



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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DOE Federal Coordinator

Patricia J. Halsey

Additional information about contacting board members directly can be obtained from the SSAB web site or by

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board Majority Recommendation

DATE: May 21, 2001

NUMBER: 01-1

RESPONSE REQUESTED BY: June 21, 2001

REGARDING: Selection of a potential CERCLA disposal facility site for field characterization/seismic study

TO: W. Don Seaborg, DOE

CC: CAB members, ex-officio members

Background: As part of an evaluation of how to dispose of waste materials generated during cleanup activities, the U.S. Department of Energy is evaluating whether a CERCLA disposal facility can and should be constructed at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

A preliminary evaluation of the site located 10 potential sites for a 110-acre facility. Further analysis eliminated six of those from consideration, leaving four for further discussion.

At its April 2001 meeting, the board was presented with these four sites and asked for its advice before a final selection was made. On May 3, several board members took a tour of the potential locations and made suggestions about alternative layouts on two of the sites.

At its regular meeting on May 17, 2001, the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board, was presented with the alternate layouts and asked if it would recommend one for a field characterization/seismic study.

Chartered as a Site Specific Advisory Board under the Federal Advisory Committee Act

It was noted that work needed to begin this summer if such a study was to be completed in 2001 and that a decision on which site to study would be made in the next few weeks.

The board discussed all four sites, with the pros and cons of each location mentioned. Board members felt there were problems with each of the sites. These problems included the removal of wetlands and forested areas, traffic concerns, current recreational use of the site, and the difficulty of staging other cleanup work to have a site ready for use as a CERCLA disposal facility location. There also was considerable discussion about whether a CERCLA disposal facility should be constructed at the Paducah site. Of special concern was the danger of a major seismic event in the Paducah area..

Members Mark Donham and Bill Tanner objected to consensus recommendations on two of the sites and efforts to reach consensus on the other two potential sites failed. A vote was then held and by a margin of 6-3, with one abstention, the board approved the following:

RECOMMENDATION:

The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board has reservations about the larger question of whether it is appropriate to have a CERCLA disposal cell at the site. Nonetheless, having reviewed the potential sites for a seismic study, the board recommends by a 6-3-1 vote that the site know as 3A be the site for the seismic study.

Submitted, May 21, 2001
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Citizens Advisory Board
Mark Donham, Chair