SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Risk Management & Future Use Subcommittee Meeting

Meeting Summary March 24, 1997 Augusta, Georgia

The Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee of the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) met on March 24, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the Riverfront Radisson, Augusta, Georgia. CAB members attending were Suzanne Matthews, Karen Patterson, and Kamalakar, Raut. Virginia Gardner, Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR), was the Associate Deputy Designated Federal Official (ADDFO). Camilla Warren and Anne Cole from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Danny Hanson from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) were the regulators in attendance. Westinghouse Savannah River Company attendees were Gail Jernigan and Clay Jones.

Suzanne Matthews welcomed the participants to the meeting and the participants introduced themselves. Gail Jernigan explained that there were no privatization or future use activities to discuss at this meeting; however, a new book, Harnessing the Market: The Opportunities and Challenges of Privatization, written by DOE Headquarters, is now available. She circulated a sign-up sheet for interested stakeholders to request a copy.

Ms. Matthews asked Ms. Jernigan to provide the group some background for the motion proposed for discussion, drafted by Walt Joseph, the CAB Facilitator. Ms. Jernigan explained that the Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee had provided a ranking of 9 stakeholder criteria for the Fiscal Year (FY 1998) budget, based on meetings held in the Aiken-Augusta area. For the FY 1999 budget, the subcommittee had held meetings in Savannah, Georgia and Hilton Head Island, Williston, and North Augusta, South Carolina to get a perspective from different stakeholders. In addition, Vernon Zinnerman, the Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee chair, and Ms. Jernigan had participated in a workshop in Savannah, sponsored by the Citizens for Environmental Justice where participants in a focus group had also ranked these stakeholder criteria. The results of these meetings are shown in a table called Preferred Analysis.

From this table, a ranking of the stakeholder criteria was developed by Mr. Joseph for the draft motion. Other parts to the draft motion are based on other stakeholder comments from the meeting in Hephzibah, Georgia, on March 11. (See attached Draft Motion 1.) The draft motion was sent to Karen Patterson, Ann Loadholt, and Bill Donaldson before this subcommittee meeting so that they could provide comments. Lee Poe, a citizen who has actively participated in numerous CAB subcommittee meetings, was also provided a copy of the motion.

Dr. Raut commented that the number of people who participated in ranking these criteria was too small to be significant. Others commented that these were the people who were interested and their values should be incorporated in the new ranking. Mr. Jones said that previously the subcommittee had provided relative weights for each of the criteria and asked if this was available. Subcommittee members said that there had not been enough time during the round of meetings to discuss this. One participant asked what is the difference in the ranking of the criteria between last year and this year. Ms. Jernigan explained that ranking for Worker Health and Safety switched with Safeguards and Security so that Safeguards and Security was ranked number 2 last year and is ranked number 3 this year, after Worker Health and Safety. Cost Effectiveness/Mortgage Reduction switched similarly with Social/Cultural/Economic impacts. However, the rankings for Public Health and Safety, Worker Health and Safety, Safeguards and Security, and Environmental Protection all were considered very important by both groups of stakeholders.

Two versions of the motion were provided for comments. Motion 1, as stated earlier, was the motion drafted by Walt Joseph. Version 2 is Motion 1 revised to incorporate Lee Poe's comments. (See attached for copies of both motions.) Mr. Poe's comments were to include the "Total from 5 Meetings" column from the table and to delete the sentence "The SRS process showed more sensitivity to changes and stakeholder concerns that the processes recommended by DOE-HQ" from the first paragraph of item number 3 of the motion. After further discussion, the participants agreed to present Version 1 for the CAB's consideration with the addition of Williston as one of the towns in the first paragraph. They also decided to attach the table as part of the recommendation and to ask Mr. Joseph to present this recommendation to the Board.

In other news, Camilla Warren told the group that EPA has participated in the budget prioritization process for the past two years and that Jim Buice and Virginia Gardner, DOE-SR, had recently briefed EPA on the current status of the FY 1999 budget. She said her concerns with DOE-SR are (1) providing funding for signed commitments and (2) stakeholder involvement. She explained that if DOE signs a commitment in the Federal Facility Agreement, then DOE should pursue all available avenues to ensure enough funding to complete these commitments. She congratulated DOE-SR for its efforts for stakeholder involvement for the budget process and encouraged more participation with stakeholders who live further from the site.

Virginia Gardner gave an update on the Ten Year Plan process. She explained that the site's draft plan will be released with the national Ten Year Plan sometime in late March or early April. She explained that the draft plan would be sent to interested stakeholders about 2 weeks before a workshop is scheduled, so that stakeholders can review the plan before a workshop. The CAB members told her that this was a good idea and suggested a weekend as a time to have the workshop to encourage more participation. Ms. Gardner explained that a national video conference is tentatively scheduled for late May. Participants discussed various dates and suggested that DOE-SR hold the workshops on two different weekends in two locations. They suggested that one workshop should be held the weekend of May 10 in Savannah, Georgia, and the other location should be in the Aiken-Augusta area.

Karen Patterson suggested that the Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee could be reviewing future use implications for activities and recommendations from the Environmental

Restoration and Waste Management and the Nuclear Materials Management Subcommittees. With no further business, the subcommittee meeting adjourned.

Meeting handouts may be obtained by calling the SRS CAB toll free number at 1-800-249-8155.