

**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant  
Citizens Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2003**

The October 16, 2003 Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting was held at the CAB office in Paducah, Kentucky at 5:30 p.m.

**Board members present:** Byron Forbus, Vicki Jones, Ricky Ladd, Linda Long, Douglas Raper, John Russell, Dorothy Starr, and Bill Tanner

**Board member absent:** Richard Dyer, Fred Jones, Rebecca Lambert, and Jim Smart

***Ex Officio* members and related regulatory agency employees present:** Brian Begley, Gaye Brewer, and Tuss Taylor, Kentucky Division of Waste Management

**The Deputy Designated Federal Official present:** William Murphie

**The DOE Federal Coordinator present:** David Dollins

**DOE-related employees present:** Greg Bazzell, Tracey Brindley, Kim Crenshaw, Jim Ethridge, Greg Felts, Dianna Feireisel, Bruce Ford, Steve Green, Dave Guyan, Craig Jones, Steve Lindamood, Lynn Link, Eric Morti, Kendra Payne, Bruce Phillips, Rob Seifert, Joe Tarantino, Glenn VanSickle, and Debbie Wattier

**Public:** Jim Covert, Mark Donham, Bruce Ehleringer, Ronny Lamb, and Kevin Poor

## **Agenda**

Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the agenda. Tanner said the Southwest Plume Investigation needs to replace the DUF<sub>6</sub> presentation due to an October milestone. Tanner also said the Cleanup Scope will be added into the Deputy Designated Federal Official's (DDFO) comments and a presentation of the Chairs Meeting will be provided. He stated the Executive Committee needs to be discussed during Administrative Issues. **The Board adopted the modified agenda.**

## **Minutes**

Kay asked if there were any proposed modifications to the draft September minutes. There were no modifications. **The Board approved the minutes by consensus.**

## **Deputy Designated Federal Official's Comments**

### **ES&H Issues**

Murphie said the new Lexington office should be finished by the end of November. He reported Bazzell is the point of contact for the Paducah site office, and that Feireisel will be moving to the Oak Ridge office.

Murphie said the state of Kentucky has cancelled the Notice of Violation for failing to file an annual compliance certification for major air emissions, citing it was issued in error.

Murphie reported that in the P scrap yard, an incident occurred while a heavy equipment operator was moving a pile of debris containing some fire extinguishers. He said one of the cylinders failed when it lodged in the jaws of the equipment and part of it impacted in a nearby yard

### **Budget Updates**

Murphie reported the FY04 Budget is still in the Conference Committee.

### **Project Updates**

Murphie said all of the aluminum ingots on site have been removed. He said on September 26 the final shipment of approximately 2,000 tons of aluminum ingots was made to Nevada Test Site (NTS), which marks the completion of a milestone.

Murphie reported that construction is underway at the North-South Diversion Ditch (NSDD) and workers are proceeding in scrap metal reduction operations. He said over 1,500 tons of scrap metal have been characterized and size-reduced, with over 600 tons ready for shipment to NTS.

Murphie said the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has received the C-746-U Landfill permit modification from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He reported this would allow disposal in the landfill of non-hazardous waste from both the NSDD and scrap metal projects.

### **CAB Recommendation Status**

Murphie said that the Landowner Compensation Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) recommendation is still pending a response due to litigation issues.

### **Agreed Order**

Murphie reported the agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky was signed on October 1. He said the agreed order addressed the outstanding Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) issues and compliance violations to enable the approval of the U-Landfill permit modification. Murphie said this document also discussed operable unit strategies. He said there are fundamental concepts built into this document for the ability to move forward with interim cleanup activities and defer some activities until plant closure. He stated this document allows DOE to take remedial actions, such as the removal of trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater.

Tanner asked Murphie who the new DDFO for the Board will be since Feireisel is leaving. Murphie said he planned to serve as DDFO until he can delegate the responsibility to someone else. Tanner asked for an extension for the support staff contract until the Request for Proposal to identify potential prime contractors for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) was released. Murphie instructed Tanner to go forward to meet the FY04 deadline. He appointed Dollins as the point of contact for this issue.

Russell said there is a whistle blower lawsuit joined by the Department of Justice. He wanted to know if material improperly placed in the S or T Landfill is part of the lawsuit. Donham, a member of the public, said yes.

### **Federal Coordinator Comments**

There were no comments.

### **Ex-Officio Comments**

Taylor said the Agreed Order contains a lot of information and he believes some issues need to be negotiated involving the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding compliance dates that were in the initial Letter of Intent. Raper inquired about EPA's lack of attendance at the Board meetings. Brewer said Froede plans to attend the next Board meeting.

## **Public Comments and Questions**

Donham asked when the public could obtain a copy of the Agreed Order. Murphie said a complete copy could be obtained no later than October 21 from the Environmental Information Center.

## **Presentation of the Southwest Plume Site Investigation**

Ford presented to the Board the Southwest Plume Site Investigation.

### **Questions:**

Raper asked how deep were the shallow soil samples. Ford said they were primarily 50 to 60 feet deep in the Upper Continental Recharge System. Raper asked how deep is the direct push technology. Ford said it is relatively shallow in the regional gravel aquifer (RGA), also about 50 to 60 feet deep. Russell asked if the TCE concentration data given was real data. Ford said the concentration is based on available data, with some interpretation.

Russell asked what information is going to be provided by this study other than the information that is already available. Ford said DOE is trying to establish which of the possible sources is the greatest contributor to the contamination and where remedial actions need to be taken. Murphie said the objective of this investigation is to determine the source. Russell asked what is the cost of the project. Jones said the cost of the project is over one million dollars.

Long asked how many acres does the C-747-A Oil Landfarm cover. Ford said the Landfarm covers less than an acre. Russell asked if the 30 previously taken soil samples were not adequate. Ford said the previous samples were shallow samples and the five new sample locations will allow collection of deeper samples. He said DOE is looking at the new samples with respect to the Southwest Plume to determine if it is a major source. Ford said he expects to see an increase in area contamination, but not concentration.

Russell said he believes the storm sewer from C-400 to Outfall 008 might be a minor source of contamination, but not a major source because extreme contamination has not been seen at the Outfall. Ford said the contaminants could have dissolved in the surface water and flowed downstream. Murphie said the intent of this investigation is to look at the comprehensive interactions of the units as a whole. He said the source of the plume has to be identified. Tanner said his experiences on this type of sewer line is that if there is a break in the pipe, the contaminate and the water upstream are dropping through the break and adding to the groundwater flow, ultimately carrying contaminants into the ground instead of out the end of the pipe. Ford said a video camera survey would be done before sampling the soil.

Dollins asked if data is being used from past investigations for Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 4. Ford said yes, and the intent is not to re-characterize SWMU 4, but to

determine if it is contributing to the Southwest Plume. Russell asked why samples were not obtained by drilling directly into the waste. Dollins said that has already been attempted. Morti said some of the boring will be angled to allow sampling below the waste. He said data was previously collected under the waste pits.

Russell said the Burial Grounds Operable Unit would have to be addressed. Taylor said the Commonwealth of Kentucky agreed. Ford said the intent is to address the Southwest Plume with an action before conducting the burial ground remediation. Murphie said the groundwater investigation and remediation is separate from the future burial ground investigation and decision of remediation.

Raper asked the timeline of the investigation and remediation. Ford said the D1 Site Investigation Workplan is due to the EPA and Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP) on October 30, 2003, the fieldwork will be conducted in the summer of 2004, and the D1 Site Investigation/ Risk Assessment Report will be due to EPA and KDEP on January 3, 2005.

Russell asked why there is no additional sampling being conducted on the existing monitoring wells downstream. Morti said the Permeable Treatment Zone (PTZ) wells were being used but that the other were multi-port wells and may not be functioning properly.

Russell stated his criticism is that in the last fifteen years, billions of dollars have been spent doing investigations and there has been no remediation. Murphie said a risk assessment has to be concluded if remedial action is required. He said site investigations are required for remediation technology to be accurate. Russell asked how rapidly the water flows from the source term into the RGA. Morti said the modeling suggests it takes 20 or 30 years from the surface to the RGA, actual data suggests faster. SWMU 1 and C-720 were last sampled five years ago. He said this study will allow us to see how much it has changed and might give some idea how fast it is migrating to the subsurface. Morti stated they would be measuring the profile of contamination from the surface to the top of the RGA. Russell asked if this would indicate if it is a source or not. Morti said it wouldn't show that in SWMU 4. Murphie said if the investigation would not show if SWMU 4 is not specifically contributing to the RGA, Russell's comment should be considered regarding the workplan.

Ladd asked Taylor if any of the landfills are addressed in the Agreed Order. Taylor said yes. Ladd asked if DOE pressured the Commonwealth of Kentucky into ignoring landfill issues in the Agreed Order. Taylor said absolutely not and that the Commonwealth of Kentucky sees the need for these areas to be remediated. He said the Commonwealth of Kentucky did feel political pressure, but they did not ignore issues that would put human health at risk. Taylor stated the Agreed Order identifies that DOE wants to wait until the PGDP is shut down before the remediation occurs in some areas.

## **Public Comments and Questions**

Culvert said there is an expectation of action from the public. He said there has to be an end to the investigation and some action taken. Donham said there was a Groundwater Operable Unit Feasibility Study done several years ago that suggested installing PTZ wells. He said the PTZ project has been abandoned, as far as he knew. Donham asked what happened to that project. Morgan said it was used for the basis of the C-400 Treatability Study.

## **Presentation of the EM SSAB Chairs Meeting**

Kay presented to the Board the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs Meeting overview.

Tanner said it was a very informative meeting with a lot of discussion between the sites and DOE. He said the CAB support staff contract change is a major issue. DOE asked the SSAB to display their value. The sites demonstrated that they were not there necessarily to save DOE money, but to help with the issues of faster cleanup and better ideas. Tanner commended the excellent job of the support staff as well as Long for chairing the Ad Hoc committee for the chairs meeting preparation. Long also commended the staff on a job well done for the logistics of the chairs meeting.

## **Administrative Issues**

### **Review of Workplan**

Tanner asked for DUF<sub>6</sub> to be moved to January. He said the Conflict of Interest needs to be moved to February to enable new Board members to attend the presentation.

### **Review of Next Month's Agenda**

Kay said the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Cell presentation would be deleted from the agenda until substantial new information is available. He said the Agreed Order and the update on the Site Management Plan will be added to the November agenda.

### **Executive Committee**

Tanner said the executive committee will be scheduled for the last week in October. The Executive Committee will be discussing the workplan, a training session for the new members of the board, a retreat, the agreed order, the CAB support staff contract, and the operating procedures and by-laws.

## **Action Items**

Payne said the RCRA Training would be postponed until the new members of the Board were selected. Kay asked for that action to be closed and brought back to the Board at a later date.

## **Task Force and Subcommittee Reports**

### **Water Task Force**

Tanner reported that the Water Task Force had a NSDD update on the additional testing being done. He said the task force received a presentation on the Southwest Plume Site Investigation. Tanner reported the Water Task Force would like to request that a recommendation be made to DOE to include in the Groundwater Operable Unit Southwest Plume D1 Sampling and Analysis Plan to take three to four water grab samples at each manhole along the storm sewer, and compare the samples with the video camera survey results to determine a correlation or contamination. **The board approved the recommendation to DOE by consensus.**

Tanner said the task force had been given a Six-Phase Heating Treatability update. Tanner stated as soon as the electrodes were shut off, within 48 hours the vacuum fans were turned off while the soil and water were at high enough temperatures to volatilize TCE. He said the carbon filter extraction units did not capture all of the TCE, even though there were no exceedences of air permits. Tanner said the Water Task Force would like to request that a recommendation be made to DOE to include in the Groundwater Operable Unit C-400 Remedial Actions Proposed Plan (D0) a listing of lessons learned from the Six-Phase Heating Treatability Study. **The board approved the recommendation to DOE by consensus.**

Tanner said, regarding the S&T Landfill Scoping Plan, the task force is concerned about a lack of data between monitoring points to define the plume.

### **Long Range Strategy/Stewardship**

Tanner reported Raper was elected chair of the Long Range Strategy/Stewardship Task Force. He said a summary and recommendation regarding end use will be submitted to the Board at the beginning of next year. Tanner stated the letter regarding the resignation of the seven members was sent to Roberson and a response was received from Congressman Whitfield, which is included in the board packet. He said the support staff contract was also discussed.

## **Nomination, Membership, and Public Involvement**

The Nomination, Membership, and Public Involvement Subcommittee did not meet prior to the October Board meeting. This subcommittee will meet on October 22.

## **Waste Operations Task Force**

Russell said the task force discussed the NSDD Sections 3, 4, and 5 and they are preparing a recommendation for the next meeting.

Russell said the S&T Landfills Scoping Plan determines whether there is migration of contaminants from the northwest and northeast plumes into the area of the S&T Landfills. He stated if the sampling plan is successful and shows there is contamination, it does not establish if the S&T Landfills are the contributing source. Russell said the Waste Task Force requests that the Board make a recommendation to DOE to include installation of a fourth transect of monitoring wells, in the proposed S&T Landfills Scoping Plan, to be located diagonally on the northeast corner of the T Landfill. He said this would provide additional information that may prove helpful in determining the source. **The board approved the recommendation to DOE by consensus.**

## **Community Concerns**

The Community Concerns Committee did not meet in October.

## **Final Comments**

Tanner said the Executive Committee will be defining or changing the policy of waiving the two meeting rule.

Tanner said he would like each recommendation the Board makes to be followed by a press release. Russell said he would like the press to cover the Board meetings. **The Board agreed.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.