



# **SRS Citizens Advisory Board**

## **Stewardship Subcommittee**

### **Meeting Summary**

June 12, 2001  
Savannah River Ecology Lab, Aiken, SC  
Fort Discovery, Augusta, GA  
Savannah State University, Savannah, GA

The Strategic and Long Term Issues (S&LTI) Committee Stewardship Subcommittee held a videoconference meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2001, at 6:00 p.m. Videoconference locations and facility facilitators were as follows:

- Savannah River Site (SRS) Savannah River Ecology Lab (SREL), Aiken, SC
  - Facility facilitator was Marie Hamilton, SREL
- National Science Center – Fort Discovery, Augusta, GA
  - Facility facilitator was Dr. Chip Schuster
- Savannah State University, Savannah, GA
  - Facility facilitator was James Scott

The topics of discussion were the verification of the charter, comments on Chapter 8 of the SRS Discussion Draft of the Comprehensive Plan, presentation on the Comprehensive Environmental Management Systems Approach to Stewardship and a discussion of the path forward. Those attending the meeting were:

<b>SREL</b>	<b>Fort Discovery</b>	<b>Savannah State University</b>
<u>Stakeholders</u>	<u>Stakeholders</u>	<u>CAB Members</u>
P.K. Smith	Sam Booher	Jean Sulc
Karl Overcash	Chuck Gorman, SCDHEC	Mel Galin
<u>DOE/Contractors</u>	<u>DOE/Contractors</u>	<u>Stakeholders</u>
Terry Vought, DOE	Chuck Borup, DOE	Ellie Galin
George Mishra, DOE	Sonny Goldston, BSRI	
Jim Cook, WSRC	Helen Villasor, WSRC	
Elmer Wilhite, WSRC		
Ed Stevens, WSRC		
Jim Moore, WSRC		

Melinda Holland, CRESP, and Lynn Waishwell, CRESP, participated via conference call.

P. K. Smith, Chair, welcomed those in attendance, asked them to introduce themselves and reviewed the agenda.

### Verification of the Charter

During discussions of the charter, Sam Booher requested that under task description, a statement be included to the effect that the Subcommittee request SRS to formalize responsibilities at the site so if and when someone takes over SRS, the formal programs will be carried over also. Jim Moore is to work with Mr. Booher on wording. Ms. Smith requested that anyone having additional comments please send them in.

### Comments on Chapter 8 of the SRS Discussion Draft of the Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Smith reviewed the schedule for the revision of the Comprehensive Plan. The guidance from DOE-HQ is due by the end of the fiscal year with the document complete by December 2001. Comments had been received from Jean Sulc and Sam Booher. It was suggested that these comments be placed in form of a recommendation and forwarded to DOE.

### Comprehensive Environmental Management Systems Approach to Stewardship

Sonny Goldston, BSRI, confirmed that the Solid Waste Program has been working with the Savannah River Technology Center (SRTC) to consider techniques for developing a model as a tool for the long-term stewardship (LTS) program. This tool would help management look at different scenarios to see what the site would look like if different programs were shut down. This model could consider the impact to individuals, workers, the Savannah River and people at the edge of the site as an example. Mr. Goldston suggested that at a later date, they be invited back to the subcommittee to discuss their progress. Mr. Goldston introduced Jim Cook, WSRC, to review the approach.

Mr. Cook commented that different programs at SRS have different concepts of the word stewardship. Environmental Restoration (ER) considers their stewardship complete when a site is closed or remediated, Solid Waste when waste is disposed or shipped offsite, Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) when buildings are empty or demolished, High Level Waste when a tank is closed or waste is shipped to a repository. However, looking at the bigger picture, LTS begins today. Actions taken today will have an impact far into the future. Programmatic decisions should be made in a holistic manner. Future decisions must be made with consideration of the effects of decisions already made.

This management systems approach was conceived as part of DOE's response to Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 94-2. This tool ensures the long-term protection of public health and safety and the environment from all sources of radioactive material after remediation and disposal programs are completed. It integrates land-use planning, facility decommissioning, clean up activities, and waste disposal operations. It provides a tool to facilitate management decisions leading to safe and cost effective site-wide long-term stewardship.

This tool would identify all potential sources of dose or risk on a site. It would conceptualize a final configuration of SRS and estimate residual inventories as well as project contaminant migration, environmental concentrations, dose and risks in a disciplined, systematic manner. It would evaluate management options for risk reduction in light of associated costs and programmatic objectives while complying with regulatory imperatives.

Building blocks of the LTS management tool include existing methodologies and technologies such as composite analysis, performance assessment, risk assessment, and the Geographical Information System. A short description of these programs was given. Several examples using the Geographical Information System were displayed.

The conclusion was that for LTS, the Comprehensive Environmental Management Systems Approach should be the philosophical basis, the LTS management tool provides the programmatic and decision making tool, the composite analysis provides the data gathering and integration tools, the performance assessment provides the modeling tools and the Geographical Information System provides the data analysis and display tools.

During the discussion it was pointed out that new missions as well as any area of the site could be included in the LTS management tool. This approach is in the development stages and funding is not available at this time but is being pursued. One avenue for funding that didn't materialize was the pilot program sponsored by DOE-HQ. The pilot program required any program be sponsored by one of the sites closing down by 2006. At this point, no site has bought into the approach because of timing and current commitments. An individual research and development project is in the process of being submitted.

It was suggested by Sam Booher and Jean Sulc and agreed that a letter would be sent to the S&LTI Committee from the subcommittee supporting the management systems approach and recommend that DOE consider the tool when developing the LTS program for the site. In addition, Mr. Booher requested to see an example of a final document from the management systems approach. Mr. Booher was informed that such a document has not been completed at this time, but a Composite Analysis could be made available.

#### Stewardship Subcommittee Path Forward

Ms. Smith reviewed some of the ideas that had been submitted as requested and already being considered for path forward such as:

- Look at the Comprehensive Environmental Management Systems Approach.
- Bill Lawless requested the subcommittee look into helping specify the time-period for active institutional control if one is not already set by some agency. This would include hearing what the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) recommends.
- Jean Sulc was interested in what was being planned in addition to closure plans.
- Jean Sulc also requested that SRS work with the stakeholders in educating the public on LTS.
- Lee Poe has asked the ER Committee to work with the Stewardship Subcommittee on an overarching generic recommendation that requests "SRS does not develop remedial actions (except to minimize immediate risks) until both active and passive institutional controls have been developed. Stewardship and Land Use Control Assurance programs should establish future land use and needs for controls on the land." The Stewardship Subcommittee will be monitoring the ER Committee action to Mr. Poe's request.

In response to Ms. Smith, Terry Vought, DOE, reviewed the current activities being conducted on LTS. A DOE-HQ LTS Executive Working Group consisting of Senior Field Office Representatives met three to four weeks ago and is looking into the long-term vision and mission statement. DOE-HQ is in the process of revising the LTS plan guidance trying to make it more generic to satisfy the different sites. This change in guidance may delay its delivery to the site. Mr. Vought reiterated that both the state and stakeholders worked with DOE in developing the SRS LTS plan encompassed in the Comprehensive Plan.

Chuck Gorman, SCDHEC, emphasized that in the ER arena, any site under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), would be reviewed every five years until the site is cleaned up. Until that changes DOE and the federal government are responsible for cleaning up the sites.

It was requested that for the next Stewardship Subcommittee meeting, DOE address the following:

- An overview or skeleton concept or how the site plans on moving from ER to D&D to long-term stewardship.
  - Need drive for a bigger picture. Who is doing LTS at each site at SRS? Need holistic look.
- A presentation on the DOE-HQ guidance on how to approach LTS for the site. If the guidance is not available, then a schedule of when the guidance will be available.
- A schedule for the revision of Chapter 8 of the Draft Discussion, Comprehensive Plan.
- Give SRS's definition of long-term stewardship. If one isn't available at this time, then a schedule for when SRS will have a definition.

Other action items from the meeting:

- Jean Sulc asked if a draft copy of the guidance on LTS was available.
- P. K. Smith requested the objectives of the DOE-HQ Long-Term Stewardship Executive Working Group. She also asked if public involvement opportunities were available for that group.

### Miscellaneous

Ms. Smith mentioned that copies of papers on stewardship were available as handouts from Rocky Flats, Hanford and Oak Ridge.

The next meeting of the Stewardship Subcommittee will be scheduled in October or early November with anticipation that the guidance for the LTS plan will be available at that time.

With no other comments, the meeting was adjourned.

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