



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee

Meeting Summary

August 22, 1995

Allendale, S.C.

The Risk Management and Future Use Subcommittee of the SRS CAB met on August 22, 1995, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in Allendale, SC. The following Subcommittee members, working group members and public were in attendance: Bob Newman, Scott Phillips, Todd Crawford, Robert Abernathy, Patrick Jackson, K. B. Raut, Vernon Zimmerman, Joe Weaver, Bill Lawless, Dave Christensen and Mildred McClain. The following SRS technical representatives and support staff were in attendance: Don Druelle, Robert Meadors, John Gladden, Philip Prater, Leslie Huber, and Chris Noah. Walt Joseph, CAB Facilitator, led the group discussion in the absence of a chairman for this Subcommittee. Gerri Flemming of the Department of Energy was the designated federal official for the meeting.

Dr. Mildred McClain, co-chair of the CAB, welcomed everyone to the meeting. After self introductions by everyone, Mr. Joseph reminded the group that recommendations from this Subcommittee on the future use of SRS will be discussed and voted on at the next full CAB meeting, September 26, 1995, in Beaufort. Dr. Todd Crawford, a member of the working group of this Subcommittee, gave a brief overview of the draft recommendations, map and vision report. A general discussion followed with the following points:

- The map needs to be changed so that the cross-hatched areas, reflecting industrial zones, include all contaminated groundwater plumes. Because groundwater plumes do spread overtime, a buffer zone should be added to the map.
- The recommendations are not prioritized.
- The surface bodies of water, such as Par Pond and L Lake, were not included in the industrial zones. The working group felt that these could be used for ecological studies and limited recreational activities. (Recreational activities would not include swimming, but could include boating.) There would not be any residential use of this land. However, the Environmental Protection Agency and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control are looking at the existing waste units at SRS and their effect on these surface waters. The site may be remediating these bodies of water which are not currently included in the industrial zones on the map. John Gladden showed the gamma contamination of these surface waters on a map. The contamination is mainly cesium-137 which is bound in the sediments of the streambeds. Some cesium is taken up in deer and plants; however, the average deer from the SRS hunts show less cesium contamination than deer offsite. For the safety and health of the public, workers, and the environment, it may be necessary to limit the types of recreational activities or limit the time people may be near these bodies of water.

- Many of the participants discussed their vision of the industrial uses of the land and how various industries could be encouraged to lease areas on the site. The technical competency of the SRS staff and existing infrastructure were cited as two items that could be used to attract industries to the area.
- When considering SRS land, the site should be considered a national asset because SRS provides a place where new environmental remediation technologies can be tested. The site is uniquely suited for these studies.

After the general discussion, each recommendation was reviewed and/or revised as shown below. Please note that the report will be revised to reflect the discussion from this meeting.

1. SRS boundaries shall remain unchanged and the land remains under the ownership of the federal government. Private use of the land will be implemented by lease agreements.
2. Land use planning shall be directed toward subdivision of the site into nuclear (defense and commercial), non-nuclear and environmentally protected sectors. About one third of SRS land shall be for industrial uses and so recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control when considering RCRA and CERCLA cleanup options. (The report will be modified to reflect that groundwater zones are also to be considered industrial.)
3. Residential uses of SRS land are to be prohibited. (The report will be modified to reference possible short term living arrangements such as hotels.)
4. Future use planning shall consider the full range of worker, public and environmental risks, benefits and costs associated with remediation. (Discussion about health studies and life-cycle risks will be added to the report.)
5. Commercial industrialization of industrial zones shall be vigorously pursued. (Information about lease agreements, groundwater, and partnerships will be added to the report.)
6. Within industrial zones the land is available for multiple use until an industrial application is needed. (Examples are to be added by the working group and may include remediation research, ecological research, etc.)
7. Research and technology demonstration activities shall increase.
8. Natural resource management activities shall continue.
9. Recreation opportunities shall increase. (The report will be modified to describe the types of recreational activities and the limitations of these activities.)
10. If DOE or the federal government should ever decide to sell any of the SRS land, then former residents and/or their descendants shall have first option to buy back their formerly owned land. (The report will add discussion on this recommendation.)
11. The working group will revise the text of the report to reflect the information shown above. Once modified, it will be sent with the map and list of recommendations to the members of the CAB for their review prior to the CAB meeting in September.

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