



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

December 19, 2000

Mr. Ken Korkia
Board/Staff Coordinator
Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board
9035 Wadsworth Parkway
Westminster, CO 80021

DRAFT EMSSAB RECOMMENDATIONS ON LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP

Dear Mr. Korkia:

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) at its December 13, 2000, Board meeting, approved the draft recommendations on long-term stewardship that were developed at the EMSSAB Stewardship Workshop, October 25-27, 2000. The ORSSAB encourages other Boards to endorse these recommendations.

We look forward to the discussion at the February SSAB Chairs meeting so the draft recommendations may be finalized and submitted to DOE.

Sincerely,

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

Luther V. Gibson, Jr.
Chair

Enclosure

Cc: Martha Crosland, DOE/HQ
Pat Halsey, DOE/ORO
Connie Jones, EPA Region 4
Norman Mulvenon, LOC/CAP
John Owsley, TDEC
Ralph Skinner, DOE/ORO
SSAB Chairs



Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board
Stewardship Workshop • Denver, Colorado • October 25-27, 2000

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARDS RECOMMENDATIONS ON LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP

Draft for Review Purposes Only
October 31, 2000

PREAMBLE

The nationwide Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Boards (EMSSABs) recognize that the U.S. government faces an enormous challenge. Radioactive and toxic legacy wastes and contamination related to past government practices affect many communities. Some of these materials will pose a threat to human health and the environment for a very long time.

Therefore, the EMSSABs recommend that the Department of Energy (DOE) take the following steps to ensure that Long-Term Stewardship (hereafter referred to as "stewardship") for contaminated sites is a major focus for the Department.

FUNDING

- Make guaranteed funding for stewardship a national priority, removed from the annual Congressional appropriations process, and maintained off-budget. Stewardship funds must be protected from the demands of other programs. Stakeholders must be involved in the development of a fair allocation process. To meet these objectives, DOE must develop authorizing legislation for submittal to Congress.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Issue a stewardship policy by December 2001 that addresses:
 - Legal basis (law)
 - On-going review
 - Allowance for site-specificity
 - Continuing research and development
 - Funding
 - Stakeholder involvement

- Expedite the issuance of policy, orders, guidance and training to institutionalize and implement the stewardship commitment.
- Require all sites to develop and issue stewardship plans, with the involvement of all stakeholders, no later than June 2002. The plans must identify specific roles and responsibilities for all parties that will be involved in implementation.

TIMING OF STEWARDSHIP

- Make stewardship part of the remediation selection process and enforceable in decision documents. Due to the long-term nature of stewardship, remediation decisions must be revisited periodically to evaluate new technologies, changing land use, changing risk evaluation, and information needs. In areas where it was not previously considered, stewardship should be added to existing decisions.
- Consider stewardship in on-going site operations and plans for new facilities.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Identify in each site stewardship plan, with stakeholder involvement, the information required by current and future generations to effectively manage stewardship.
- Include the preservation and dissemination of historical and cultural information as required components of cleanup and stewardship.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Provide education and communication activities to encourage and facilitate early, informed and regular involvement of stakeholders and State, Tribal, and Local Governments in all stewardship decision-making processes.
- Respond in an effective, factual, and timely manner to questions and concerns submitted by stakeholders and State, Tribal, and Local Governments.