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CABFARE

Number 5 Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board March 2002

DOE seminar helps board learn about groundwater

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) members Jim Smart and Bill Tanner participated in a two-day workshop on groundwater contamination Feb. 1-2 in Augusta, Ga.

The workshop was hosted by the Savannah River Site (SRS) and included a tour of the site with a focus on the innovative technologies implemented to control and reduce groundwater contamination.

"The tour was the highlight of the workshop," Smart said. "It is helpful to see these technologies at work and to talk with the technical experts about the projects."

Smart, who chairs the CAB's Groundwater Task Force, said the interaction among advisory boards, Department of Energy (DOE) officials, contractors and regulators is key in successful, efficient clean up.

Tanner, chairman of the CAB's Surface Water Task Force, agreed. He said the level of detail provided by the SRS personnel helped him relate their work to activities in Paducah.

"The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant is not facing as many contamination issues as SRS, but it is clear both sites want to ensure the protection of human health and the environment," Tanner said.

Following the tour at SRS, workshop participants viewed informational displays from other DOE facilities, heard presentations from DOE officials, contractors, regulators and the public.

During breakout sessions on key topics, the advisory board members developed key statements concerning



Bill Tanner, above right, and Jim Smart, below center, represented Paducah at a national conference on groundwater problems at DOE sites around the country.



groundwater remediation that were agreed upon by the entire group and will be sent to all DOE site specific advisory boards for consideration as a national recommendation.

DOE Paducah Groundwater Project Lead Gary Bodenstein and Bechtel Jacobs Company representatives Mark Gage and Stacey Young also attended the workshop.

The Paducah CAB facilitator, Steve Kay, participated on the facilitation team at the workshop.

NEWS IN BRIEF . . .

□ Budget focus of CAB retreat — The CAB held its second annual planning retreat at Lake Barkley State Resort Park March 1 and 2. Members learned more about the site and made long-range plans. Todd Martin, chairman of the Hanford (Wash.) Advisory Board, was the guest speaker.

□ Task force urges look at water lines — The CAB's Surface Water Task Force has asked the full board to approve a proposal for DOE to examine pipes under the PGDP. The task force believes old pipes are leaking and making groundwater problems worse. Repair of the leaks could slow migration of contaminants off site, the task force says. The full board will consider the plan at its March 21 meeting.



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Board members prepare for national conference

Representatives from the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board will soon meet with members from advisory boards across the nation to discuss environmental cleanup activities.

The Fernald, Ohio, site will host the annual Spring Chairs Conference, to be held in Cincinnati, April 11-13.

The conference gives members a chance to interact with other advisory boards with similar concerns and interests.

DOE representatives will be on hand to answer questions and address concerns about current cleanup activities.

Chairman Mark Donham, Vice-Chairman Doug Raper and members Rebecca Lambert and Linda Long are scheduled to attend the conference.

Community Concerns committee seeks appraisal for neighbors

The CAB's Community Concerns Subcommittee wants DOE to have private land around the PGDP appraised for the purpose of paying neighbors for damage to their property caused by plant contamination.

The committee believes that underground and surface contamination has damaged the value of homes and businesses located around the plant.

The full board will discuss the recommendation at its March 21 meeting.

DOE provides close-up look at seismic study



CAB Chairman Mark Donham, front left, tours a section of Barnes Creek where DOE is conducting seismic assessments. The work in the Southern Illinois creek is part of a larger study that considers the design and construction of a potential CERCLA waste disposal facility at the Paducah site.

In November, board members recommended DOE not use large digging equipment at the creek site without coming to the board and explaining why hand tools alone would not be sufficient.

DOE did not accept the recommendation, but provided board members a video tour of the site at the January meeting. Some members, who had expressed concern in November, said they were no longer worried that the study would destroy the creek bank. DOE also agreed to allow one board member to tour the site before work began.