



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Approved October 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2015, at the DOE Information Center, 1 Science.gov Way, Oak Ridge, Tenn., beginning at 6 p.m. A video of the meeting was made and may be viewed by contacting the ORSSAB support offices at (865) 241-4583 or 241-4584. The presentation portion of the video is available on the board's YouTube site at www.youtube.com/user/ORSSAB/videos.

Members Present

Leon Baker
Richard Burroughs
Martha Deaderick
Bob Hatcher
Lisa Hagy

David Hemelright,
Secretary
Donald Mei
Greg Paulus

Belinda Price, Chair
Mary Smalling, by phone
Ed Trujillo
Wangfang Zhou

Members Absent

Alfreda Cook, Vice Chair
Mike Ford
Howard Holmes
Jennifer Kasten
Coralie Staley
Scott Stout
Dennis Wilson

Liaisons, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, and Federal Coordinator Present

Dave Adler, ORSSAB Alternate Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)
Susan Cange, Manager for Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management (OREM) and ORSSAB DDFO
Kristof Czartoryski, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
Connie Jones, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4.

Others Present

Wendy Cain, DOE
Sophia Cui, Student Representative
Spencer Gross, ORSSAB Support Office
Alana Joldersma, Student Representative
Pete Osborne, ORSSAB Support Office

Five members of the public were present.

Liaison Comments

Ms. Cange – Ms. Cange reported on a number of off-site conferences and meetings that board members may attend and she encouraged them to take advantage of those opportunities. Attendance would give members a better understanding of the DOE EM complex nationwide.

Upcoming meetings include the National Cleanup Workshop in Washington, D.C., next August-September. November 18-20 will be the annual DOE Intergovernmental Meeting in New Orleans. This is an annual meeting sponsored by all of the various intergovernmental groups that interact with DOE at their cleanup sites including the Energy Communities Alliance, the Environmental Council of States, the National Association of Attorneys General, the National Conference of State Legislators, the National Governors Association, and the State and Tribal Government Working Group.

Another conference is the Waste Management Symposium the week of March 7 in Phoenix, Ariz. Oak Ridge will be the featured site at the conference. A full day will be dedicated to the Oak Ridge site on March 8.

Board members interested in attending any of these conferences can contact the ORSSAB Federal Coordinator Melyssa Noe or ORSSAB staff.

Mr. Adler – no comments.

Ms. Jones – no comments.

Mr. Czartoryski – Steve Goins is now the new director at TDEC's Division of Remediation. Former director Andy Binford was appointed as an Environmental Fellow in the Division of Remediation.

Public Comment

None.

Presentation

Ms. Cain's presentation was on progress that has been made at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) and work that remains. The main points of her presentation are in Attachment 1.

The end state for ETTP is a commercial industrial park. There remains some building demolition and soils cleanup and groundwater remediation. Work will continue to make land available for industrial reuse and commitments are to be fulfilled for historic preservation of parts of the site.

The near-term vision for ETTP (Vision 2016) is completion of demolition of all the gaseous diffusion (GDP) plant buildings by 2016. Four of the five GDPs have been demolished; only K-27 remains and it is almost ready for demolition. Vision 2020 is to complete all of ETTP cleanup and reindustrialization. Vision 2024 is to have all work completed at ETTP and focus cleanup work at Y-12 National Security Complex and Oak Ridge National Lab.

Page 4 of Attachment 1 shows all of the buildings at ETTP that have been demolished, prepared for demolition, slated for demolition, or have been transferred to other owners.

Page 5 of Attachment 1 indicates when demolition of the four GDPs was completed. Ms. Cain said demolition of K-31 was completed earlier than originally planned due to efficiencies and money saved in demolishing K-25. K-27 is being prepared for demolition and should be ready for demolition by the end of 2015.

Ms. Cain said even when all of the GDPs are gone there are still several hundred smaller support structures that need to be demolished. Plans are being made to address those facilities so work can begin right away on the support structures when K-27 is finished.

Ms. Cain then discussed remedial actions to be done at ETTP. The site is divided into two sections – Zones 1 and 2 (Attachment 1, page 6). Zone 1 is about 1,400 acres that surrounds the main industrial part of ETTP, Zone 2, where gaseous diffusion activities were done.

An Interim Record of Decision (ROD) for soils in Zone 1 was approved in 2002. A ROD for soils, buried waste and subsurface structures was signed in 2005. A final ROD for soils in Zone 1 is being developed. Still to come is a final ETTP sitewide ROD that will address groundwater and other media.

Ms. Cain talked more about the Interim ROD that was signed in 2002 (Attachment 1, page 7). That ROD established soil cleanup for worker and groundwater protection. It established unrestricted industrial use in the upper 10 feet of soil and identified and sought to remove sources of groundwater contamination. Interim ROD goals were met in most areas, however, Ms. Cain said there were some areas where goals were not met (Attachment 1, page 8). Those not meeting Interim ROD goals were deferred to a final Zone 1 ROD for soils, which is currently being worked.

A remedial investigation/feasibility study for Zone 1 soils remediation has been completed and approved by EPA and TDEC. The next step is development of a proposed plan for soils remediation. Ms. Cain said several iterations of a proposed plan have been done and she said a final proposed plan should be issued for public comment in November or December. The draft proposed plan has several alternatives. The main points of the preferred alternative are noted on page 10 of Attachment 1.

The steps for a final Zone 1 ROD for Soils are noted on page 11 of Attachment 1. The ROD will be completed after the public comment period and any comments received will be evaluated for possible incorporation into the ROD.

Ms. Cain noted a number of accomplishments that have been made in working toward the end state of ETTP as a commercial industrial park (Attachment 1, page 12).

The last element of the DOE EM program at ETTP is historic preservation (Attachment 1, page 13). In 2005 a memorandum of agreement (MOA) was signed providing for a number of elements of historic preservation at ETTP. Since then the MOA has been revised and a final MOA was signed in 2012 that established several elements of historic preservation of the K-25 site. The historic preservation of the K-25 site is independent of the recent establishment of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park that includes ETTP, Y-12, and Oak Ridge National Lab.

A professional design team and museum professional are working to design an equipment building that partially replicates the K-25 Building, a viewing tower, and a history center that will be located on the second floor of the ETTP fire station. The conceptual design has been completed and comments on the design have been received by the MOA signatory and consulting parties. A virtual museum is being developed as well. Ms. Cain said she expects the virtual museum to be ready for use within a few weeks.

Ms. Cain finished her presentation by noting some challenges in finishing the work at ETTP (Attachment 1, page 14). Lessons learned in demolishing the K-25 Building will be useful in demolishing K-27 because of similarities they share. The K-1037 Building has minimal contamination issues, but has classification concerns.

There are challenges related to safely deactivating and demolishing deteriorating facilities. There has not been an active mission at ETTP since 1987. While some of the buildings have been maintained there have been no upgrades. Some facilities to be demolished need work done to make them safe for workers.

Balancing the budget while maintaining a qualified workforce will be a challenge. Ms. Cain said the objective is keep as many of the experienced workers employed to achieve Vision 2020 and 2024.

After Ms. Cain's presentation a number of questions were asked. Following are abridged questions and answers.

Mr. Hemelright – Can you talk about the airport? (An airstrip has been proposed for ETTP running parallel to Highway 58.) Mr. Adler – The Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority is still working on the construction of an airport. DOE has completed an environmental assessment to look at the implications of transferring the land for use as an airport. We have received a number of comments. Some are supportive; others resist the idea of an airport primarily because of potential noise impacts. Our analysis indicates there aren't significant impacts related to noise. We'll evaluate all the comments, but we will likely move toward transferring the property to the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority. The authority has been investing some of their own money. They've done some drilling to better understand the depth of bedrock and what cut and fill would be required for construction. They are identifying potential funding sources to minimize what would be asked of the Federal Aviation Administration. Over the next few months we'll probably see more progress toward building an airport. It's land that probably can't be used for much else. Studies indicate there will be a need over the next 10 years for a general aviation airport. It would have a 5,000-foot runway, which could land small jets. It would be used for commercial cargo and charter flights.

Mr. Paulus – Approximately where will the airport be? Mr. Adler – Mr. Adler pointed out the location of the airport on the map on page 12. The runway would parallel Highway 58 on the front of ETTP. He noted that Blair Road would likely be routed through the center of ETTP to Highway 58 or use Perimeter Road that borders ETTP on the west

Mr. Hatcher – When you finish a project under budget and ahead of schedule does money carry over to the next budget or does it have to be used during the budget year? Ms. Cain – It carries over for use on-site. That's why we stay ahead and try to have projects ready to go. Mr. Hatcher – When you talk about a stand-alone park for industrial development and you want to turn over the land for industrial use how are you going to maintain the 10-foot upper soil use? Users may accidentally or surreptitiously excavate below 10 feet. Mr. Adler – What we've determined across most of the site is that there is no reason to assume there is a problem below 10 feet. We likely will be able to lift the 10-foot restriction but we'll have to do that working with EPA and TDEC. For the areas where the restriction needs to be in place to ensure our public health objectives are met, we will place in the deeds a prohibition on use below 10 feet unless an excavation/penetration permit is received. DOE is ultimately responsible for the safe use of land below 10 feet. In addition, the Remediation Effectiveness Report and the Five-year Review processes involve going out and checking on the remedies that have been put in place to make sure people aren't straying from the institutional requirements.

Ms. Jones – There are some areas that still need environmental assessments and Comprehensive Environmental Restoration Compensation and Liability Act remedial actions implemented. We do not know the extent of those remedial actions near the proposed airport. Will there be evaluations of the potential impact on these areas in the operation of the airport or impact on implementing remedial action? Ms. Cain – All of the exposure units that are of interest to the airport have been

cleared. We wouldn't have been able to get through the transfer process otherwise. Mr. Adler – The area where the airport will be has gone through the clean bill of health process. There are areas perhaps a few thousand feet away to the north that have not gone through the process. We looked at those areas to see if any DOE missions would be disrupted by the construction of an airport and we concluded that it would not.

Mr. Trujillo – Is the final ROD for soils in Zone 1 part of the vision schedule you mentioned? Ms. Cain – That is part of our Vision 2020 and some of the work we need to do to complete all of the ETPP cleanup scope. I've capture the next steps on page 7 [of Attachment 1]. This will be the last piece of the interim ROD where we were not able to meet all of our objectives.

Mr. Tewes – You have two organizations working on historical preservation. Can you comment on that? Ms. Cain – Our historic preservation commitments at ETPP are independent of the National Park Service work on the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. In communications with the Department of Interior they have been very interested in our efforts at ETPP. Ms. Cange – We are working closely with the National Park Service to make sure everything we do can be incorporated into the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. They are a consulting party in our MOA.

Committee Reports

EM & Stewardship – Mr. Hatcher reported that the committee met on September 16 and had a follow-on discussion to the September 9 ORSSAB presentation on the preferred alternative for a water treatment plant to remove mercury from Upper East Fork Poplar Creek at Y-12. That discussion led to approval of the draft recommendation on the proposed plan that was approved at this meeting (see Motions 10/14/15.2 and Attachment 2).

The committee will meet on Wednesday, October 28 at the DOEIC and will discuss a draft recommendation on the proposed plan for soils remediation in Zone 1 at ETPP.

Executive – Ms. Price reported that the board's work plan has been reviewed by EM Headquarters and approved by Ms. Cange. The date of the March meeting could change as it is the same date as the Waste Management Symposium in Arizona.

The committee discussed a white paper on 'Best Practices for Informed Budget Recommendations (Attachment 3). The paper was presented at the Fall EM SSAB Chairs' meeting. ORSSAB Vice-chair Alfreda Cook co-authored the paper with Steve Hudson, chair of the Hanford Citizens' Advisory Board.

Mr. Hemelright said he believed ORSSAB and DOE Oak Ridge EM were well ahead of other sites in getting timely, accurate information regarding development of the Oak Ridge EM budget requests to DOE EM Headquarters. For years ORSSAB has provided input on the Oak Ridge EM FY +2 budget requests. Other SSABs are not always involved in providing input on their local DOE EM office budget requests.

The budgeting process was a topic of discussion at the Spring 2015 EM SSAB Chairs' meeting. As a result of that discussion Ms. Cook drafted the white paper, which was submitted at the Fall Chairs' meeting. Mr. Hemelright said the original intent was for it to be a recommendation to DOE EM, but it was decided that since each SSAB operates differently a recommendation was not appropriate.

Mr. Hemelright said the white paper outlines what other SSABs need to consider and ask of DOE prior to making a recommendation on site specific EM budget requests.

Ms. Price said the white paper was for information purposes and if any board member had questions or comments to submit them to the Executive Committee.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Wednesday, November 4 at 6 p.m. at the DOEIC.

Ms. Price reminded the board that the November board meeting will meet on Tuesday, November 10. The normal meeting day is the second Wednesday, but that day falls on Veteran's Day, a federal holiday.

Ms. Price asked if there was desire by the board to put a break back in the meeting agenda. The consensus was not to put a break back in the agenda.

Announcements and Other Board Business

ORSSAB's next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, November 10 at 6 p.m. at Chuy's Restaurant, 9235 Kingston Pike in Knoxville, Tenn. The topic will be the 'Federal Oversight Model – Ensuring a Safe Work Environment.'

The minutes of the September 9 meeting were approved.

The Recommendation on the Preferred Alternative for the Proposed Plan for Water Treatment at Outfall 200 at Y-12 National Security Complex was approved (Attachment 3).

The EM SSAB recommendation on Supplemental Environmental Projects was approved (Attachment 4).

Federal Coordinator Report

No report. The Federal Coordinator Melyssa Noe was not present

Motions

10/14/15.1

Mr. Hemelright moved to approve the minutes of the September 9 meeting. Mr. Trujillo seconded and motion passed **unanimously**.

10/14/15.2

Mr. Hatcher moved to approve the Recommendation on the Preferred Alternative for the Proposed Plan for Water Treatment at Outfall 200 at Y-12 National Security Complex (Attachment 3). Mr. Paulus seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**.

10/14/15.3

Mr. Hemelright moved to approve the EM SSAB recommendation on Supplemental Environmental Projects (Attachment 4). Mr. Trujillo seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**.

Action items

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Attachments (4) to these minutes are available on request from the ORSSAB support office.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the October 14, 2015, meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board.

Dave Hemelright, Secretary



Belinda Price, Chair
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
BP/rsg

January 14, 2016