



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Environmental Remediation and Waste Management Subcommittee

Meeting Summary

January 16, 1997

Martinez, Ga.

The CAB ER & WM subcommittee met on January 16, 1997 at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion in Martinez, GA. Mr. Lawless opened the meeting with introductions. Other subcommittee members present were Kathryn May, CAB ER & WM Co-chair, Anne Brown and Deborah Simone. Walt Joseph, the CAB facilitator, and Todd Crawford, CAB technical support, also attended. Attending from DOE-SR were Dale Ormond, Kim Sidey and Joan Baum. Cecilia DiPrete attended from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). Attending from WSRC/BSRI were Bill Rajczak, Bob Aylward, Gerry Stejskal, Steve Helel, Anne Roe and Joe D`Amelio. Public attendees included Lee Poe, Sam and Laurie Booher, Doug Berry, and Chris Noah. de`Lisa Bratcher attended as the Associate Designated Deputy Federal Official, ADDFO.

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, (WIPP SEIS-II), was discussed. Dale Ormond stated that since the WIPP SEIS-II was prepared by the Carlsbad DOE office the document had not been reviewed by SRS personnel. Todd Crawford, Bill Lawless, and Lee Poe discussed some of their thoughts and conclusions after having reviewed the WIPP SEIS-II Summary. Their main concern was that the report did not provide sufficient motivation to open WIPP. The major questions and concerns which were brought up concerned

- (1) the consequences if there were a loss of institutional control of the TRU waste (Pu-238 and Pu-239).
- (2) the assumptions made in evaluating the no action alternative scenarios.
- (3) a strong enough case has not been made to justify opening and using WIPP.
- (4) the effects summaries and the tables in the summary document support the No Action decision and do not support opening WIPP.
- (5) whether SRS personnel have reviewed the dose calculations for SRS for the different alternatives.
- (6) the upcoming public meeting on 1/23 had not been advertised in the Augusta Chronicle.

Bill Lawless said he planned to have comments submitted for him at the WIPP SEIS-II public meeting on January 23 and would also have a draft motion on the WIPP SEIS-II for the full board to consider at their January meeting.

Todd Crawford discussed his review of the proposed River Water System (RWS) shutdown and the issues that should be addressed in a motion. Dr. Crawford's evaluation is attached. The main points were:

- (1) keep the RWS in a standby condition to minimize costs and keep the capability to provide water to possible future missions.
- (2) Combine/use the data from the RWS National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) draft EIS in the evaluation and remediation of L-Lake which will be required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).
- (3) Use only the onsite worker scenario in calculating the risk based screening values for cesium-137 and cobalt-60.
- (4) Include the effects on the ecology of L-Lake in the evaluation of remedial options.

The issue of water rights was discussed; Dr. Chris Noah pointed out the Georgia population will grow significantly; in July, 1997 Georgia's population will reach 7.5 million and in 25 years it is expected to be 10 million. Georgia is the fourth fastest growing state in the nation and the Augusta area is expected to increase from approximately 500,000 to 665,000 in 25 years. In general, Dr. Noah said Georgia is the primary user of the Savannah River water below SRS and South Carolina is the primary user of the Savannah River above SRS. Sam Booher and Dr. Noah also noted that the states of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida were in the process of formalizing a "Compact" to govern the use of the waters of the Chattahoochee River, and this "compact" could become the national model for such agreements. In summary, he emphasized that it was important to keep at least some minimal usage of the RWS so as not to lose SRS's rights/access to the Savannah River water.

Bob Aylward discussed the Feasibility Study Scoping of ER Units for 1997. Mr. Aylward provided two handouts that were discussed. The first handout was a list of the Corrective Measures Studies/Feasibility Studies (CMS/FS) that are to be developed through January 1998 and the date the documents are due from DOE to the Environmental Protection Agency and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The units that DOE suggest the ER & WM Subcommittee scope with the DOE were indicated with asterisks. The second handout provided the month in which the ER & WM Subcommittee should scope the recommended units. Mr. Lawless agreed with Mr. Aylward's recommendation to schedule the scoping for the F-Area Retention Basin and D-Area Oil Seepage Basin in February 1997 with the understanding that if the schedule for the meeting was too full, this scoping could be dropped as the units were of a lower concern. Subsequent to the meeting the date for the scoping of the D-Area Oil Seepage Basin was changed to April 1997. It was agreed that the Miscellaneous Chemical Basin/Metals Burning Pit would be scoped in March 1997 as it is a unit of concern. Mr. Lawless inquired if the K-Area Reactor Seepage Basin and the TNX Unit could be combined

into one scoping meeting. Mr. Aylward stated that he would investigate if the data for the TNX would be available in May in order to accomplish that.

Mr. Lawless asked if Mr. Poe had any suggestions for issues that the ER & WM Subcommittee and/or CAB should investigate in 1997. Mr. Poe stated that he had sent a letter to Mr. Lawless and Ms. May that suggested that the entire CAB become involved in the issue of privatization activities planned at Savannah River Site as privatization issues involved three of the subcommittees, Land Use, Nuclear Materials Management, and ER & WM. Mr. Poe stated that there were many issues with the privatization in which the CAB should be involved: how stakeholders will become involved in the process; health and safety concerns; status and liability of surplus facilities; procedural interface; certification of products; and the disposition of future facilities built to support these privatization activities. It was discussed between Ms. May, Mr. Lawless, and Mr. Poe if this letter should be sent to the CAB Chair and by whom. All agreed that this letter was important and should be submitted to the CAB Chair.

Mr. Poe also suggested that a process for Time Critical Removal Actions be developed. Mr. Poe stated that he had read two recent Removal Actions, the Ford Building Waste Site and HWCTR and they were not consistent with each other or and did not follow joint EPA and DOE guidance issued May 22, 1995. Mr. Poe stated his concern that it was not clear how the public was to be involved and how public comments are to be addressed.

The "List of Issues for CAB ER & WM Subcommittee Consideration" was handed out along with a list of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan (SB/PP)Public Comment Periods scheduled through 1999 (this list (SB/PP) was for information only, as these would generally not come before the subcommittee). It was agreed that the scoping of the CMS/FS units would be added to the list of issues. Mr. Lawless closed the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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