



## **SRS Citizens Advisory Board**

### **Environmental Restoration Committee**

#### **Meeting Summary**

July 23, 2001  
Holiday Inn Coliseum at USC  
Columbia, SC

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#### **CAB Members**

Sallie Connah\*  
Jimmy Mackey\*  
Perry Holcomb\*  
Nancy Ann Ciehansky\*

#### **Stakeholders**

Ruth Thomas  
Rick McLeod  
Samuel Martinez

#### **DOE/Contractors**

Paul Sauerborn, WSRC  
Teresa Haas, WSRC  
Rod Rimando, DOE  
Ed McNamee, BSRI

#### **Regulators**

Keith Collinsworth, SCDHEC

\* Members of the ER Committee

\*\* The following are members of the ER Committee that were unable to attend the meeting: Maria Reichmanis and Murray Riley.

#### **Introduction**

Jimmy Mackey introduced himself and then asked that everyone do the same.

#### **Schedule Review**

Paul Sauerborn presented the schedule for the ER Committee. Mr. Sauerborn stated that he has been requested to have the schedule available for every ER Committee meeting. Mr. Sauerborn also noted that the schedule shows both completed and future meeting topics and should any of the public have topics they would like considered by the ER Committee, to please state them now or call his office.

#### **Review of ORWBG Focus Group draft Recommendation**

Jimmy Mackey led the review of the draft motion and made the following suggested changes: 1.) re-word the lead in statement to read The SRS CAB supports all of the FG conclusions except for number 1 above because the SRS CAB believes phytoremediation is an important technical experiment to treat tritium contaminated groundwater. The SRS CAB supports the Site's commitment to minimize all radioactive releases to the Savannah River and therefore, recommends the following: 2.) change the first item to read, the three agencies review the attached FG report and incorporate the remaining six findings in the remedial actions of the ORWBG. 3.) change the second item to read, SRS develop an implementation plan for the FG report recommendations (number 2 through 7 above) and present the plan to the SRS CAB by October 22, 2001.

Perry Holcomb stated that the phytoremediation application that was deployed is an excellent experiment to reduce the source term of tritium, and that the effort of the CAB should not be to direct research at the SRS. Ruth Thomas asked about the cumulative effect of tritium and Mr. Holcomb responded with the fact

that the half-life of tritium is only 12 ½ years and that was one of the shortest half-lives and is of very little consequences.

Mr. Holcomb stated that he was concerned about the use of mixing zones in the burial ground. Mr. McNamee stated that Mr. Holcomb should not be alarmed in that the modeling had been done on the burial ground in a very conservative manner. In addition, Mr. Collinsworth stated that SCDHEC does not have the regulatory flexibility to allow violations of groundwater and surface water standards, however, mixing zones can be granted to allow groundwater to exceed standards in a geographic area (mixing zone) if it is shown that the groundwater will achieve standards once it leaves the mixing zone and verified with monitoring.

Mr. Mackey stated that the work of the Focus Group was commendable and should be considered a model for focus groups in the future. He also stated that the issuance of the recommendation concludes the ORWBG FG effort and charter.

### **General Announcement of Fish Fact Sheet**

Mr. Mackey made a statement that the Savannah River Fish Fact Sheet is complete. Once all regulatory agencies provide written agreement the Fact Sheet will be distributed to the public. Mr. Mackey added that this was an area the CAB has had an influence.

### **ERTEC Conference Update**

Mr. Mackey told the attendees that he had attended the Environmental Restoration Technical End Users Conference in Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Mackey stated the conference demonstrated to him that the SRS was on the cutting edge of technology and he was happy to see the SRS take such a lead role for this National Conference.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Mackey thanked the attendees, and the meeting was adjourned.

*For copies of meeting handouts call 1-800-249-8155.*