

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

FY 2006

Annual Report

September 2005–August 2006

A Message from the Chair



Lance Mezga, chair

It was another active year for the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) and the Oak Ridge office of the Department of Energy (DOE). The board had a number of accomplishments and honors, and DOE reached several important milestones in cleaning up the Oak Ridge Reservation.

We are extremely proud to have been awarded the Environmental Protection Agency's Citizen Excellence in Community Involvement Award. The board was recognized for outstanding leadership in stewardship awareness and education activities. This national award is given annually to recognize outstanding achievement in the field of environmental protection.

We had the privilege of hosting the semiannual spring meeting of all the SSABs nationwide as representatives from eight other boards assembled in Knoxville to discuss common issues. Our guest and main speaker was DOE Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management James Rispoli.

During the past year, we convened a teachers' workshop on the Stewardship Education Resource Kit. The purpose was to inform local teachers on the issue of stewardship and the use of the kit in the classroom. The kit was developed to teach students about cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation and the importance of stewardship of contaminated lands.

As I mentioned earlier, DOE had a productive year as well.

DOE reached a significant milestone when it finished the disposition of virtually all legacy low-level and mixed low-level waste from the reservation.

DOE also completed one of the largest nuclear cleanup projects ever undertaken in the United States when it finished the decontamination and decommissioning of the huge gaseous diffusion buildings K-29, K-31, and K-33 at East Tennessee Technology Park.

Processing of contact-handled transuranic waste began in December 2005. Disposal of the material in New Mexico is forecast to begin in August 2007.

As FY 2006 drew to a close, DOE neared completion of work in Melton Valley. A major milestone under the DOE acceleration closure plan, the Melton Valley project resulted in remediation of more than 200 sites over six years and cost about \$360 million.

Details of all of this and more are found in the pages to come in this FY 2006 annual report. We're very proud of the work we do to help protect the safety and health of the community, and we encourage you to attend our meetings and become part of the important work that is underway on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Lance J. Mezga
Chair

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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.

Introduction

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 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, occupations, 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) 2006, the board consisted of 18 voting members from five counties: Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, and Roane.

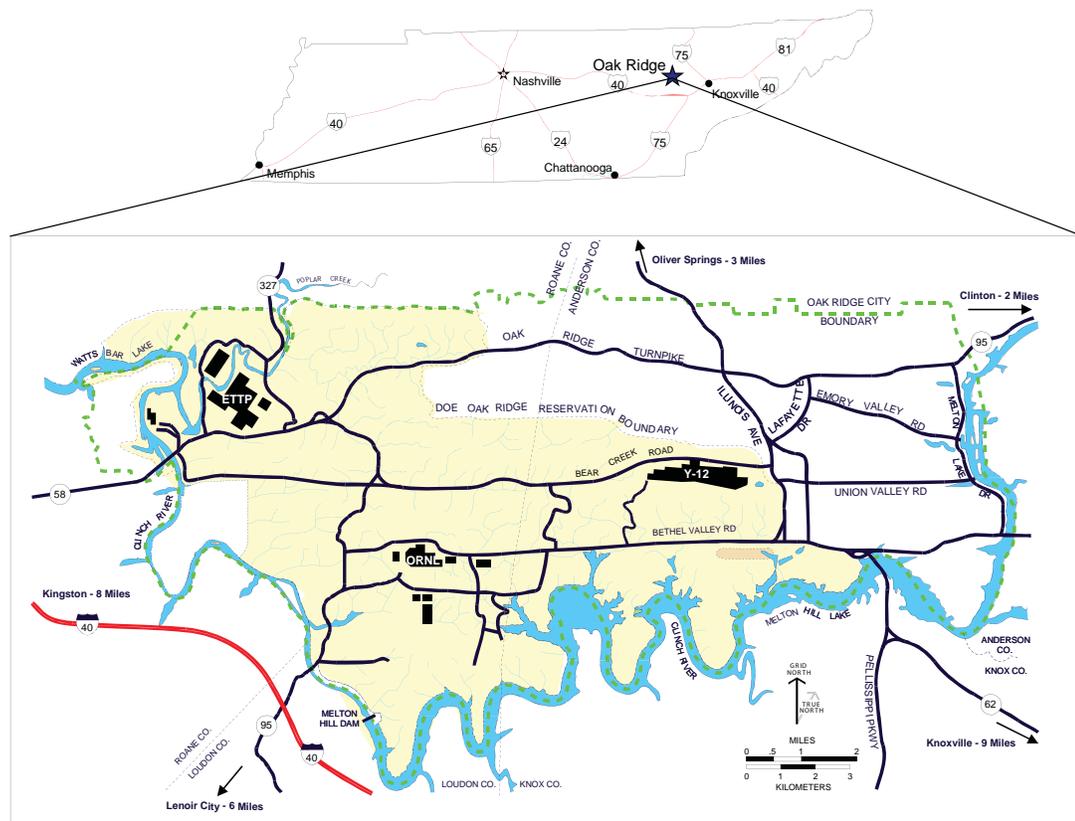


Figure 1. Map of the Oak Ridge Reservation showing East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Oak Ridge Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12).

Non-voting liaisons include representatives from DOE-Oak Ridge, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). These liaisons advise the board on their agencies' policies and views. Non-voting 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-Oak Ridge 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, where information can be found. Information is also available by calling the ORSSAB support office at 865-241-4583 or 865-241-4584.

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 Robert's Rules of Order and strives for consensus in reaching decisions.

Committees

A diagram of the board's FY 2006 structure is shown in Figure 2. 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.



Figure 2. FY 2006 ORSSAB committee structure.

ORSSAB committees usually meet monthly, and all meetings are open to the public. Each ORSSAB committee creates its own work plan to guide its activities during the year, and these work plans are updated continually as the board year progresses. Information about ORSSAB committees can be found in the "Committees" section of this report.

FY 2006 Board Officers

Officers for the year were Kerry Trammell, chair; Rhonda Bogard, vice chair; Sandy Reagan, secretary.

Key Issues

Following are the key issues that resulted in board recommendations in FY 2006. Complete text of all recommendations is available at www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/recc.htm.

Recommendations for Long-term Stewardship of Contaminated Areas

In October 2005 the board reexamined all of the previous recommendations it had made regarding various aspects of stewardship for the ORR. It determined that a number of those recommendations had not been addressed by DOE-Oak Ridge or had not been addressed to the satisfaction of the board. As a result, the board submitted the "Recommendations for Long-term Stewardship on the ORR," which consolidated those previously unaddressed recommendations into one comprehensive recommendation.

In its reply, DOE provided detailed responses regarding what actions it would take on the various aspects of the recommendation.

Recommendation for Independent Verification at ETTP

The eventual goal of remediation of East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) is to transfer the grounds and remaining buildings for use by private enterprise. The success of the reindustrialization of ETTP hinges on the attractiveness and safety of the site. The board recommended that DOE conduct an independent verification of cleanup at ETTP when remediation efforts are complete. DOE agreed and has instituted plans to conduct verification.

Recommendation on the NRDA Process

A Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) is a process where a trustee may pursue damages on behalf of the public for injury to the environment from releases of hazardous substances. The board commended the use of

the NRDA process to establish a conservation easement in Oak Ridge, but recommended improvements regarding public involvement, input, and communications.

DOE said that as final records of decision are issued, damages to the environment would be addressed through the NRDA. No mention was made of involving the public in the process.

Recommendation to Support the Above-Target FY '08 Budget Request

Each year DOE sets cleanup priorities for the ORR. The board reviewed the prioritization and recommended that the FY 2008 budget request include sufficient funding to generate the documents necessary for the highest priority projects slated to begin in FY 2009.

In its response, DOE said an above-target request of \$275 million had been submitted to cover the additional work.

Recommendation on the Integrated Facilities Disposition Project

Even when DOE's accelerated closure plan is finished, numerous facilities and structures will remain that must be cleaned out, deactivated, demolished, and disposed. DOE has proposed, and ORSSAB supports, a plan called the Integrated Facilities Disposition Project that would redirect the current work force to these additional projects rather than be lost when work is finished on the current baseline.

DOE thanked the board for its support and said the necessary budget request had been made.

Comment on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Class 3 Modification Permit

In 2005, the New Mexico Environment Department proposed a permit modification for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant to allow

disposal of remote-handled transuranic (TRU) waste. Since Oak Ridge has the largest inventory of this waste in the DOE complex, the board sent a letter supporting approval of the permit. New Mexico subsequently approved the permit modification in October 2006.

National Initiatives As one of the local SSABs that together comprise the national EMSSAB, ORSSAB sends members to meet semiannually with members of other SSABs to discuss common issues. In 2006, the SSABs met in Idaho Falls and Knoxville, and crafted the following recommendations, which were sent to DOE headquarters.

Recommendations on Waste Disposition Issues

At the Idaho meeting, the SSAB chairs crafted a letter to DOE headquarters that covered several topics. First, the SSABs asked to assist with getting public comment and input from stakeholders regarding the disposition strategies for low-level and mixed low-level waste.

Additionally, several sites throughout the DOE complex are dealing with unanswered questions related to high-level waste disposition. The SSABs urged DOE to continue to address high-level waste for those sites that are affected.

Finally, the SSABs noted that no consistent national policy exists regarding retrieval and/or characterization of pre-1970 TRU waste streams at many sites. The SSABs asked to participate with DOE in the development of a national policy addressing pre-1970 TRU wastes and their proper disposition.

In his response, DOE Assistant Secretary for EM James Rispoli asked the SSABs to continue working with the deputy assistant secretary for EM to gain comment and input from the public on waste disposition strategies. Regarding the issue of high-level waste disposition, Rispoli said he had informed the department's Office

of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management of the SSABs concerns. Finally, Rispoli said DOE is required to follow EPA regulations regarding pre-1970 TRU waste.

Recommendation on Lessons Learned for Future Site Closures

When SSAB representatives met in Knoxville, it marked the last time that two of the SSABs would be participating. The Fernald and the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Boards were associated with cleanup sites in Ohio and Colorado where work had been completed. As a result, those boards were to be dissolved.

Fernald and Rocky Flats worked together on a project to compare experiences of their respective closure sites, and through this they developed a number of lessons learned that were presented to the other SSABs at the meeting. All nine SSABs incorporated those lessons learned into a recommendation that was sent to DOE headquarters.

Assistant Secretary Rispoli said the recommendations would be considered and incorporated, where appropriate, at future closure sites.

Recommendation on Input to Future Site Environmental Budget Requests

At the Knoxville meeting, the participants discussed DOE's FY 2007 EM budget. The SSABs were concerned that major cuts in the budget would result in insufficient funds for existing commitments on cleanup activities and regulatory compliance. The SSABs recommended that the development of EM budgets include SSAB participation to assist in establishing priorities and budgets for environmental actions.

Assistant Secretary Rispoli said the request was being considered and that he would work on guidance for site managers to include the SSABs in the budget process.

The Year's Top News

Three-Building D&D at ETPP Completed

One of the largest nuclear cleanup projects ever undertaken in the United States was completed in September 2005.

It took seven years and \$355 million to decontaminate and decommission (D&D) Buildings K-29, K-31, and K-33 at ETPP. The massive buildings, formerly used to enrich uranium, encompassed 5 million square feet.

About 13,000 shipments of contaminated equipment went to disposal sites in Nevada and Colorado. Twenty million square feet of surface space was decontaminated, and more than 400 miles of piping were removed.



Efforts continue to find tenants for K-31 and K-33 as part of reindustrialization

at ETPP. K-29 was demolished in mid-2006 because it was not structurally sound.

DOE Reaches Waste Cleanup Milestone

DOE reached a key cleanup milestone with final disposition of all legacy low-level and mixed low-level waste on the ORR. DOE's primary cleanup contractor, Bechtel Jacobs, Co., worked about 16 months to reach the September 30, 2005 deadline.

About 1.2 million cubic feet of waste were disposed at the EM Waste Management Facility (EMWMF) near Y-12 or shipped off site.

Waste Incinerator Operations Extended

DOE announced in December 2005 that it plans to operate the Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator at ETPP until at least 2009 and possibly longer. DOE originally planned to shut down the incinerator by the end of 2003,

but decided to keep it operating. It is the only facility in the nation licensed to burn wastes containing PCBs and radioactive wastes.

Related to the incinerator's operation, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

(ATSDR) issued a report stating the incinerator does not present a public health hazard to nearby residents. Also, a risk assessment performed by Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., to evaluate the potential of harmful emissions found no problems with the incinerator.



Haul Road Opens

The dedicated haul road to transport waste from ETPP to EMWMF

opened January 18, 2006. Completion of the road was several months behind schedule and \$8 million over budget from the original estimate of \$12 million.



DOE Halts Extraction of Medical Isotopes

In January 2006 DOE announced that it would stop the extraction of medical isotopes from a stockpile of uranium-233 stored at ORNL. DOE, acting on orders from Congress as part of the 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, plans to dispose of the uranium by downblending it with depleted uranium for final disposition.

However, several medical professionals representing the cancer treatment field are disputing

DOE's interpretation of the congressional mandate. Further, they have expressed a concern that the disposition of this uranium would eliminate one of the few remaining viable sources of medical isotopes used in cancer treatments.

Foster Wheeler Begins TRU Processing

Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp. began processing contact-handled TRU waste in December 2005 at its plant in Melton Valley near Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL).



Foster Wheeler is expected to process about 3,000 drums and boxes of

the TRU waste before shipping it off for final disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico. The first shipment is scheduled for August 2007.

DOE Changes Plan to Demolish K-25, K-27

In January 2006 a worker at the massive K-25 building at ETPP fell through a weakened operating level (upper) floor panel and was seriously injured. As a result, almost all D&D work at K-25 was halted. An accident investigation revealed a number of shortcomings in safety, and DOE determined that the approach to demolishing the K-25 and K-27 buildings should be redesigned to better protect workers.

The new plan reduces the amount of time workers must spend inside the buildings. Barriers to falling debris and safety restraints will be used to protect workers when they are inside. The new plan is projected to reduce time spent inside the buildings by 1.3 million worker hours.

Under the original plan the process equipment was to be removed, and then the shells of the buildings would be demolished. The revised

plan calls for most of the process equipment to be unbolted from the floors, and heavy machinery will be used to demolish the buildings around the hundreds of motor and compressors. The process equipment would be sorted from the building debris and segmented to remove any remaining uranium before disposal.

Work using the new approach is scheduled to begin in April 2007 at both K-25 and K-27, with completion forecast for August 2009.

EMWMF to be Expanded Again

In August 2006 DOE announced plans to add a fifth cell to the EMWMF landfill located on Bear Creek Road near the Y-12 National Security Complex. The expansion will increase



the capacity of the hazardous and radioactive waste landfill to 1.7 million cubic yards.

Contaminated Groundwater Not a Threat

ATSDR released a report in August 2006 stating that contaminated off-site groundwater from the ORR is not a threat to the public.

While groundwater contamination exists on the ORR, ATSDR's study determined that there has been no human exposure beyond the boundary of the reservation, and none is likely to occur.

Because most of the groundwater beneath the reservation is relatively shallow and discharges to springs, seeps, and streams before leaving the site, ATSDR said human exposure to contamination is unlikely. The only area where contaminated groundwater has migrated beyond the ORR is from a plume just east of Y-12. That land is zoned for industry, and there are no private residences or wells in the area.

Special Events

EPA Community Involvement Award

In June 2006 ORSSAB and its Stewardship Committee were presented with the Citizens Excellence in Community Involvement Award. The national honor is given annually by EPA to recognize an individual or community group for outstanding achievement in the field of environmental protection. The award was presented at EPA's 2006 Community Involvement Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The award recognizes two major achievements by the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee between October 2004 and September 2005.



At the EPA award ceremony in Milwaukee (left to right): Pete Osborne, ORSSAB Support Office; Suzanne Wells, EPA Office of Site Remediation and Technology/Community Involvement and Outreach Branch; Heather Cothron, ORSSAB member; Kerry Trammell, ORSSAB chair; and Connie Jones, EPA Atlanta Federal Facilities Branch and ORSSAB's EPA liaison.

The first achievement was development of the Stewardship Education Resource Kit, which ORSSAB created to provide local educators with materials to teach students about environmental cleanup and long-term stewardship issues (see "Teacher's Workshop" story).

The second achievement focuses on maintaining information about contaminated land. In 2004 the Stewardship Committee worked with Anderson County to test a system where

plat maps of contaminated land would be placed in the county geographical information system. The test was successful, so in 2005 the board recommended that DOE standardize its language for land with notices of contamination so they could be easily found by anyone doing searches in county land records. DOE adopted the recommendation and is standardizing its language when filing notices of contamination with Anderson County. The county also sends the same information to the city of Oak Ridge. A similar effort is underway for Roane County.

National Volunteer Service Award

In honor of National Volunteer Week, DOE Assistant Secretary of Energy for EM James Rispoli recognized the nine local boards that comprise the EMSSAB. In a ceremony held in conjunction with the semiannual SSAB chairs meeting in Knoxville (see "National SSAB Meeting" story), Rispoli presented the President's Volunteer Service Award pin to the board representatives. Kerry Trammell received the pin on behalf of ORSSAB.

Teacher's Workshop

In February 2006 ORSSAB sponsored a two-day workshop on how to use the board's Stewardship Education Resource Kit in the classroom. The event was attended by twenty-four ecology and environmental science teachers representing public and private high schools in Knox and Anderson counties.

The kit, which was completed in March 2005, contains lesson plans, videos, a fictional case study based on actual cleanup operations, an appendix of supporting materials, and a video CD on the background and use of the kit.

During the workshop, ORSSAB members and facilitators from the University of Tennessee ex-



ORSSAB member Donna Campbell, far right, leads the online Internet research exercise at the February teacher's workshop at Pollard Auditorium.

plained how to use each lesson, showed videos included with the kit, and demonstrated the use of support materials and related Internet sites. The teachers participated in group activities and listened to a panel discussion on stewardship that included representatives from ORSSAB, DOE, and the state of Tennessee.

Kit materials, which are targeted to high school juniors and seniors, are available on the ORSSAB web site at www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/stewardship-kit/kit.htm. Organizations interested in stewardship and the environment may request a version of the kit.

National SSAB Meeting

The chairs and other representatives of SSABs in Oak Ridge, Colorado, Kentucky, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, and Washington state meet semiannually to discuss individual and common concerns. The spring 2006 meeting was sponsored by ORSSAB and held in Knoxville April 27–28.

Heading the list of DOE officials at the meeting was James Rispoli, assistant secretary for EM, who came to thank the boards for their dedication and to challenge them to continue their work to represent the concerns of their communities.

Other DOE visitors from DOE headquarters included Charlie Anderson, principal deputy assistant secretary for EM; Mark Frei, deputy assistant secretary for business operations; Douglas Tonkay of the Office of Commercial Disposition Options; and Melissa Nielson and Doug Frost of the Office of Internal/External Coordination.

Gerald Boyd, DOE-Oak Ridge manager, and Steve McCracken, Oak Ridge assistant manager for EM, were present at the meeting to welcome the attendees, along with Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam and Dave Mosby, representing the city of Oak Ridge.



Assistant Secretary of Energy for EM James Rispoli addresses attendees at the SSAB chairs meeting in Knoxville.

During the meeting, the representatives crafted two recommendations to DOE (see last two recommendations on Page 5).

Community Outreach

The goal of ORSSAB outreach is to achieve the board's mission as it relates to community involvement. To do this, ORSSAB invites public participation in a variety of board activities.



Board members Ben Adams (left), Rhonda Bogard, and Kerry Trammell staff the ORSSAB booth at the Secret City Festival, held June 16–17, 2006.

Meetings/Presentations

- Notices are placed in the *Federal Register*, *Oak Ridge*, and *Oak Ridge Observer* to inform the public of board and committee meetings.
- Monthly board meetings begin with a relevant EM-related presentation. This portion of the meeting is subsequently broadcast on local public access cable stations.

Publications/Reports/Presentations

- The ORSSAB annual report is prepared and distributed to state legislators, government agencies, local media, and organizations



Lance Mezga (left) and Norman Mulvenon (right) brief Representative Jim Hackworth on EM program issues in a meeting at ORNL on December 8, 2005.

to summarize annual board activities and promote awareness of the board's mission.

- The board's *Advocate* newsletter is distributed quarterly to inform stakeholders about recent board activities and EM cleanup issues.
- Presentations are made by board members to local civic, educational, and government organizations to inform the public about the board and DOE cleanup activities.

Special Events/Exhibits/Internet

- Members represent the board at events such as festivals and expos, where information brochures and ORSSAB logo items are distributed to interested individuals.



In March 2006 Tim Myrick visited Oak Ridge High School to talk about EM issues. He presented five real-life cleanup problems and asked students to select the appropriate solutions. Here he talks with one of the discussion groups, this one including ORSSAB student representative Sarah Lewis, center.

- Educational materials, including teacher resources, are prepared to aid public understanding of cleanup and post-cleanup issues.
- Board members participate in high-profile awareness events, such as the teacher's workshop on the ORSSAB Stewardship Education Resource Kit, and plan new ways to reach out to the community.
- A toll free number (1-800-382-6938) and Internet site (www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab) provide avenues for information about the board.

Committees

Board Finance

This committee has overall responsibility for budget prioritization 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.

FY 2006 members: Steve Dixon (chair), Ben Adams (vice chair), Norman Mulvenon.

Board Process

This ad hoc committee reviews the ORSSAB Bylaws, Special Rules of Order, and Standing Rules; 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.

FY 2006 members: Sandy Reagan (chair), Norman Mulvenon, Kerry Trammell.

Environmental Management

The mission of the committee is to evaluate and make recommendations on DOE's planning and implementation of ORR environmental restoration projects and on the treatment, storage, disposal, and transportation of wastes and materials for which the DOE-Oak Ridge EM program is responsible.

FY 2006 members: Lance Mezga (chair), Tim Myrick (vice chair), Rhonda Bogard, Steve Douglas, Chris Grove, Gloria Mei, James Miller, Norman Mulvenon, Robert Olson, Sandy Reagan, Kerry Trammell.

Executive

General board business is handled by the Executive Committee, which is composed of the elected officers of the board and the standing committee chairs. The committee holds general authority to set board agendas, coordinate the work of the committees, and transact business as may be necessary between regular board meetings.

FY 2006 members: Kerry Trammell (chair), Rhonda Bogard (vice chair), Sandy Reagan (secretary), Heather Cothron, Steve Dixon, Lance Mezga, Norman Mulvenon.

Public Outreach

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

FY 2006 members: Heather Cothron (chair), Steve Dixon (vice chair), Chris Grove, Meredith James, Wade Johnson, Norman Mulvenon.

Stewardship

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.

FY 2006 members: Norman Mulvenon (chair), Darryl Bonner (vice chair), Ben Adams, Donna Campbell, Heather Cothron, Linda Grandage, James Miller, Ken Sadler.

Board Meetings

ORSSAB meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge. Each meeting features a presentation like the ones described below. Board meetings also include regular business items, such as approval of recommendations, and status reports from DOE, EPA, TDEC, and the various ORSSAB committees. The public is always welcome to attend and participate. In FY 2006, 120 members of the public attended ORSSAB meetings.

September 14, 2005

Lynn Sims of Bechtel Jacobs Company gave the board an overview of the risk assessment process. The object of a risk assessment is to determine if remedial action is needed at a particular site.



Richard Lee of Bechtel Jacobs Company.

October 12, 2005

The general results of the Bethel Valley Groundwater Engineering Study were presented. Richard Lee of Bechtel Jacobs Company said the bulk of the work

performed on the main campus of ORNL was complete. Surprisingly, the results of the study indicated contamination was not as bad as had been expected based on anecdotal evidence.

November 9, 2005

Bill McMillan, project manager for DOE, gave an update on the haul road that was being built to transport wastes from ETTP to EMWMP. He reported that the project was over budget and behind schedule.

December 14, 2005

Peter Caswell of Restoration Services, Inc., gave an overview of the characterization program underway on soils at ETTP. The characterization, required by the ETTP Zones 1 and 2 records of decision, was to determine if the soil met the criteria for unrestricted use at ETTP.

January 11, 2006

The Annual Site Environmental Report was the topic of the meeting. Joan Hughes of ORNL explained that the report is delivered each October and contains environmental data for the previous calendar year.

February 8, 2006

The end use of ETTP after remediation activities are complete was the topic. Susan Cange, DOE team leader for reindustrialization and technical assistance, explained what parts of the ETTP landscape would remain the responsibility of DOE and what would be available for reindustrialization.

March 8, 2006

Mike Jugan, DOE project manager for the remedial action project at the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment, briefed the board on the current project status. He reported on work to remediate uranium hexafluoride gas and fluorine that had migrated through the system.



EPA's Jeff Crane at the July 12, 2006, ORSSAB meeting.

He also said work was underway to remove the fuel and flush salts from the reactor.

April 12, 2006

Multiple land uses for the ORR was the topic of discussion. Chuck Spoons, reservation management coordinator for DOE, said that the purpose of his presentation was to raise awareness of DOE's mission activities and uses of the ORR and highlight any identified potential changes in land use or activities.

May 10, 2006

The Oak Ridge Accelerated Closure Plan and a status report on the Oak Ridge EM program were the topics presented by Paul Clay of Bechtel Jacobs Company and Steve McCracken, DOE-Oak Ridge assistant manager for EM.

Mr. Clay provided the current status of four important milestones of the Accelerated Closure Plan: disposition of legacy low-level and mixed low-level waste, Melton Valley, "Balance of Reservation" projects, and ETP. Mr. McCracken talked about the proposed Integrated Facilities Disposition Project, which would add scope to the EM baseline.

June 14, 2006

Ralph Skinner, DOE-Oak Ridge, provided an update on the status of Melton Valley remediation. He reported that work was on

schedule and would be finished by the deadline of September 2006.

July 12, 2006

Jeff Crane of EPA discussed the various laws that drive environmental protection. He explained how each law related to the cleanup projects on the ORR.

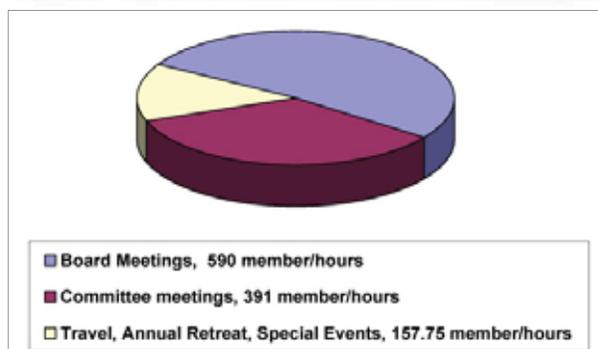


DOE-Oak Ridge Assistant Manager for EM Steve McCracken speaks at the May 10, 2006, ORSSAB meeting.

August 12, 2006

The board held its annual planning retreat at Pollard Auditorium in Oak Ridge. Immediately following the retreat the board convened for a short business meeting to elect officers for FY 2007. Lance Mezga was elected chair, Norman Mulvenon, vice chair, and Steve Douglas, secretary.

Service Hours Contributed to DOE by ORSSAB Members



This graphic shows that ORSSAB members spent over 1100 hours in FY 2006 achieving the board's mission of providing informed advice and recommendations 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.

Members



FY 2006 ORSSAB members, liaisons, and student representatives. Seated, left to right: Sarah Lewis (student representative), Wade Johnson, Norman Mulvenon, Pat Halsey (federal coordinator), Ron Murphree, Sean Purdy (student representative). Second row, left to right: Sondra Sarten, Sandy Reagan, Gloria Mei, Donna Campbell, Heather Cothron, Lance Mezga, Martha Berry (EPA Region 4), Rhonda Bogard, Steve Stow. Third row, left to right: Darryl Bonner, Steve Dixon, Steve Douglas, Kevin Westervelt, Bob Olson, Dave Adler (DOE liaison), John Owsley (TDEC liaison), Ben Adams. Not pictured: Steve McCracken (deputy designated federal official), Tim Myrick.

Ben Adams is a registered professional engineer, landscape architect, and land surveyor. He is employed by ACHW, Inc. Ben lives in Oak Ridge and is a member and past chairman of the East Tennessee Economic Council.

Rhonda Bogard is manager of RADCON Dosimetry and Records for BWXT Y-12. An Oak Ridge resident, she is involved with various hiking clubs and Jewish community activities.

Darryl Bonner is employed by Bechtel Jacobs as the emergency management task lead. He is an engineer with experience in facility management, pollution prevention, and industrial hygiene. Darryl resides in Oak Ridge.

Donna Campbell is a librarian for Tetra Tech EC in Oak Ridge. She is also an instructor at Mount Pisgah Christian Academy, she teaches 3rd grade Sunday school, and she volunteers with local public libraries. Donna lives in Harriman.

Heather Cothron is employed by SAIC as an engineer at ORNL. She is a registered environmental manager, with a focus on environmentally preferable products and systems. Heather is a resident of Oliver Springs.

Steve Dixon is the owner of Spectra Environmental Group and has worked as the director of management for the Metro Knoxville Airport Authority and as the finance director for the Knoxville Community Development Corp. Steve is a Louisville resident.

Steve Douglas of Oak Ridge is the senior environmental compliance specialist for CDM Federal Services in Oak Ridge and a reserve commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Chris Grove is the executive director of Community Network Services in Knoxville, which provides services to persons with developmental disabilities. Chris lives in Knoxville.

Pat Hill retired from the board in February 2006. She is an artist and teacher who has worked as an art director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Knoxville and as a graphic artist at the *Knoxville News-Sentinel*. Pat resides in Knoxville.

Meredith James was a student representative from Oak Ridge High School for the term May 2005–April 2006. She is president of the Model UN Club and the Interact Community Service Club.

Wade Johnson is the manager of the Business and Industry Center for Roane State Community College, where he provides client companies with professional organizational development and training programs. Wade lives in Clinton.

Tonya Justice was an ORSSAB student representative from Anderson County High School for the term May 2005–April 2006. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Lance Mezga lives in Knoxville and is employed by UT-Battelle as the project manager for environmental integration for new facilities development at ORNL. He has over 30 years experience in environmental and waste management.

Sarah Lewis is an ORSSAB student representative for the term May 2006–April 2007. She is a senior at Oak Ridge High School, where she is a National Honor Society member. She is a senior Girl Scout and an Envirothon participant for the Oak Ridge High School team.

Gloria Mei is a radiation safety specialist at ORNL, where she manages and conducts program activities in radiological design and radiation control. She is the recipient of the Fermi Hatchet Award at Kansas State and a diplomate of the American Board of Health Physics. Gloria resides in Oak Ridge.

James Miller retired from the board in May 2006. He is a manager with BNG America. He is a certified national registry radiation protection technologist and has over 18 years experience working with DOE projects. James is a Knoxville resident.

Norman Mulvenon lives in Oak Ridge and 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.

Ron Murphree is a registered engineer and certified professional estimator with 25 years of construction-related experience. Since 1996 he has been the chief estimator for Denark Construction Co. in Knoxville, where he lives.



Kerry Trammell (left) receives an engraved clock from DOE-Oak Ridge EM Manager Steve McCracken commemorating Kerry's retirement following six years of service on the board.

Tim Myrick is the former director of facilities strategic planning for UT-Battelle. He has also worked in the environmental restoration and waste management fields. Tim is a resident of Powell.

Bob Olson is a retired nuclear engineer who lives in Clinton. He worked at the Savannah River Laboratory as an experimental physicist and probabilistic risk analyst, and as a nuclear licensing engineer for Sargent and Lundy.

Sean Purdy is an ORSSAB student representative for the term May 2006–April 2007. He is a senior at Webb School of Knoxville, where



ORSSAB federal coordinator Pat Halsey shows off the cake presented to retiring student representative Meredith James at the April 2006 board meeting.

he is a peer counselor and a leader of the Spanish Club. Sean's career interests include education and psychology.

Sandy Reagan is a senior project manager for S&ME, Inc. Sandy holds a State of Tennessee teaching certification for biology,

chemistry, physics, and general science, and she is an associate real estate broker. Sandy lives in Maryville.

Ken Sadler retired from the board in May 2006. He is a chemical engineer and is the manager of Focus Compliance and Validation Services, where he provides consulting services to FDA-regulated industries. Ken resides in Harriman.

Sondra Sarten is the owner of RS Construction and Fabrication in Lenoir City, which provides fabricated metal products and construction

services to a variety of organizations, including DOE, BNG America, and UT-Battelle. Sondra is a Lenoir City resident.

Steve Stow is recently retired from UT-Battelle, where he worked as director of the American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge. He is the author or coauthor of over 70 publications and reports. Steve lives in Knoxville.

Kerry Trammell retired from the board in June 2006. He 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.

David Wesolowski retired from the board in April 2006. He is a geochemist with UT-Battelle in the Chemical Sciences Division at ORNL. He has authored more than 100 publications in scientific literature. David is a Kingston resident.

Kevin Westervelt is the civil/structural engineering department manager at Mesa Associates in Knoxville. He is a member of the Tennessee Structural Engineers Association and has 25 years of experience in civil/structural engineering. He resides in Knoxville.



Retreat facilitator Becky Brunton sets members at ease at the start of the August 2006 retreat with an exercise in which members correlated one of their key qualities with a well-known quote.

Abbreviations

ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
D&D	decontamination and decommissioning
EM	Environmental Management
EMWMF	Environmental Management Waste Management Facility
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ETTP	East Tennessee Technology Park
FY	fiscal year
NRDA	Natural Resource Damage Assessment
ORNL	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
ORR	Oak Ridge Reservation
ORSSAB	Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
TRU	transuranic
Y-12	Y-12 National Security Complex

