORO
April 14, 2004	ORR Cleanup Program	Mike Hughes, Bechtel Jacobs
May 12, 2004	Capacity Assessment Remedial Action Report	Dave Adler, DOE-ORO
June 9, 2004	Update on Sodium Fire and Highway 95 Strontium-90 Spill	Dave Adler, DOE-ORO
July 14, 2004	Topics for ORSSAB Consideration in FY 2005	Dave Adler, DOE-ORO; Connie Jones, EPA; John Owsley, TDEC
August 7, 2004	Annual Planning Retreat & Meeting	



*David Adler, FFA Project Manager, gives an overview of the FFA Core Team Concept at the January 14, 2004, ORSSAB meeting. Core Teams help fulfill consensus decision-making in development of FFA documents so DOE EM Program activities are achieved as quickly as possible. The Core Teams are the principal groups dedicated to accomplishing a specific task. Core Teams include representatives of DOE, TDEC, EPA and Bechtel Jacobs.*

*Jim Kopotic, DOE-ORO, opened the February 11, 2004, Board presentation on the development schedule for the ETTP Zone 2 Focused Feasibility Study and D1 Proposed Plan. Julie Pfeffer of Bechtel Jacobs then described the scope of the study and plan, which includes remediation of soil, buried waste, and subsurface structures in the main industrial plant area.*



*Connor Matthews, the facilitator for the 2004 Board retreat, was introduced at the July 14, 2004, meeting. Here he discussed the purpose of the retreat, the retreat agenda, and the Board member survey. The retreat evaluated the effectiveness of the ORSSAB and the impact of Board achievements. It also determined the focus of the coming year, what changes should be made, and how to assess information and make recommendations.*



*John Owsley, ex officio member of the Board representing TDEC, talked about the Tennessee Oversight Agreement at the September 10, 2003, meeting. The agreement looks at environmental monitoring and oversight, site access to contaminated areas, emergency response, and public relations.*



*At the November 12, 2003, Board meeting, Ralph Skinner, DOE-ORO Long-Term Stewardship Program Manager, discussed the "Advance Draft Risk-Based End State Vision for the ORR." According to DOE policy, a risk-based end state is a representation of site conditions and associated information that reflects the planned use of property and that is protective of human health and the environment. The Risk-Based End State for the ORR includes unrestricted industrial use at ETTP, and restricted waste management and DOE-controlled industrial use in other watershed areas.*

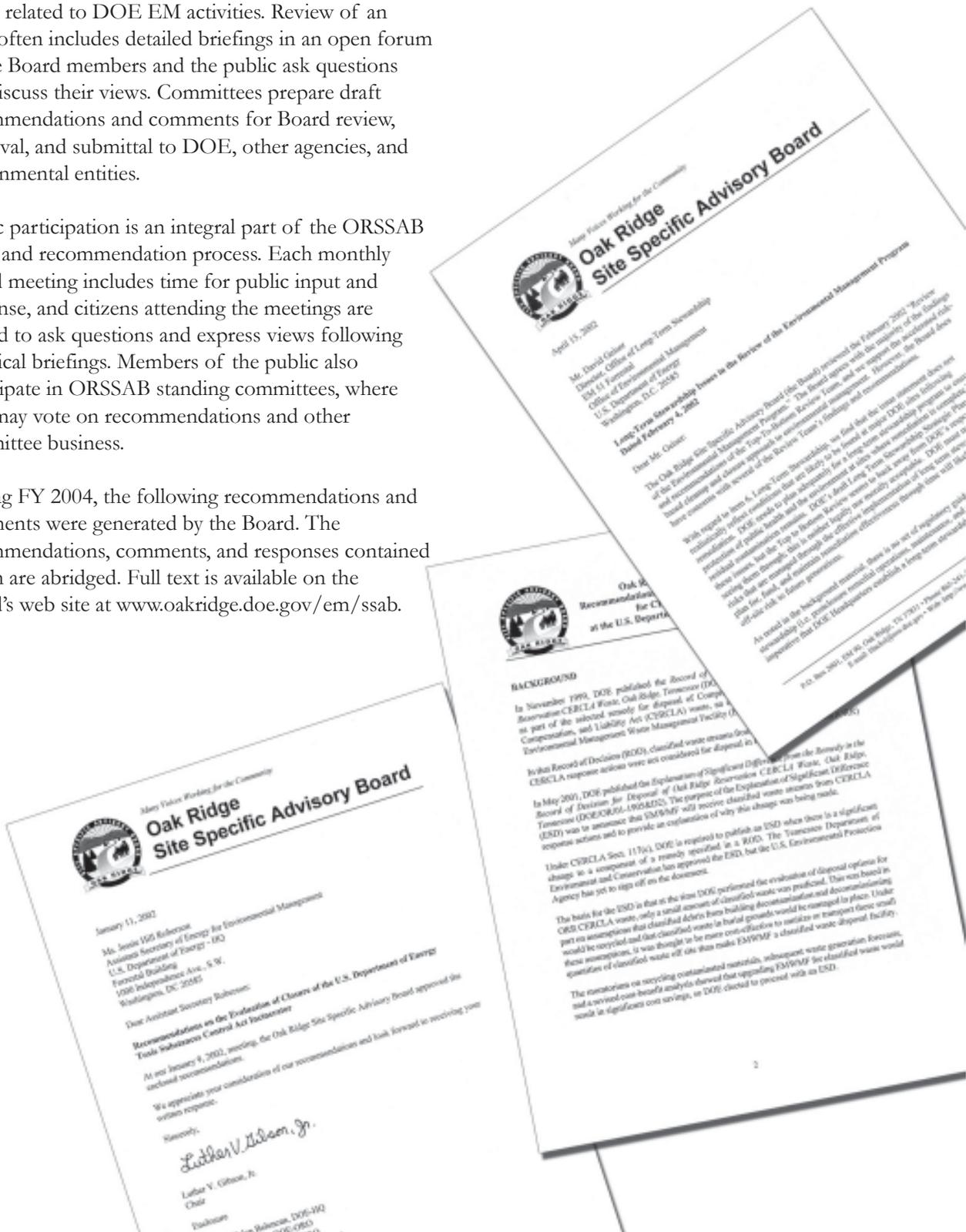


# APPENDIX B: FY 2004 RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS

Since its formation, the Board has studied a variety of issues related to DOE EM activities. Review of an issue often includes detailed briefings in an open forum where Board members and the public ask questions and discuss their views. Committees prepare draft recommendations and comments for Board review, approval, and submittal to DOE, other agencies, and governmental entities.

Public participation is an integral part of the ORSSAB study and recommendation process. Each monthly Board meeting includes time for public input and response, and citizens attending the meetings are invited to ask questions and express views following technical briefings. Members of the public also participate in ORSSAB standing committees, where they may vote on recommendations and other committee business.

During FY 2004, the following recommendations and comments were generated by the Board. The recommendations, comments, and responses contained herein are abridged. Full text is available on the Board's web site at [www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab).



## RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUNDING SSABs AND THE TRANSITION OF SITES FROM EM TO LEGACY MANAGEMENT

In January 2004 the Chairs of all nine SSABs nationwide sent a letter to Robert Card, DOE Undersecretary for Energy, Science, and Environment, expressing concerns and offering recommendations regarding the transition of sites from EM to the DOE Office of Legacy Management (LM).

When cleanup operations end at a site, DOE transitions management of the site from EM to LM, which marks the beginning of long-term surveillance and monitoring (LTSM) of the site to protect human health and the environment.

The nine SSABs realized that because they are chartered to EM, upon closure and transition of their sites they would have no standing with LM and no mechanism to offer any knowledge they had developed over the years that would be beneficial to LM.

The Chairs recommended that EM and LM work together to determine how support and management of the boards would transfer to LM when sites transitioned from closure to LTSM.

The Chairs asked that budget reductions at sites facing closure be reversed because it was counter to the

workloads and level of importance at the SSABs during the transition period. The Chairs also requested that EM work with LM to adequately fund SSABs throughout the transition from cleanup to stewardship. The Chairs also asked that EM continue to work with communities and the SSABs to determine the role of citizen involvement in long-term stewardship.

In March 2004, Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow responded to the Chairs' recommendations by saying that DOE would need to evaluate the appropriate level of public participation in LTSM and that it was not clear if the EM SSAB model was suitable for closed sites with no ongoing cleanup mission. He noted that he had asked the director of the Office of LM to review the issue and make recommendations.

Mr. McSlarrow said EM will continue to adjust monetary support associated with closure sites as cleanup is finished. He said it was important that there was a complete understanding of the post-closure conditions and requirements before direction is given to LM relative to responsibilities for SSABs at closure sites.

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## COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR DEPLETED URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE CONVERSION FACILITIES

From 1945 until 1985, the Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant (now known as ETTP) used uranium hexafluoride gas ( $UF_6$ ) in a process to produce uranium-235. The gas was withdrawn during the process and placed in large cylinders, which were stored at ETTP. Approximately 6,400 cylinders were used, some containing as much as 10 to 14 tons of  $UF_6$ .

In July 2003, ORSSAB sent a recommendation fully supporting a plan by DOE to ship the 6,364 cylinders to Portsmouth, Ohio, for final disposition.

In December 2003, DOE issued its *Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Construction of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Conversion Facilities at Paducah, Kentucky, and Portsmouth, Ohio*.

In January 2004, ORSSAB reaffirmed its position on shipping the  $UF_6$  cylinders out of Oak Ridge through comments to DOE on the draft environmental impact statement for the construction of the conversion facilities in Kentucky and Ohio.

## RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE ROD FOR INTERIM ACTIONS FOR THE MELTON VALLEY WATERSHED

In 2004 DOE proposed a change in the Melton Valley ROD that would alter the planned remedial action for Seepage Trenches 5 and 7 in the Melton Valley area of ORNL. Those trenches hold about 9.5 million gallons of low-level wastes.

The remedial action called for in situ vitrification (ISV), which would melt the contaminants into a glasslike substance. But because ISV can be problematic if there is a significant amount of water in the trenches, DOE proposed encasing the contaminants using a method known as in situ grouting. DOE felt this method of remediation would have effectiveness similar to ISV at less cost.

ORSSAB recommended that an ESD be used to document the change in remediation strategy from ISV to in situ grouting. The Board said the ESD should address the following issues:

- What additional treatability studies will be needed?
- Will there be any changes in the quantity of soils processed by using in situ grouting?
- Why wasn't in situ grouting selected in the first place if it is just as protective and more cost-effective?

The Board also recommended that a fact sheet explaining the ESD be distributed to stakeholders and that DOE fully consider long-term stewardship issues associated with in situ grouting.

DOE responded by saying that an amendment to the ROD would be prepared based on EPA rationale for documenting a post-ROD change with a ROD amendment rather than an ESD.

DOE said the recommendation to provide a fact sheet would be fulfilled in following the ROD amendment process.

Responding to the Board's concerns about long-term stewardship, DOE said that in situ grouting provides long-term isolation for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. But it also went on to say that final decisions on long-term stewardship in Melton Valley would not be addressed in the ROD, but in future decision documents.

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## COMMENTS ON THE ORR RISK-BASED END STATE VISION, REVISION D1

DOE issued the *Oak Ridge Reservation Risk-Based End State Vision, Revision D1*, on February 1, 2004, which included proposed variances from the original document. Those variances included capping of the K-1070-B/C/D Burial Grounds, alternative technologies for remediation of Trenches 5 and 7 at ORNL, and the use of dose-based criteria for surface contamination on buildings at ETTP.

The Board generally endorsed the Risk-Based End State Vision but only conditionally supported the

variances. In a comment letter to DOE, the Board said that changes to remediation activities can be expected in the course of doing the work, but no analysis of the impacts of the variance had been offered. The Board said it could not support the variances without first understanding the impacts to budgets, schedules, stewardship, reindustrialization, and the socioeconomic needs of the communities surrounding the ORR.

DOE's response to the comments is expected to be reflected in a revised document.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS ON THE *PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN FOR CERCLA ACTIVITIES AT THE DOE OAK RIDGE RESERVATION*

Both the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the FFA require DOE to issue a community relations plan. The *Public Involvement Plan for the ORR* was prepared to meet this requirement and was first published in November 1997. In 2000 ORSSAB recommended the plan be updated. DOE agreed and committed to upgrading the plan every 3 years.

In April 2004 DOE issued its draft revised document for public review. ORSSAB felt the plan was good but that improvements could be made, and it issued a number of comments on the document.

The Board had one specific recommendation it felt strongly about. It believed that wording in the section “Public Involvement in Long-Term Stewardship” undermined previous statements on stewardship that

had been endorsed by DOE in the 2001 plan. In 2001, the DOE-ORO Assistant Manager for EM endorsed the concept that ORSSAB has the right to serve informally as the Citizens Board for Stewardship and will continue to do so until ORSSAB completes its mission and is disbanded. He acknowledged that when ORSSAB disbands, DOE anticipates that a formal Citizens Board for Stewardship will be constituted.

ORSSAB recommended that language found in the 2001 document be used in the 2004 plan, indicating the committee would serve as the Citizens Board for Stewardship.

DOE agreed with the Board’s recommendation. DOE also agreed with almost all of the Board comments concerning revisions to other sections of the document.

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## COMMENTS ON SOIL VAPOR RESULTS FOR WINTER SAMPLING AT ETTP

In 2002 and 2003, the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) requested that DOE transfer five office buildings, two manufacturing facilities, and one parcel of land at ETTP. CROET’s mission is to take unused DOE facilities in Oak Ridge and put them back into productive use by leasing them to private entities.

To demonstrate that these property transfers are protective of human health and the environment, DOE performed radiological surveys. EPA also recommended determining if vapors from volatile organic compounds were getting into the buildings.

Results of the 2003-04 winter sampling were presented to ORSSAB. Upon review, the Board felt the sampling and analysis plan, as well as the presentation of the results, could be improved to better educate the public. The Board felt there were other methods available that could have better documented the intrusion of vapors into the buildings. The Board also asked DOE for clarification on a number of specific issues related to

the sampling and analysis plan and the presentation of the soil vapor results.

DOE responded to the comments in December 2004 by stating that a detailed description of the approach to vapor intrusion was included in Section 4.4 of the sampling results. This was provided so the public could understand the purpose of the sampling and the information it supplied. DOE said that the objective of the sampling was to determine if volatile organic compounds existed under facilities proposed for transfer.

A number of approaches were considered to document the intrusion of vapors. Sub-slab monitoring was selected because it was the most direct method of determining the presence of volatile organic compounds beneath buildings.

DOE also responded with explanations to each of seven specific issues the Board identified in reviewing the sampling and analysis plan.

## RECOMMENDATION ON THE REVISED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR SEEPAGE TRENCHES 5 AND 7

In April 2004, ORSSAB recommended that an ESD become part of the ROD for the proposed change in the remedial action for Seepage Trenches 5 and 7 in the Melton Valley area of ORNL (see recommendation on page 20). DOE proposed changing the action from ISV to in situ grouting. The Board recommended that the ESD address how grouting will be as protective as ISV and that the ESD defend statements of cost and schedule referenced in a fact sheet on the subject prepared by DOE.

The Board said the ESD should also note if additional treatability studies will be performed, if there will be any changes in the quantity of soils processed, and why in situ grouting was not originally selected as the preferred remedy if it was as protective and more cost-effective as ISV.

DOE responded by saying that an amendment noting the change would become part of the ROD instead of an ESD.

After reviewing the ROD amendment, the Board offered its support for using in situ grouting instead of ISV. But the Board felt that special attention should be

given to design and implementation details. The Board's concern was based on incidents at other facilities using in situ grouting where the technology did not perform as expected.

The Board asked that recommendations it made for an ESD be placed in the ROD amendment.

The Board recommended that DOE make Administrative Record files on decisions available electronically for easy access. And the Board asked to be informed of any concerns that EPA or TDEC might have concerning the use of in situ grouting as opposed to ISV.

DOE's response to the Board's comments are expected to be reflected in a revised document. To date neither EPA nor TDEC has issued any concerns. In May 2004, EPA offered some comments to DOE on the Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan for the grouting project but stated no concerns. In a letter to DOE in August 2004, TDEC said it had no further concerns or comments about the proposed actions.

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## ANNOTATED OUTLINE FOR A LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Stewardship of contaminated areas of the ORR following cleanup has long been an ORSSAB priority. So when DOE signed the *Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan for the ORR* in March 2004, the Board's Stewardship Committee took the next logical step by producing the *Annotated Outline for a Long-Term Stewardship Implementation Plan*.

The outline is specifically tailored to the known contaminated areas of the reservation, with the hope that this approach will result in an implementation plan that provides detailed functional specifications. A solid implementation plan will enable the design and execution of an ORR-specific stewardship system that

meets both current and future needs and also has the acceptance of local stakeholders.

In July 2004 ORSSAB approved the Stewardship Committee's annotated outline and sent it to DOE-ORO along with recommendation that the outline be used to create the DOE long-term stewardship implementation plan.

In November 2004, DOE responded by saying the outline would be used as the basis to create the implementation plan. DOE said work was underway on developing the plan, and an initial draft should be ready to share with the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee in late spring of 2005.

## RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ORR GROUNDWATER STRATEGY

The ORR, which encompasses about 34,000 acres, has contaminated groundwater under about 1,500 acres. This groundwater is contaminated with organics, radionuclides, and other inorganic contaminants.

To address the problem, DOE-ORO developed a proposal called the *ORR Groundwater Strategy*. The proposal employs a three-phase approach to address the groundwater contamination problem. The first phase involves early actions for protecting existing resources or receptors from a single component of the problem. The second phase involves more effective risk control by considering all problem components and making source-control decisions. The third phase is groundwater remediation, based on a final decision once source actions have been assessed.

ORSSAB noted a number of shortcomings in the strategy document. One was a lack of defined timelines for groundwater cleanup. Another was an apparent emphasis on explaining alternatives to the preferred goal of meeting applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements, or appropriate risk-based levels, for the cleanup of groundwater. A third shortcoming was a lack of discussion on how groundwater remediation relates to other issues.

To alleviate those shortcomings, ORSSAB recommended that the document include a timeline of scheduled completion dates for all phases of the plan. The Board recommended that any discussion of alternatives be considered only after all avenues for complete restoration of groundwater have been exhausted.

The Board also recommended that the impact of groundwater cleanup on other remediation efforts be stated and that a reason for the generation of the groundwater strategy be clearly explained.

DOE responded by saying that the groundwater strategy document is intended to be a “living” document that will be updated from time to time as additional information becomes available.

In response to the Board’s specific recommendations, DOE said an approximate timeline for decision-making is provided in the document. Specific project schedules were not intended for inclusion, but are provided within Appendix J of the FFA.

Regarding inclusion of remediation alternatives, DOE said that providing a range of alternatives is required by EPA for comparative evaluation.

DOE said the effectiveness of completed early actions is being evaluated under the Water Resource Restoration Program and is being reported annually in the *Remediation Effectiveness Report for the ORR*.

Responding to the Board’s last recommendation, DOE said the purpose of the document is stated in the introduction to provide a strategy for making future decisions on groundwater restoration on the ORR.

# APPENDIX C: ABBREVIATIONS

CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CROET	Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOE-HQ	DOE-Headquarters
DOE-ORO	DOE-Oak Ridge Operations
EM	Environmental Management
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESD	explanation of significant difference
ETTP	East Tennessee Technology Park
FFA	Federal Facility Agreement
FY	fiscal year
GIS	geographical information system
ISV	in situ vitrification
IT3	International Conference on Incineration and Thermal Treatment Technologies
LM	DOE Office of Legacy Management
LTSM	long-term surveillance and maintenance
ORNL	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
ORR	Oak Ridge Reservation
ORSSAB	Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
ROD	record of decision
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
UF <sub>6</sub>	uranium hexafluoride
Y-12	Oak Ridge Y-12 National Security Complex