



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

June 14, 2001

Mr. Rod Nelson
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
DOE-Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001, EM-90
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Improving Communication Between the Parties to the Federal Facility Agreement and the Public Regarding Watershed Remedial Decision-Making

At the May 9, 2001, meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB), we made a verbal request to the three parties to the *Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for the Oak Ridge Reservation* to improve communication between the Parties and the public regarding watershed remedial decision-making. As explained at that meeting, we perceive that important decisions regarding watershed remediation are being made between the Parties and are not being communicated to the public in a timely or effective manner.

Because the discussions taking place in FFA Project Managers' (PM) Meetings are a crucial element in the remediation of the Oak Ridge Reservation, we feel strongly that stakeholders must be informed about issues and decisions related to the remediation strategy. Thus, we recommend that the Parties provide:

- written summaries of FFA PM Meetings for publication in the ORSSAB monthly notebooks, and
- quarterly updates on FFA PM Meetings, to be provided in person at ORSSAB meetings by the FFA PM Meeting participants.

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We appreciate your consideration of our recommendation and look forward to your written response.

Sincerely,

Luther V. Gibson, Jr. |

Luther V. Gibson, Chair

cc: Martha Berry, EPA
Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO
Susan Gawarecki, LOC
Connie Jones, EPA Region 4
John Owsley, TDEC
Myrna Redfield, DOE-ORO
Randy Young, TDEC