



## **SRS Citizens Advisory Board Environmental Remediation & Waste Management Subcommittee**

### **Meeting Record**

**August 21, 1995 - Amended**

**North Augusta, S.C.**

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The ER & WM Subcommittee of the SRS CAB met on Monday, August 21, 1995 at the North Augusta Community Center in North Augusta, SC at 4:00 p.m. Subcommittee members present included Bill Lawless, Subcommittee Co-Chair. Walt Joseph, the CAB facilitator also attended. Joel Massmann and Adam Babich of the Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) team for the F&H-Area groundwater remediation project, also attended. Jeff Crane represented EPA-Region IV. Keith Collinsworth, Jack Gelting, Bob Benson and Ken Taylor attended from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). SRS representatives included Coleman Miles, Bob Aylward, Anne Roe, Mary Flora, John Adams, Charles Murphy, Bill Rajczak, Mickie Seitter, Tom Rehder, Tom Treger, Brian Hennessey, Joan Baum, Clay Jones, and Leslie Huber. Hunter Weiler attended from DOE-HQ. Members of the public attending included Todd Crawford, Perry Holcomb, Lee Hanks, Kim Wierzbicki, and Mary Barton. deLisa Bratcher of DOE-SR attended as the Associate Deputy Designated Federal Official (ADDFO).

Dr. Lawless welcomed everyone to the meeting, and opened with an overview of the meeting agenda. He also discussed the need to have an additional briefing for the subcommittee to review the ISPR draft report before the final report is issued. The consensus of the group was to hold the meeting on 9/21 with the report being sent out via overnight mail on 9/18 so everyone would have two days to review the report. Dr. Lawless addressed the question of whether the groundwater should be treated since they pose very little risk to the public. Dr. Lawless said he believed under new agreements that had been negotiated with regulators there was leeway to consider deferring remediation of the basin groundwater since they pose less risks to the public than other projects, such as, the vitrification of reprocessing wastes and the treatment of transuranic wastes.

Dr. Joel Massmann discussed the Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) of the F & H-Area groundwater remediation technologies and solicited suggestions and input to the review. The objectives from the original scope of work were reviewed and the need to balance the global and the detailed aspects of the project was discussed. The panel will focus on objectives which are quantifiable and achievable. The conflict between the objectives of hydraulic control and mass removal of metals and tritium was discussed. Dr. Massmann said the team would not redesign the system; would not modify the existing scientific, policy, or regulatory paradigms; and would not compare the costs or risks relative to other activities or site budgets. Instead the review

would proceed to evaluate and make recommendations on (1) hydraulic control vs. mass removal, (2) metals vs. tritium, and (3) system evaluation vs. final design. Dr. Massmann also discussed the ISPR team members and the report review. Bill Rajczak said Dr. Robert Ford, Director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies and Professor of Chemistry, Southern University, will independently review the report and provide comments to the team.

Dr. Massmann introduced Adam Babich, the ISPR regulatory issues team member. Mr. Babich stressed the need to do "what makes sense", with cost effectiveness being a consideration; and emphasized the law is not a system of barriers and institutional control is not a panacea.

Questions and discussions ensued covering validation of costs, percent volume of the plume to be treated, risk, and whether contamination is spreading to clean water. A member of the public, Ms. Mary Barton raised the issue of safety at the Savannah River Site, particularly in the 232-F facility. Ms. Barton said the bio-samples taken from employees for testing were not true and accurate. She described a member of her family who was seriously ill from exposures received at the SRS while working and said proper safety and control measures were not utilized by WSRC.

Coleman Miles gave an overview of the Approved Standardized Corrective Action Design (ASCAD) process. ASCAD redesigns the CERCLA remediation framework and focuses characterization on technology development and on developing a standardized remedial design. This process groups similar waste sites together for characterization and remedial investigation/feasibility studies, thereby saving time and money by taking a common sense approach to remediation. After the sites are grouped, a lead site is selected based on schedule considerations. The lead site is used for setting the broad boundaries for the waste site grouping by following the complete RI/FS process; the secondary sites are then tied to lead site decisions. Discussions on ASCAD concerned its implementation not only as a pilot program but as a site wide process. Dr. Lawless and the EPA and SCDHEC attendees were enthusiastic in calling for full implementation of the process. The ASCAD process implementation will be updated in future subcommittee meetings.

Tom Treger gave an overview of the FFA Implementation Plan, which is intended to proceduralize the FFA process for SRS, EPA, and SCDHEC to work together. The FFA Implementation Plan is a living document and its implementation also will be updated in future subcommittee meetings.

The overview of CAB Recommendation No. 2 and the RI/FS screening for the D-Area Burning Rubble Pits were delayed until the next meeting due to time constraints. Clay Jones provided a handout from the Speaker's task force on Nuclear Cleanup and Tritium Production, "The Top 20 Ways to Turbocharge DOE Cleanup".

#### **Attachments:**

1. ISPR Handout-Joel Massmann
2. ASCAD Handout-Coleman Miles
3. FFA Implementation Plan Handout-Tom Treger
4. "The Top 20 Ways to Turbocharge DOE Cleanup" Handout-Clay Jones

**Note: Handouts may be obtained by calling the SRS CAB toll-free number at 1-800-249-8155.**