



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Risk Management Working Group

Meeting Summary

May 5, 1999
District Office of DHEC
Aiken, SC

Team A - Risk Analysis - Risk Management Working Group held a meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 1999, 5:00 p.m. at the District Office of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The purpose of the meeting was to review the Environmental Restoration risk analysis process, the risk analysis matrix and the path forward. Those in attendance were:

CAB Members

Wade Waters

Stakeholders

Jennifer Hughes, DHEC

Lee Poe

Jerry Devitt

Lynne McGrath, CRESP

Todd Crawford

DOE/Contractors

David Nix, WSRC

Jim Moore, WSRC

Jennifer Hughes, Team A Lead, welcomed those in attendance and reviewed the agenda. Lee Poe requested that Deactivation and Decommissioning (D&D) be added to the list of risk analysis programs to be reviewed. Todd Crawford asked for about five minutes on the agenda to talk about the Risk Summaries. Ms. Hughes then introduced David Nix to make his presentation.

Mr. Nix reviewed the Environmental Restoration (ER) risk assessment mission, organization, regulatory drivers, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) risk assessment process and the ongoing development of the process. The CERCLA process is driven by the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA). Activities in the process include: pre-characterization activities, scoping and work plan, remedial investigation, site characterization and risk assessment, treatability studies, development and screening of alternatives, detailed analysis of alternatives, feasibility studies, risk management and remedial decision. Mr. Nix explained each of these activities. The regulatory drivers are the CERCLA, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), FFA, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA).

Some of the questions by members of Team A and answers by David Nix during the presentation are as follows:

- Question: Are the standards the same across the DOE complex?
Answer: The standards are consistent for SRS, but they can be different by location. States can implement their own standards. However, drinking water standards are the same. For EPA region IV, the standards are the same.
- Question: Are models used to determine pathways?
Answer: We could, but we don't use computer models to determine the pathways.

- Question: What risk analysis process would be used for D&D activities?
Answer: D&D should use the CERCLA risk analysis process.
- Question: What human and health standards do you use?
Answer: The residential drinking water standards are used.
- Question: Why are the drinking water used?
Answer: All groundwater is water to the State. Even if no one is at that location, the groundwater is water to the State.
- Question: What standards are used for ecology?
Answer: Federal standards are used such as the NEPA screening values and the toxicity values.
- Question: Do you know where the toxicity number comes from?
Answer: The scientists are located in Cincinnati, Ohio. They constantly review data and if something changes or there is new information, then the values are modified.
- Question: Can you get a list of those chemicals that effect humans versus the ecology?
Answer: Yes, that list can be obtained. There are only a handful of chemicals that effect the ecology greater than humans. That list will be sent to the members of Team A.
- Question: Would you please review the Risk Analysis Matrix to verify the answers are accurate?
Answer: Yes. I will review the matrix and get back with you.
- Question: How is the TNX project different than what was reviewed this evening?
Answer: The TNX project is an engineering evaluation upstream from this process. After the engineering evaluation, comes the Feasibility Study and then the Proposed Plan. The risk assessment is larger than the engineering evaluation. The risk assessment use to fill a four-inch binder, now it fills four four-inch binders.

With no further questions, the team thanked Mr. Nix for his presentation.

Ms. Hughes asked Todd Crawford to discuss the Risk Summary documents. Mr. Crawford asked those in attendance to review the motion being developed on the Risk Summaries. A copy of the motion will be sent to Team A members.

Ms. Hughes asked Todd Crawford and Lynne McGrath to review the matrix. Since most members had not reviewed the matrix, they asked the members to look it over and send their comments. It was decided to send copies of the individual sections to the respective risk analysis program presenters for them to review for accuracy.

With no other comments, Ms. Hughes stated the next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 5:00 p.m., at the District Office of DHEC. The meeting was adjourned.

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