SRS Citizen's Advisory Board

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Environmental Remediation & Waste Management Subcommittee

Meeting Record
February 27, 1996
North Augusta, S.C.

The ER & WM Subcommittee of the SRS CAB met on Tuesday, February 27, 1996 at the North Augusta Community Center at 4:00 p.m. Subcommittee members present included Bill Lawless and Kathryn May, Subcommittee Co-Chairs. Walt Joseph, the CAB facilitator, also attended. Craig Marriner, Leigh Ann Williams and Keith Collinsworth attended from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). Carl Froede attended from the Environmental Protection Office. SRS representatives included Wade Whitaker, Les Germany, Brian Hennessey, Philip Prater, Mike Simmons, Tom Treger, Joan Baum, Bob Aylward, Coleman Miles, Shelia McFalls, Bill Rajczak, Leslie Huber, Ellery Savage, Chris Bergren, John Adams, Perry Holcomb, Clay Jones, Gerald Blount, Mary Flora, and Anne Roe. Members of the public attending included Shirley Blue and Paula Joseph. Gerri Flemming of DOE-SR attended as the Associate Deputy Designated Federal Official (ADDFO).

Mr. Lawless welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Shelia McFalls gave a presentation on the Silverton Road Waste Unit. Ms. McFalls reviewed the background and schedule for the Silverton Road Waste Unit remediation. The unit is rated low risk with no significant ecological risk. The remedial options being considered for the soils are: (1) no action, (2) institutional controls, (3) excavation, debris removal, and backfill, and (4) a low permeability cover. The remedial options being considered for the groundwater are: (1) no action, (2) institutional controls, (3) extraction and reverse osmosis, and (4) extraction and recirculation wells. The Rev. 0 Proposed Plan is scheduled for release to the regulators on March 18 and the public comment period is scheduled for July 17 to August 15, 1996.

Coleman Miles presented a focused feasibility scoping on remedial actions for the L-Area Oil and Chemical Basin/L-Area Acid Caustic Basin. The L-Area Oil and Chemical Basin portion of the unit is rated high risk and significant action will be required for its remediation. The L-Area Acid Caustic Basin portion of the unit requires no action beyond confirmatory pH testing. The groundwater requires additional characterization before remediation needs can be determined. Mr. Miles explained the basins history and current conditions. The basins are located in the CAB recommended industrial zone for L-Area. Currently the L-Area Oil and Chemical basin is open and contains water, with minimal vegetative growth and significant soil/sediment contamination. Mr. Miles explained that the goals of the interim remedial action were to eliminate or minimize the exposure pathways to a hypothetical future worker or hypothetical future resident.

The alternatives retained for detailed analysis for the L-Area Oil and Chemical basin and their respective costs which were discussed are:

OPTION COST RISK REDUCTION

- 1 no action $280,000 none
- 2 capping $630,000 high
- 3 capping & slurry wall $1,830,000 high
- 4 in situ stabilization & capping $770,000 high
- 5 ex situ stabilization & capping $870,000 high
- 6 excavation and disposal @ E-Area vaults $2,400,000 high

(Note: subsequent t o the meeting Mr. Miles has revised the estimates for alternatives 5 and 6 because of the need for pretreatment to facilitate waste acceptance

OPTION COST RISK REDUCTION

- 5 ex situ stabilization & capping $950,000 high
- 6 excavation and off unit disposal $5,200,000 high)

In terms of the relative risk to the hypothetical future worker or resident, the current public, and the cleanup worker, the evaluation for the six options is listed below:

Option Future Resident/Worker Current Public Cleanup Worker

1 none none none
2 low none low
3 low none low
4 low none low
5 low none medium
6 none medium medium

Mr. Miles concludes that backfilling the basin and placing a soil cover minimizes risk to the hypothetical future worker or resident, whereas with treatment or removal and subsequent capping additional protection from the potential future migration of contaminants to the groundwater is also achieved.

Bob Aylward reviewed the 1996 schedule for Feasibility Studies and Proposed Plans for SRS waste units. Mr. Aylward ranked each of the units by risk:

- High Risk = Significant Action Required
- Medium Risk = Some Action Required
- Low Risk = Minimal or No Action Required

With completion of the focused feasibility scoping on the L-Area Oil and Chemical Basin, all three high risk waste unit's focused feasibility study scopings have been reviewed by the CAB ER&WM subcommittee.

Tom Treger discussed the path forward regarding additional avenues for public involvement in the selection of remedial alternatives, besides the CAB ER &WM subcommittee. These other avenues include utilizing local colleges and universities, focus groups and technical availability sessions. Mr. Lawless explained that the subcommittee would have a point of contact to review Feasibility Studies and Proposed Plans and report back to the subcommittee, rather than having each individual unit presented to the subcommittee. Anne Brown will be the RI/FS liason for the subcommittee.

Tom Treger also gave an overview of the Environmental Restoration (ER) Strategic Plan or Management Action Plan (MAP) scope and schedule. Chapter 5 of the plan specifically addresses CAB Recommendation No. 10 as it contains the requested plans for comprehensive strategies for both groundwater and surface units. Chapter 5 of the MAP is an extractable, stand-alone Environmental Restoration Strategy. In addition the overall MAP provides a framework for coordinating and integrating ER activities and also addresses the DOE-HQ need for status reporting and is consistent with the Federal Facility Agreement Implementation Plan.

Mr. Treger provided copies of the MAP and requested comments be returned, specifically on Chapter 5, and they would be incorporated in the next draft scheduled to be issued on April 1, 1996. A final draft of the MAP will be issued in June incorporating the final Federal Facility Agreement Implementation Plan, and an Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) will be conducted. The final MAP will be issued by October 1, 1996.

Bill Rajczak discussed the ISPR for the MAP. The focus of the ISPR will be the strategy for surface unit and groundwater environmental remediation as discussed in Chapter 5 of the MAP. Mr. Rajczak said the ISPR team which reviewed the F & H-Area Groundwater Remediation program was available and would be interested in conducting an ISPR of the Management Action Plan. A copy of the MAP will be sent to the team. A Statement of Work for the MAP ISPR will be developed with a starting time of June 96 and the completed MAP ISPR report being due in August, 1996.

Joan Baum presented the SRS reponses to the F & H-Area Groundwater Remediation program ISPR recommendations. Ms. Baum explained that the design contracts had been awarded and work was in progress. DOE was encouraged to include incentives in the F & H contracts that encourage the contractors to improve the treatment processes (including tritium removal). Tritium reduction/recovery studies are ongoing at the Savannah River Technology Center (SRTC) and the results of these studies may be applicable to the F & H-Area Groundwater Remediation project. Ms. Baum said in keeping with the ISPR recommendations there will be an ongoing review of the remediation design, consideration given to the use of innovative technologies, and alternative methods will continue to be considered and evaluated. Working meetings with regulators will also be conducted to review progress, explore strategies, and establish achievable Phase II goals. Carl Froede, EPA, and Keith Collinsworth, SC DHEC, noted

that they would send a separate response to the F & H-Area Groundwater Remediation program ISPR recommendations.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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