

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Site Specific Advisory Board Informal Meeting Minutes

February 19, 1998

The February 19, 1998, Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meeting took place in the McKinley Room at the Executive Inn at 5:00 p.m.

The following board members were present: Nola Courtney, Mark Donham, Edward Duff, Vicki Jones, Ronald Lamb, Lynn Lane, Linda Long, Ray McLennan, Craig Rhodes, and Bill Tanner. Ex Officio members present were: Wayne Davis and Jimmie Hodges. Facilitator Present: Steve Kay. Also present were: Patricia Barnhill, Jeannie Brandstetter, Carol Connell, Teresa Fields, Shelley Hawkins, Dennis Hill, Norman Jetta, Jon Maybriar, Jack Stickney, Myrna Redfield, Julie Watts, and Don Wilkes.

Steve Kay called the meeting to order and explained that the first 1 - 1_ hours would be spent in discussing Administrative Plans. Steve asked if there were any modifications for the agenda. Craig Rhodes stated that he would like to discuss adding a future agenda item. The agenda was approved by consensus.

Craig Rhodes proposed adding a recommendation on the next Environmental Report to the agenda for April. It was approved by consensus.

Administrative plans were the first item on the agenda. Steve Kay stated that these items were discussed at the January informal meeting. Bill Tanner stated that he had sent a summary of the information he had obtained on office locations and Administrative Support to the board. Bill discussed the four alternatives with an office at Jacobs being the most expensive and the least expensive the Katterjohn Building. Bill stated that all the alternatives except for the Jacobs office would require that the board obtain (purchase or rent) furniture, computer equipment, etc. Bill stated that Gregory Waldrop was in Oak Ridge, Tennessee attending a meeting and he had called stating that he felt the advantages of using Alternative 1 (the Jacobs Office with Jacobs support) much outweighed any negative impacts. Jimmie Hodges made a statement regarding the proposals. Since the last meeting the Department of Energy (DOE) has been working on contract changes resulting from the award of the Bechtel/Jacobs Management and Integration (M&I) contract. Jacobs Engineering Group will become a subcontractor to Bechtel/Jacobs. Jimmie stated that the board needs to decide what it wants to do so that DOE can work out the details on how that can be done under the new contract arrangement. Mark Donham asked about the details on the Jacobs proposal. Bill Tanner explained what facilities would be available. Shelley Hawkins distributed a floorplan of the Jacobs building showing what parts of the building would be available to the board. Mark stated that he felt that the Jacobs building was inconvenient being located out in Kevil. Bill stated that he felt that what was convenient for one might be inconvenient for another. Bill felt that of the four alternatives that the Jacobs alternative was the best choice.

Craig Rhodes stated that he felt that the board's purpose was to disseminate information to the public and in his opinion that the greatest amount of dissemination would occur where the greatest part of the population is. Craig stated he felt that the Jacobs alternative did not best fit the mandates of the board. Bill questioned how much the general public would use this office. Bill felt that the best place to

receive comments would be at the meetings. Bill also felt that his idea of having meetings home and away would provide the public with an opportunity to express comments. Craig stated that he felt that a central location would best meet the mandates of the board. Ray McLennan stated that the SSAB is the best kept secret in McCracken County. Joe Walker of the Paducah Sun does not know who the SSAB is. Ray stated that he felt that by moving to the Jacobs building the board would be more aligned to DOE, Jacobs, etc. Bill stated that Jacobs had also given a proposal using Jacobs personnel at the Information Age Park. Mark Donham stated that the first charter of the board is to make recommendations on cleanup. Mark stated that the board has made recommendations but that DOE is not responding to them. Mark stated that the board is doing their part and DOE is not. Steve Kay asked how this issue related to the office discussion. Mark stated that his concern was that the SSAB would be viewed as another sub-agency of DOE, a rubber stamp. Mark stated that the reason these boards were set up was because citizens across the whole DOE complex fought really hard to get information from DOE. Ronnie Lamb stated that he was not for the Jacobs alternative. Steve Kay asked for proposals. Bill Tanner proposed that the board go for Alternative 1 (Office at the Kevil Environmental Information Center [EIC] Building with Jacobs personnel manning the office) for 6 months to 1 year. Edward Duff proposed that an amendment be made to Bill's proposal that the proposal be tabled for a couple of meetings. Steve Kay asked if that could be held to see if it was possible to reach an agreement on a proposal. Edward agreed. Ray McLennan opposed Alternative 1. Ray then made a proposal to approve Alternative No. 2 (Office at the Information Age Park with Jacobs personnel manning the office). The proposal was approved by consensus. Ray McLennan and Bill Tanner will be responsible for making the arrangements for the office, determining what furniture is needed, and work on guidelines for the Jacobs personnel for the administrative support, duties, etc.

The next item on the agenda was the meeting schedule. Steve asked if the board wanted to continue meeting at 5:00 p.m. to discuss administrative issues then continue on with regular business. It was agreed to continue with the meeting schedule as it is. Vicki suggested that after discussing agenda time frames that the board might find that they do not need 1_ hours for the Administrative Issues.

The next item on the agenda was the agenda time frames. The suggestion was made at the last meeting that each agenda item be allowed 15 minutes for the presentation and 15 minutes for questions for a total of 30 minutes. The proposal was made that agenda items be allowed 15 minutes for presentations and 15 minutes for questions. The proposal was approved by consensus.

Jimmie Hodges stated that perhaps there should be an agenda item for responses from DOE to recommendations from the board. Jimmie asked if the board preferred oral or written responses. Steve Kay proposed that DOE responses to recommendations become a standing verbal 15 minute presentation. The board could request written responses if wanted. The proposal was approved by consensus.

The next item on the agenda was activity between meetings. This item was something that Steve Kay wanted on the agenda. Steve's concern was that items of concern for the board should be brought before the board at the regular meeting. Craig Rhodes asked exactly what Steve was concerned about. Steve stated that he was concerned about the e-mails that raise issues that are pertinent to the board that then get circulated to some people and some people do not get them. Steve stated that he felt that it was more efficient to have those issues brought before the board at the board meeting. Ray McLennan stated that e-mail was used to determine who was going to the meeting in Oak Ridge. Ray felt that this was one positive way that e-mail was used. Steve stated that he was not talking about necessary

administrative functions but substantive issues that concern the relationship between this board and DOE. Mark Donham stated that whenever he sends out e-mails that have to do with board business he sends it to everybody that he has e-mail addresses for on the board, Carlos Alvarado, Jimmie Hodges, Vicki Jones, William Perry at Oak Ridge, Martha Crossland and sometimes to Fred Butterfield in Washington. Mark stated that he made 2 conference calls on behalf of the board totaling more than \$40.00 and had still not been reimbursed for them. Mark also stated that he had turned in his paperwork 1-2 months before for reimbursement and had still not been reimbursed. Mark also stated that he had used his own money for mailings that he had not been reimbursed for and he was not going to spend any more of his money until DOE gets some sort of a system for reimbursement that he can count on. Mark stated that he felt that a person has a right to communicate with DOE or whoever they want to between meetings. Mark asked about the statement that was made at the last meeting that said "the tone of any communications be subject to the same guidelines we follow at our meetings, some basic civility." Steve stated that he had made the statement and was referring to some personal accusations that were contained in those e-mails. Steve felt that they were impugning the integrity of some of the people at who they were aimed. Mark asked which ones he was talking about. Steve said he would bring them to the next meeting. Steve stated that he believed that the board had agreed to guidelines to operate by which include a basic civility and it is part of his job to help the board operate in that way. Steve brought that issue up because he felt that the intent and language of these e-mails was undermining the functioning of the board. Mark stated that he wanted to go on record that he always communicates with basic civility. Mark stated that he says what he thinks but he says it in a way where he doesn't curse and that he hopes that Steve isn't making a judgement about some of the e-mails he sent. Mark stated he would be willing to get the e-mails out and go through every word he said. Steve stated that his job is to be neutral but in this instance he has a dog in the fight. Steve stated that he wanted to be very careful and to make sure that the board was comfortable with this discussion. Craig Rhodes stated that he felt that Steve was opening up a can of worms. Craig stated that there is no way to control outside communications, civil or otherwise. Steve stated there is no limitation on what the board members can do as individuals. Steve said he saw something that he felt was interfering with the board functioning and that he felt he should bring it forward. Steve also stated that if the board preferred to put a lid on this can a worms then he would do so. Steve said he felt that it was possible for this board to conduct its own business in a way that does not prove to be offensive to any of its members. Steve proposed that they look at the e-mails to see if these phrases were considered uncivil. Nola Courtney stated that she did not feel comfortable going over these e-mails at length. Nola felt that she was not sure what the board would accomplish by going over all of these e-mails. Steve made the suggestion that he and Mark have a private conversation to the discuss the e-mails and the matter would be dropped.

Board evaluation was the next item on the agenda. Vicki Jones stated that at the November meeting she provided Mark with a copy for his review and comment and was awaiting his comments. Mark felt that the list he had made with all of the recommendations that the board had made should be added to the report. Mark stated that he would provide Vicki with his final comments and they would have something to hand out at the next meeting. Vicki stated that the Paducah report is modeled after the Oak Ridge report. Jimmie Hodges asked if the board had received copies of the results on the survey that was sent out last year. The board members had not received any recent survey results. Jeannie Brandstetter stated that copies of the results would be provided to the board.

Mark asked again about his reimbursement for the 2 conference calls. Jimmie Hodges stated that the problem lies with the mechanism on how DOE does that. This is the first one and DOE is working on

the process. Mark stated that he had waited 5 months to get his Travel reimbursement but that Nola and Vicki had theirs in 2 weeks. Mark stated maybe he had bad luck or something. Jimmie stated that it is the contracting mechanism. DOE is working on it. Jimmie stated that Travel is easier to be reimbursed.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes. Steve asked for approval of the November 20, 1997, and January 15, informal meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by consensus.

An information/handouts update was the next item on the agenda. Jeannie Brandstetter stated that she had attached 3 Public Notices to the Environmental Management and Enrichment Facilities (EMEF) Project Updates.

The EMEF Project Updates were the next thing on the agenda. Mark stated that the report on the bursting barrel incident is available to the public. Mark had received it through the Freedom of Information Act.

The next item on the agenda was the Oil, Chemical, & Atomic Workers (OCAW) Former Worker s Health Study. Jimmie stated that the person who was to do the presentation is not ready at this point and time to release that information. There will probably be a Phase 2. The Oak Ridge and Portsmouth meetings have been scheduled. DOE has proposed that the meeting be held on March 19, the same night as the March SSAB meeting. The board stated that they preferred that it not be held on the same night. Jimmie stated that DOE would work with the board to find a different date.

The SSAB Draft Workplan was the next item on the agenda. Vicki stated that the Bechtel/Jacobs M&I contractor should have a presentation in March. This had been proposed at the January meeting. Waste Area Grouping (WAG) 27 will be on the EMEF updates with a discussion next month on whether to put it on the work plan. Jack Stickney stated that an update on field activities would be a good idea. Mark stated that he felt it would be a good idea to get some information on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) from DOE's Oak Ridge NEPA Officer, Patty Phillips. NEPA information will be on the June agenda.

The next item on the agenda was the WAG 6 update. The updates were handed out to the board. There were no comments.

Dennis Hill stated that the finished Community Relations Plan was available on the table in the back with the Comment Response.

The regulatory comments had not been received on WAG 22 so it will be scheduled for March.

The Vortec Environmental Assessment (EA) was the next item on the agenda. Jimmie Hodges stated that the EA is not final. It is still being reviewed by DOE Legal. Jimmie stated that it is supposed to be complete in 2 weeks. Jimmie also stated that once DOE has the EA, DOE will mail it out to the board members. Mark asked how long the comment period is. Jimmie stated that it is 15 days. Mark stated if it came out on February 23, the comment period would be over before the next meeting. Mark also stated that he thought that DOE's NEPA regulations required an EA have a 30 day comment period. Jimmie stated that he was told that DOE's regulations require a 15 day comment period. Jimmie

suggested to Mark that when he received the EA that if he wanted to request an extension that he do it at that time.

The next meeting will be held March 19, 1998, in the Van Buren Room at the Executive Inn. The meeting was adjourned.

Tentative agenda for the March 19, 1998, meeting:

Administrative Plans for the Board - 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Office Location (10 minutes)

Administrative Support (10 minutes)

Board Evaluation (10 minutes)

Review of the SSAB Draft Work Plan (10 minutes)

Minutes

Information (Handouts)

EMEF Project Updates

DOE Response to SSAB Recommendations (15 minutes)

Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) (30 minutes)

Cost Effectiveness (30 minutes)

Site Treatment Plan (STP) Annual Report (30 minutes)

Bechtel/Jacobs Management and Integration (M&I) Presentation (30 minutes)

Report on Prioritization Meeting from Gregory Waldrop (30 minutes)

WAG 22 (If regulatory comments have been received) (30 minutes)

Vortec EA (if available) (30 minutes)

Action Items

DOE will mail the SSAB the Vortec EA when released.

Jeannie Brandstetter will provide the SSAB with copies of the results from the survey that was sent out last year.