



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee

Meeting Summary

May 11, 1999
North Augusta Community Center
N. Augusta, SC

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Risk Management and Future Use (RM&FU) Subcommittee met on May 11, 6:00 p.m., at the North Augusta Community Center, N. Augusta, S.C. The purpose of the meeting was to review the future use planning initiative, hear a National Environmental Policy Act update, discuss a motion on Risk Summaries and receive public comment. Those in attendance were:

CAB Members

Karen Paterson

Stakeholders

Paulette Fix
Jerry Devitt
Jennifer Hughes, DHEC
Lee Poe
Patricia McCracken
Mike French
Gail Jernigan
Sonny Goldston
Chris Noah
Erin Haddock
Sam Booher
Julie D'Ambrosia, NRC
James Clarke, NAS/NRC
Bob Andrews, NAS/NRC
Naomi Harley, NAS/NRC
Greg Peterson
Todd Crawford

DOE/Contractors

George Mishra, DOE
Charles Borup, DOE
Jerry Nelsen, DOE
Thomas Johnson, DOE
Clay Jones, WSRC
Mary Flora, WSRC
Donna Martin, WSRC
Jim Moore, WSRC

Karen Patterson filled in as Chairperson for the meeting. She welcomed those in attendance and asked them to introduce themselves. Lee Poe stated that if the subcommittee approved, as the lead for the Risk Management Working Group – Team C – Off Site Risk - he would like to make a presentation at the subcommittee meeting on June 8. Mr. Poe felt that Team C had reached its conclusion and he would present the results. All in attendance were in agreement.

Ms. Patterson informed the subcommittee of the National Academy of Science meeting on May 12 in Augusta, the Center for Disease Control meeting on Thursday and Friday at USC-A and the request for

public comments by June 30 on the *Draft Agenda for Public Health Activities for Fiscal Years 1999 and 2000 at Department of Energy Sites*.

Ms. Patterson introduced Clay Jones, WSRC, to speak on the future use planning initiative. Mr. Jones stated the purpose of his presentation was to discuss initial steps toward refining the long-range vision for SRS and obtain stakeholder input in the process. Mr. Jones reviewed major documents on future use planning in which the stakeholders had already been involved.

SRS basically now consists of three program focus areas: Stockpile Stewardship, Nuclear Materials Stewardship and Environmental Stewardship. The emphasis of the long-range vision will be to look at national and global issues (including, but not limited to the three stewardship areas) that exist to see how the resources at SRS can be used to meet and fulfill solutions in the next 20 to 50 years. Mr. Jones asked the stakeholders how they would like to be involved. The subcommittee listed the following options:

- Initiate a Focus Group
- Do nothing
- Review the products as they are developed
- Note the time commitment
- CAB only participates versus leads
- Get other community resources involved
- Invite a "Sam Nunn"

The stakeholders placed emphasis on not limiting participation to only site persons who may have tunnel vision, on getting outside experts who can think strategically, and getting knowledgeable people involved who know the needs from a national and global perspective. Mr. Jones thanked the subcommittee for their input.

Ms. Patterson introduced Donna Martin, WSRC, to speak on the NEPA activity update. Ms. Martin stated that NEPA was enacted in 1969. This law requires Federal agencies to prepare an environmental impact statement for any major federal action that may "significantly affect the quality of the human environment". Ms. Martin explained the difference between an Environmental Assessment (EA) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

EA's in progress are:

- Wetland Mitigation Bank Program
- Repair of Pond B Dam
- A-01 Outfall constructed Wetlands at SRS
- Interim Remediation Measures for the Mixed Waste Management Facility
- Offsite Treatment and Disposal of Low-Level and Mixed Radioactive Waste

EIA's in progress are:

- SRS Spent Nuclear Fuel Final EIS
- Closure of High Level Waste Tanks at SRS Draft EIS
- Salt Disposition Alternatives Draft EIS
- Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental EIS
- Surplus Plutonium Disposition Final EIS
- Programmatic Waste Management EIS
- Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Waste at Yucca Mountain

A 1999 EIS timeline was reviewed showing the approximate time of the various states of the EIS process as well as the public comment period.

Some concerns, questions and answers on NEPA were as follows:

- There was concern that the final Wetlands Mitigation Bank Program was completed with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Sam Booher stated it took several months for him to get a copy of it and he never got a chance to comment on it. He hadn't seen the final EA and consequently didn't know if his concerns were answered. Ms. Martin stated that the EA was not final at this time to be distributed, but that the Site Manager had signed the document. Mr. Booher was told if he still had concerns he should call the 1-800 881-7292 or call Donna Martin or Greg Peterson.
- Question: If the public has a disagreement with an approved EA, what are the options besides going to a lawyer?
Answer: There have been cases where a final EA has been reopened because of public comment. A case in point is the Closure of High Level Waste Tanks Draft EIS. If any member of the public has a concern, they should call the 1-800 881-7292 or Donna Martin or Greg Peterson. Another option would be to call the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Sam Booher had a concern about the site restoring one old wetland because they were now closing a new one. Mr. Booher was told that a presentation on Carolina Bays was in the works for the June 8th meeting.
- Question: Are the transportation impacts included in the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental EIS?
Answer: Not sure, will review the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental EIS to find out. This Supplemental EIS was a special case and it may be developed differently from other Supplemental EIS's.
- Mr. Poe would like a copy of the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental EIS if it is available.
- Question: Several years ago the site published a generic Waste Management EIS on transportation of low-level and mixed low-level waste. Why are we issuing another EIS?
Answer: Not sure, will review the old Waste Management EIS for specifics.

Mr. Poe proposed that the RM&FU Subcommittee develop a draft CAB motion for the May CAB meeting to request a public meeting be held in North Augusta on the Yucca Mountain EIA. The subcommittee agreed to develop a motion.

Ms. Patterson read the draft motion on the Risk Summaries. There were numerous comments related to the recommendation to the point that it was decided that a revision needed to be written incorporating all the comments. This revision will be completed so it can be sent to the CAB in their package. It was requested that the Risk Summary document is sent to the CAB along with the motion so the CAB can read the Risk Summary document to better comment on the motion at the full CAB meeting.

Ms. Patterson asked if there were any public comments. Since there were none, she adjourned the meeting.

Meeting handouts may be obtained by calling 1-800-249-8155.