



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Environmental Restoration Committee

Meeting Summary

October 2, 2001
North Augusta Community Center
North Augusta, SC

CAB Members

Jimmy Mackey*
Marty Stringer*
Perry Holcomb*

Stakeholders

Sam Booher

Regulators

Ted Millings, SCDHEC

DOE/Contractors

George Mishra, DOE
Mike Griffith, DOE
Greg Rucker, WSRC
Chris Bergren, BSRI
Michelle Ewart, DOE
Jerry Turknett, WSRC
Shelia McFalls, WSRC
Bruce Schappell, WSRC
Paul Sauerborn, WSRC

*** Members of the ER Committee**

The following are members of the ER Committee that were unable to attend the meeting: Sallie Connah, Nancy Ann Ciehanski and Maria Reichmanis.

Introduction

Jimmy Mackey introduced himself and then asked that everyone do the same.

Schedule Review

Paul Sauerborn presented the schedule for the ER Committee. Mr. Sauerborn noted that the schedule shows both completed and future meeting topics and should any of the public have topics they would like considered by the ER Committee, to please state them now or call his office.

Vadose Zone Contamination Migration Software

Gregory Rucker stated that the VZCOMMML technology has been completely deployed at the Savannah River Site (SRS) since May 26, 1999. The systems use is mandatory for all RFI/RI/BRA documentation and vadose zone contaminant migration analyses performed either by SRS or its subcontractors and noted its use in the radioactive seepage basin "Plug-In Record of Decision. Mr. Rucker stated that the software is a technical evaluation of "If", "When" and "How Much" contaminant from a waste unit will migrate to groundwater. The information is required as part of

the documentation for CERCLA (Superfund) waste units, and the USEPA guidance is provided as a basic framework for the technical evaluation.

The technical analysis asks the following questions:

1. Will the contaminant travel to the groundwater?
2. How long will it take the contaminant to travel to the groundwater?
3. What is the concentration of the contaminant in the groundwater?

Some more information on VZCOMML software:

- Performs the technical analysis
- Is consistent with USEPA guidance for the technical analysis
- Will simultaneously calculate "Clean-Up" levels in soil
- Can evaluate "What If" scenarios for remedial actions

Mr. Rucker pointed out the real power of VZCOMML is that it is capable of calculating less restrictive, but still protective clean-up levels for waste units, and significantly reduces (or eliminates) the number of chemicals that must be retained for a more labor and cost intensive analysis through a built in logic argument which flags the analyses that fail the screening test.

In summary, the software saves time in analyzing many analyses in detail, which in turn saves money that can be used for other projects.

Jimmy Mackey asked if the software conducts a +/- analysis. Mr. Rucker stated that the program only measures sensitivity. Mr. Mackey stated that this software would be of great use at Department of Defense Sites around the country.

A-Area Miscellaneous Rubble Pile (ARP) Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan

Chris Bergren began his presentation by showing an aerial picture of the SRS 300 and 700 areas and pointed out where the ARP was located. Mr. Bergren stated the unit consisted of 5.9 acres, the disposal activities started in the early 1950's but exact dates of the operation are unknown. The primary wastes disposed of were Powerhouse coal ash and construction debris.

Constituents of Concern by Area are:

- Piles Area
 - Arsenic, Lead, Aroclor-1254, Benzo(a)pyrene (a PAH)
- Ash Area
 - Arsenic
- Trenches Area
 - Arsenic, Benzo(a) pyrene, and other PAH's, Tetrachlorethylene (PCE), and Trichloroethylene (TCE)

Mr. Bergren made particular note that no groundwater contamination is associated with this operable unit.

Mr. Bergren showed many proposed alternatives for the unit areas, however the proposed alternatives are:

- Piles Area – Hot Spot Removal (\$97,000, one month)
- Ash Area – Institutional Controls (\$320,000, 30 years)
- Trenches – Passive Soil Vapor Extraction (PSVE), Soil Cover, and Institutional Controls (\$900,000, 10 years for PSVE and 30 years for institutional controls)
- Total Estimated Cost - \$1,317,000

Plug-In Record of Decision Update

Bruce Schappell began his presentation by stating that the Plug-In ROD is a streamlines process for applying a common remedy to operable units (Out's) that exhibit common characteristics. Mr. Schappell the Plug-In recognized 4 operable units consisting of 8 radioactive contaminated reactor seepage basins and that the common remedy was In Situ stabilization with a low permeability soil cover.

Mr. Schappell stated that the benefits of the Plug-In ROD were:

- Provides final remedy for the source
- Reduces source characterization / sampling at higher risk sites
- Reduces regulatory documentation
- Reduces overall costs
- Potential for other SRS units to utilize Plug-In approach

Mr. Schappell gave the following unit update:

- Completed Grouting at K-Reactor 8/2/01
- Began Grouting at C-Reactor 9/6/01
- Proposed Plan Submitted to modify Plug-In remedy for L-Reactor 9/12/01
- Characterization Underway for P-Reactor 8/28/01

The path forward is as follows:

- Plug –In ROD Amendment for L-Reactor Decision 5/24/02
- Complete Grouting Basin 1 at C-Reactor FY02
- Complete Characterization of P-Reactor 9/26/01
- Submit Post Construction Documentation for K-Reactor 3/29/02

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Mr. Mackey thanked the attendees, and the meeting was adjourned.

For copies of meeting handouts call 1-800-249-8155.