



*Many Voices Working for the Community*

# Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

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April 20, 2001

U.S. Department of Energy  
Nevada Operations Office  
Office of Public Affairs and Information  
P.O. Box 98518  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518  
Attn: DOE PPP Comments

## **Comments on Department of Energy “Revised Public Participation Guidance”**

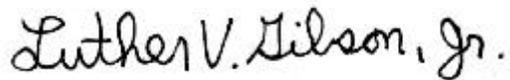
The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) reviewed the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) “Revised Public Participation Policy Guidance,” as referenced in the *Federal Register* notice of January 26, 2001, and offers the following comments:

- Generally, the guidance has insufficient detail to be useful.
- In addition to Federal and contractor employees simply sharing responsibility for promoting and improving public participation and community relations, we expect that DOE contractor and subcontractor organizations will be responsive to the information needs of informed public participation and allocate resources for community outreach related to their activities in support of DOE missions.
- Public involvement activities need to be scheduled at times and places which will facilitate attendance and participation by the affected public.
- Adequate information resources related to proposed actions need to be available and readily accessible.
- The guidance needs to address the role of advisory committees.
- The guidance needs to address provision of technical or financial assistance to members of the public to facilitate involvement.

U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Operations Office  
Page 2  
April 20, 2001

ORSSAB is a federally appointed citizens' panel that provides advice and recommendations to DOE on its Oak Ridge Environmental Management Program. The group was formed in 1995 and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luther V. Gibson, Jr." in a cursive script.

Luther V. Gibson, Jr.  
Chair

LVG/plo

cc: Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO  
Connie Jones, EPA  
Rod Nelson, DOE-ORO  
John Owsley, TDEC