



SRS Citizens Advisory Board Risk Management & Future Use Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

August 24, 1996

Hilton Head Town Hall, Hilton Head, SC

The August meeting of the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee was held on August 24, 1996 at 3:00 p.m. at the Hilton Head Town Hall in Hilton Head Island, SC. Attendees from the SRS CAB included: Vernon Zinnerman, CAB RM & FU Chairman, Beaurine Wilkins, Brendolyn Jenkins, Karen Patterson, Ed Tant, Kathryn May, Anne Brown, Bill Lawless, Deborah Simone, Arthur Belge, and Bill Donaldson. Walt Joseph, CAB Facilitator, also attended. Members of the general public who attended were Pat Tousignant, George Minot, and John Nagle. Gerri Flemming from the Savannah River Operations Office of the Department of Energy was the Associate Designated Deputy Federal Officer; Penny Corvett from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and Clay Jones, Mary Flora, Chris Metzger, Gerry Stejskal, and Gail Jernigan from Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) also attended the meeting.

Vernon Zinnerman, Subcommittee Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance and asking for self-introductions. He then presented the meeting agenda, followed by an introduction of Clay Jones who discussed the Ten-Year Plan.

Mr. Jones began with some background on the Ten Year Plan by explaining that Al Alm, the new Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, has a vision to have most DOE sites cleaned up by the year 2006. The Ten Year Plan will influence FY 1999 budget prioritization and future budgets as well. (See attached slides.) The question was asked what are the most urgent risks at SRS. Mr. Jones explained that high level waste (HLW), spent nuclear fuel (SNF), canyon material, and some Environmental Restoration (ER) sites such as the contaminated groundwater in F and H Areas.

Mr. Jones explained that this was a fast track schedule; however, there exists a \$50M shortfall to meet immediate site needs, and discussions about this issue have been held with representatives from DOE Headquarters.

The question was asked if specifics were in the plan. Mr. Jones said that specifics were listed in the summary and suggested reading the summary of the Ten Year Plan before the meeting on Tuesday night with Al Alm. One area of possible acceleration is privatizing the construction of a SNF storage and transfer facility. Another area is the accelerated disposition of high activity portions of waste that have greater half lives such as plutonium 238. Mr. Jones

further explained that it would be an interim facility, until a repository was ready. The facility would treat the material to be ready for transfer to a repository.

One highlight of the plan is the scheduled acceleration of DWPF process by 10 years- from a completion date of 2028 to 2018. In the ER program, all high risk sites will be remediated by the year 2006. Other ER sites will be characterized, and have a Record of Decision by 2006. (See attached slide for further information.)

Mr. Jones asked the subcommittee to review the stakeholder questions and provide comment. Mr. Zimmerman commented that the subcommittee would be considering a recommendation before the next CAB meeting on the Ten Year Plan.

Due to the number of questions and comments on the amount and type of waste which might be stored at SRS temporarily, one participant commented that the amount of waste could be discussed in terms of curies. Another commenter said that talking about curies may be too difficult for some members of the public.

Next, Mr. Walt Joseph, CAB Facilitator, discussed the public participation process in the FY 1999 budget prioritization process. Last year this subcommittee developed nine criteria for prioritizing the budget. Mr. Joseph stated that the subcommittee needs to discuss how to expand public participation to include the low-country and other locations. He said that the subcommittee needed to schedule possibly three meetings by October 15th, when the subcommittee might lose some WSRC technical computer support. Mr. Zimmerman stated that the subcommittee already knows how the CSRA (Central Savannah River Area) public feels about the issues since the meetings were held in the CSRA last year. Mr. Jones stated that with the Ten Year Plan, priorities may have changed in the CSRA.

The subcommittee decided on the following dates for the voting meetings in the budget prioritization process for FY 1999: 9/30/96 at 6:00 PM in Savannah, GA; 10/1/96 in Hilton Head Island, SC at 10 AM; 10/8/96 in Williston, SC at 6:00 PM; and 10/10/96 in North Augusta, SC at 6:00 PM.

The subcommittee also set dates, times and locations for their October and December subcommittee meetings. The meeting dates are Tuesday, October 22, 1996 at 6:30 PM in Augusta, and Tuesday, December 3, 1996 at 6:30 PM in Barnwell.

In closing, Mr. Zimmerman stated that the subcommittee still has future use issues to deal with as it has almost been a year since Recommendation #8 was made. The subcommittee needs to keep track of it regarding privatization and industrialization.

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