



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Risk Management and Future Use
and Environmental Restoration and
Waste Management Subcommittees

SRS FY 1998 Budget Prioritization Meeting November 14, 1995 North Augusta, S.C.

The Risk Management and Future Use and Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Subcommittees of the SRS (Savannah River Site) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) hosted the fourth meeting for the SRS FY budget prioritization on November 14, 1995 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at North Augusta Community Center. SRS CAB members attending included Vernon Zinnerman, Kathryn May, and Bill Lawless; Walt Joseph, the SRS CAB facilitator also attended. Other attendees from the public included: Sam Booher, Chuck Powers, Joe Weaver, William McDonell, Todd Crawford, Bill Boettinger, Lee Poe, Bob Newman, Michael Breenberg, Leigh Ann Williams, Audrey Gotsch, and Silas Hawkins. SRS support staff who attended included: Anne Poe, Cliff Thomas, Bill Arrra, Jim Buice, Gary Percival, Ron Frontroth, Bill Rajczak, Frank Wise, Mary Flora, Gail Jernigan, Susan Cathey, and Mike Sujka. de'Lisa Bratcher was the designated federal official for the meeting.

Vernon Zinnerman, Chairman of the Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee, welcomed the attendees to the meeting and introduced Bill Lawless, Chairman of the Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Subcommittee. Mr. Zinnerman reviewed the agenda for the meeting (see below) and summarized the last meetings for the FY 1998 budget prioritization. He explained that this meeting would be the "meat and potatoes" meeting of the process where the members of the subcommittees would be able to see how their input will effect the FY 1998 Budget Prioritization process. He thanked SRS staff for allowing the CAB to become involved early in the process and reminded the participants that this is an ongoing process.

Agenda

5:30 Introductions and Welcome Vernon Zinnerman
5:45 Review Ranking/Weighting Process Cliff Thomas & all
6:45 Discussion of Path Forward All
8:30 Adjourn Vernon Zinnerman

Cliff Thomas showed the results of the Consequence Value Matrix as developed by the subcommittees at the last meeting on November 9 and explained how this information was used to develop the grids for each of the risk criteria. He explained that these grids have a simple arithmetic progression on the bottom of each grid and a geometric progression across the top.

The choice between the arithmetic and logarithmic can be decided by the subcommittee participants; however, site staff members recommend the geometric scale. This method is consistent with other weightings across the Department of Energy complex. Also, during the FY 1997 Budget Prioritization process, site managers tried to use the simple arithmetic progression, but found that this set of numbers was not suitable for the site work packages as many of the work packages were ranked similarly, requiring site managers to rank them individually. With almost 300 work packages, this became a very labor-intensive task. While the logarithmic system has some faults, it does give a consistent method to rank all work packages. The CAB subcommittees' risk values were placed on the geometric grid by taking the value assigned at the last meeting and multiplying that by the number of boxes (16). For example, worker safety and health was given a weighing of 0.9 at the last meeting. Multiplying 0.9 times 16 boxes results in 14.4. Therefore, the fourteenth block was marked as the CAB ranking.

The next set of charts that Mr. Thomas explained showed 12 work packages chosen by site personnel. The charts showed how these work packages were ranked last year by site managers compared with how these same work packages would be ranked using the CAB subcommittees' risk criteria and weights. For example, A/M Groundwater - Critical was ranked number one by the site managers last year and would be ranked fifth in the list of 12 work packages using the CAB risk criteria weights. This is because the groundwater contamination does not show it is moving offsite. The participants asked for an explanation of the work packages. The information provided is shown below:

A/M Groundwater - Critical: this is the remediation of the groundwater in the A and M Areas that is/was considered critical if the groundwater was going to migrate offsite.

F Canyon Surveillance and Maintenance: It is necessary for F Canyon to maintain certain critical functions for the solutions in F Canyon such as keep ventilation system operating, monitor the sumps, and keep core personnel ready to respond to an emergency, if necessary. Am/Cm Solutions Stabilization - F Canyon: assumes the surveillance and maintenance is funded and describes the tasks necessary to carry out stabilization process of these solutions.

Vitrification - HLW System - Low Attainment: this task assumes that the DWPF would operate at 17% of capacity which would mean that DWPF would "operate forever," completing vitrification in 2065. If the high attainment task was funded, this would save millions of dollars as the DWPF would run at a high percent and would complete the vitrification years earlier than the Low Attainment.

ETF (Effluent Treatment Facility) - Minimum Safe Operation: without the funding for this task, these low-level effluents would not be treated and would run on the ground, eventually ending up the creeks.

There were many concerns raised by the participants which are summarized below (shown in *italics*) with site program experts' answers in plain text. The scale/scoring lead to "bunching. We agree. The more subcriteria the system has, the better the process works because the additional number of subcriteria eliminates the "bunching."

Need more categories under each criterion. We agree. The more subcriteria the system has, the better the process works because the additional number of subcriteria eliminates the "bunching."

Ability to provide timely input to SRS to matter. We agree and hope the CAB subcommittees will continue to work on this budget process so that they can provide even more input into the FY 1999 Budget Prioritization process.

The log scale is not uniform. We agree and there may be some errors and will look specifically at Environmental Protection. If so, we will correct them. This risk-based budget prioritization process is fairly new to DOE and is still evolving. We hope that the CAB will continue to work on this process and will work with DOE-HQ so that all site across the complex will use the same criteria and subcriteria. The participants agree that although the proposed process and subcriteria seemed flawed, it did rank the 12 work packages according to their values and concerns.

The participants proposed that WSRC should develop a matrix with additional subcriteria (5-7 for each criterion) for the ranking. These subcriteria should be used in the FY 1998 Budget Prioritization process. They further asked to be involved in the December and January submissions to SRS management and DOE-HQ. Bill Lawless thanked the participants for taking the time to work on this project and gave special thanks to Lee Poe and Todd Crawford for leading several of the sessions. Gail Jernigan asked for a show of hands of who was planning to attend the risk course on Saturday. Chuck Powers asked for a few minutes for Michael Greenberg to explain the studies that the Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation or CRESP will be doing for the Savannah River Site. Mr. Greenberg explained the following 5 studies:

- (1) a county scale analysis, looking at 31 counties for 25 different demographic characteristics and comparing these for counties near SRS, Hanford, and other DOE sites as well as United States,
- (2) another county scale analysis, looking only at economic variables,
- (3) a factor analysis within certain areas, again looking a demographic variables,
- (4) a historical perspective on economic impact of DOE sites on local communities, and
- (5) interviews with local citizens on economy, land uses, and impact of DOE on local communities.

Note: Meeting handouts are available by calling the SRS CAB toll-free number at 1-800-249-8155.