

# PORTSMOUTH EM SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018, SSAB MEETING • 6:00 P.M.

**Location:** The Ohio State University Endeavor Center, Room 160, Piketon, Ohio

**Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Members Present:** Chair, Bob Berry, Co Vice-Chair, Carlton Cave; Dr. Todd Burkitt, Brad Burns, Carol Caudill, Jody Crabtree, Al Don Cisco, Rick Fraley, Dennis Foreman, Turman Helton, Ronda Kinnamon, Cynthia Quillen, Jimmy Smalley, Beckie Thomas-Kent, Judy Vollrath

**SSAB Members Absent:** Co Vice-Chair, Lisa Bennett, Brandon Greene, Carl Hartley, Charlene Payne

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Contractors:** Greg Simonton, DOE; Rick Greene, Restoration Services, Inc. (RSI); Julie Galloway, Cindy Lewis, EHI Consultants (EHI); Jeff Wagner, Jeff Pinkerton, Karen Price, Jack Williams, Jill Thomson, Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth (FBP)

**Liaisons:** Sean Kubera, Ohio Department of Health (ODH); Dustin Tschudy, Tom Schneider, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Facilitator: Eric Roberts, EHI

**Public:** Kevin Shoemaker, Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI); Pat Marida, Sierra Club; David Manta, MC2; Diana Cahall, Lee Blackburn

Approved by Bob Berry, Board Chair		
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Bob Berry		

#### Call to Order:

**Berry:** I would like to call the meeting to order.

**Roberts:** I would like to welcome everyone, and I will be facilitating the meeting. There will be a public comment period after the presentations. The board should stay within its defined scope and follow the meeting ground rules adopted.

#### March Agenda:

**Roberts:** Are there any modifications or proposed changes to the March agenda?

- **Burns:** I make a motion to approve the January agenda.
- *Caudill:* I second the motion.
  - o Motion carried, minutes approved

# **January Minutes:**

**Roberts:** Are there any modifications or proposed changes to the January minutes?

Question/Comment:	Answer:
<b>Burns:</b> I am not on the members present	Roberts: Sorry about that, Cindy will add
list, but I was present.	you.

- *Kinnamon:* I make a motion to approve the January minutes after the correction.
- **Burns:** I second the motion.
  - o Motion carried, minutes approved

# DDFO comments provided by Greg Simonton, Federal Coordinator, DOE:

- PORTS Integrated Baseline
- D&D Progress X-326 Deactivation
- D&D Progress X-333 Deactivation
- D&D Progress X-333 Deactivation-Large CAS System D&D
- D&D Progress-Transformer Donated to SODI
- OSWDF Construction
- Groundwater Cleanup
- Future Use-First Property Transfer
- Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Conversion Plant Update
- Site Tours
- Mutual Aid-FY2018
- Educational Outreach
- Community Outreach
- Upcoming Outreach Events

Question/Comment:	Answer:
Foreman: With the nickel recovery and the robots, do they have a place where they do mock before they hit the real one?	<b>Simonton:</b> Yes, in the 700 building we have a complete science laboratory.
Is the public tour information on the front page of our website? It would be helpful if it were.	<b>Roberts:</b> We can check, I do not think that it is right now.
Smalley: Portman said we are going to clean up existing landfills. Has DOE made that commitment?	Simonton: Yes, one of the major concerns was the plumes were considered closed. They are opening the work plan to submit a new plan to include being able to dig them up for fill dirt.
Kinnamon: The wording on here says will be excavated and the letter says, "as needed".  So does this mean they will dig them up or they will dig them up as needed?  I would ask of you that all plumes and landfills be cleaned up including those	Simonton: On this sheet it demonstrates the amount of fill needed and on the chart it shows the plumes and landfills that we plan on digging up to fill that commitment. If you add these up they match up.
outside Perimeter Road. It is not a clean plate if we leave outside Perimeter Road not cleaned up. It is not clean.	
Cave: Is there a way to tell us how much fill or area is in the landfills and plumes outside Perimeter Road?	Simonton: Yes, we can get that. I do not have the number off the top of my head, but we can get it.

A copy of the DDFO presentation is available on the SSAB web site (www.ports-ssab.energy.gov)

Federal Project Coordinator comments provided by Greg Simonton, Federal Project Coordinator: None

# Liaison comments provided by Sean Kubera, ODH:

**Kubera:** Nothing new to add.

# Liaison comments provided by Dustin Tschudy, OEPA:

*Tschudy:* Not any new updates since the last meeting that was not already covered in the DDFO presentation.

Question/Comment:	Answer:
Foreman: I saw Mr. Schneider on TV	Schneider: At Fernald, the uranium
Channel 12 in an interview. It was	going into the river is a function of the
interesting. One of the things I learned	groundwater. There is uranium going
was the tons of uranium going into the	down that river everyday naturally.

water. I have never heard this before not	
in the two years that I have been here.	
Fernald is the one that was supposed to	
be the clean site that we want to be like.	
Do you have an estimate of what will be	
released here?	I do not know that anything will be
	released here.
When they say low-level radioactive that	
does not mean low risk.	
Crabtree: Fernald was not like here,	Schneider: Right, they were producing a
right?	metal; here they were working with gas.
<b>Berry:</b> At the site here, we do not have	Schneider: Right
the same level of discharge. We would	_
not be compared to them, correct.	
Kinnamon: How much TCE leaves the	Simonton: It would be in monthly
site here and goes into our streams?	reports.

# Science Bowl Impact-Jeff Pinkerton, FBP:

Question/Comment:	Answer:
Foreman: Could we have a middle	Simonton: We do not have a region for
school team?	middle school, but we could work on that.
	<b>Roberts:</b> The middle school science bowl
	in Paducah is a smaller event.

# **Administrative Issues:**

# **Subcommittee Updates:**

# **Budget and Lifecycle Planning Subcommittee Update by Jimmy Smalley:**

The Budget and Lifecycle Planning Subcommittee met on February 13. The purpose of the meeting was to present an update on FY 2018/2019 funding and lifecycle baseline.

Question/Comment:	Answer:
Foreman: I have one correction. It was	
my fault because when you use the	
phone the numbers are not the same. I	
need to fix the page numbers that I gave	
out at the meeting. I had the wrong	
pages it should be 39-44.	
Whom do we contact for that, whom do	Simonton: The board recommendations
we reach out to? I would really like to	come to the department.
see the robotics. Whom do we reach out	
to?	Roberts: Greg suggests that we take that
	back to the subcommittees.

# **D&D/Remediation Subcommittee Update by Brad Burns:**

**Burns:** The D&D/Remediation Subcommittee met on February 13. The purpose of the meeting was to present on the X-326 cold and dark process to the subcommittee.

### **Future Use Subcommittee Update by Dennis Foreman:**

**Foreman:** The Future Use Subcommittee met on February 13. The purpose of the meeting was to have a subcommittee update on electrical infrastructure.

# Historic Legacy & Community Engagement Subcommittee Update by Cindy Quillen:

**Quillen:** The Historic Legacy & Community Engagement Subcommittee met on February 13. The purpose of the meeting was to give the subcommittee an overview on Christmas Gifts for Children and a DOE Science Bowl overview.

#### **Public Comment:**

*Cahall:* I just want to add a comment to Dennis Foreman's statement about local 12. Fernald's monitoring or lack of on radon from their disposal cell is an issue. They did not ask for it and so DOE did not grant it, so they are not doing it. There is no air quality monitoring of the radon escaping from the disposal cell. The people close to this spot and the ones from Piketon for sure, I think that would be a good thing to ask for.

*Marida:* The comments on SODI's proposal that was put out at the last meeting, we talked about that. What SODI is planning to do with the property transfer, we have consulted with our energy expert before and he says that this area could be used to construct windmills and have solar panels over some of the area, even over the disposal cell. I just want to say that complex is not an excuse for not finding out and doing it right. Next is safe drinking water. The Obama administration changed the drinking water standards, some of the radioactive elements were allowed to be increased. Therefore, there is no level of safe level radioactive materials. Even the natural ones are not safe.

**Blackburn:** The landfills outside Perimeter Road are just as dirty and nasty as anything inside Perimeter road, but DOE is going to leave them there because they are considered closed. That is going to cause real problems for SODI to try to get industry to locate here knowing that these waste dumps exist.

*Manuta:* The natural rate of uranium in the soil is about three parts per million so that is within the health and safety regulations with EPA.

**Shoemaker:** I just wanted to address the letter that we were talking about. It says there will be a new work plan. The other things as they are needed, was an effort by

the department to say we cannot dig it all up at once. We were saying we would like you to start down here, but they were saying we would have too much fill. We cannot dig it up then store it, so hopefully when we get language from the new work plan that will clear it up.

#### Final Comments from the board:

**Foreman:** My mayor came back from the Portman meeting and I am concerned about a statement that was made to Rob Portman, that Mr. Berry made the statement that the majority of the board supports the on-site disposal cell. I was confused about that because when we make recommendations the last one was 18-01. We were working on the on-site separate, but I know we have had 13-02 with all the steps to agree to on-site disposal so a general statement of the majority of the board agrees with on-site disposal without saying all the recommendations that the board has passed, concerns me. Because if you say that to the media, Mr. Portman, the commissioners, the mayors and everybody, that to me is misleading. That has never been brought up like that before. That is incorrect.

**Roberts:** Bob, I will give you a chance to explain in a minute, but before you do a point of clarification. It is within the guidance of the by-laws of the board that the chair (the chair is the only one) who is allowed to speak on behalf of the board in the public. My experience is that the chairs have always done a good job to the best of their ability to be honest, forthwith, and typically in general statements. I was not there so I do not know the context of what was said. However, I want everyone to know that it is within his rights and responsibility to answer questions for the board in situations like that.

Berry: I do believe that the majority of the board supports the on-site disposal cell. We have reservations with the plumes. DOE has told us over and over again and again that they intend to clean those up. Senator Portman, and Congressman Wenstrup went out of their way and did extra work trying to prove to you that they are going to do this. They are going to have this language put in the ROD and now it is still not good enough. What will satisfy you? The man from DOE (sorry I cannot remember his name) said these cells are safe. They would not approve them if they thought they would not be safe. There were comments made that Mr. Edwards addressed that the cells at Oak Ridge leaked. They did not leak, there is no prove of that. They are always defending themselves against accusations that cannot be proven. Our cell will be fine. I have total confidence that DOE is going to dig up the plumes and take the existing landfills in Perimeter Road. I understand about the cells that are outside Perimeter Road. Since I have been on the board there has never been an indication that they were going to dig those up. I understand the concern for that.

In addition, at the meeting they addressed the nickel. They are going to separate the nickel, they have done testing and believe they can decontaminate it. If it cannot be salvaged and put on the market, it will not be put into our cell, it would be shipped

off site. I just have faith that everything I have heard will be done. Joel says judge us on what we have done.

**Foreman:** I want to make sure we are safe. I just have concerns when you say the majority of the board. I can speak for myself. We need to educate ourselves on the board's guidance. It really upset me when the mayor told me that. In the ROD it says 218 million dollars, Mr. Edwards said 2.5 billion, these numbers are different and need to be clarified.

**Roberts:** I do know that all parties involved are well versed in SSAB recommendations. They have seen them on multiple occasions so hopefully that provides you with some sense of comfort in the group that in whatever extent that any chair speaks for the board.

*Kinnamon:* Controversy now may save lives in the future. I hope that we are all good enough people that we are able to debate without it being something more than that. The decisions that we make here today and tomorrow are going to affect the lives of people for hundreds of years. I want all the plumes and landfills cleaned up without a doubt. I will continue to fight for that because it will not happen if I do not, it might happen if I do.

Thank you Mr. Berry for representing us. Someone has to speak for us. People are here because they care about this community. I will continue to fight for what I think is the best for the community.

**Berry:** I would like to see them all cleaned up even outside Perimeter Road too, but at this time, there is no commitment to that.

Berry: Adjourned

*Next Meeting:* May 10, 2018

#### Action Items:

- EHI to add Brad Burns to the members present list in January's board minutes
- Fluor-BWXT to get the amounts of how much is in the landfills and plumes outside Perimeter Road.
- EHI to add the letters from Sierra Club to the minutes.
- EHI to check the numbers in the ROD and what was stated at a meeting by Mr. Edwards for the cost.