

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder
City of Golden -- City of Northglenn -- City of Thornton -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders
Nancy Newell

Monthly Status Report – April 2015

Board meeting summary

Briefing on the history of Rocky Flats

To help understand Rocky Flats, it is necessary to understand the history of the site and scope of the cleanup. Understanding the cleanup, priorities and remedial goals, and final cleanup levels help frame many issues currently being evaluated and debated. Highlights include:

- Rocky Flats operated as a nuclear weapons production facility from the early 1950s through 1989. Cleanup began in earnest in 1995.
- Cleanup cost approximately \$7B and took roughly 10 years.
- Most of the cleanup work was done in the 385-acre former Industrial Area which contained 800 buildings and other structures. 21 tons of weapons-grade material was shipped to other sites, and 100 metric tons of plutonium residues were dispositioned.
- Cleanup also included:
 - All buildings were removed with the exception of a few building foundations and two vehicle inspection sheds
 - All Individual Hazardous Substance Sites were dispositioned per the site regulatory agreement
 - Soil was removed and shipped off-site where the contamination levels exceeded the regulatory standards; soils with contamination levels below the regulatory standards were left in place
 - Two landfills were closed with covers meeting the applicable landfill regulatory closure criteria and monitoring wells
- DOE's long term surveillance and maintenance activities include
 - Managing two closed landfills and four groundwater treatment systems
 - Managing and sampling 97 groundwater wells and 18 surface water monitoring locations
 - Implementing institutional controls and best land management practices

DOE Visitor Center

DOE and USFWS are in the early stages of developing a visitor center that will serve both agencies. The Stewardship Council is focusing on DOE's role and objectives, working to ensure that DOE's efforts serve a range of interests and objectively tell the story of Rocky Flats and ongoing management needs.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE reports that in addition to routine monitoring and maintenance activities, site personnel conducted the following activities in March.

Surface water and groundwater monitoring

- Collected and processed a large number of surface water composite samples due to large amount of runoff from melting snow.

Groundwater Treatment Systems

- Mound Site Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- East Trenches Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system is functioning normally.
- Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the main cells continue to experience flow issues due to bio-fouling in the pipes and clogging in the media. Maintenance activities such as surging water through the pipes are helpful for short periods. Staff is evaluating a more extensive solution. The pilot scale lagoons and micro-cells are operating normally.

Landfills

- At the March monthly inspection of the Original Landfill, staff discovered cracking and slumping in areas on the east edge, likely related to the heavy snowfall. The new cracks were closed as required by the Monitoring & Maintenance Plan using shovels and a vibrating tamper.
- The Present Landfill inspection showed no issues.

Annual Inspection

- The annual site inspection was conducted on March 17. Overall the site was in good condition.
- An area of subsidence approximately four feet deep and 10 feet in diameter was noted in a location corresponding to the south west corner of former Building 771.
- During the quarter, staff also filled a crack in the soil at the former Building 771 tunnel area.

Congressional Letter re: EEIOCPA Advisory Board

In late April, Colorado Representatives Polis and Perlmutter, along with House and Senate colleagues, wrote President Obama regarding the congressionally-mandated Advisory Board on Toxic Substances and Worker Health. The Board's responsibility is to provide oversight of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

The letter provides in part:

The success of the Board relies on educated and passionate members willing to follow the evidence wherever it leads them and make substantive recommendations to DOL on how to improve the accuracy and efficiency of their claims processing. We urge you to consult with worker health and advocate organizations with expertise on this issue as you make decisions over the coming weeks on the Board's members.

The letter is attached to this update.

Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

June 1, September 14, October 26

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 24, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write regarding implementation of Section 3141 of Public Law 113-291 and the creation of the Advisory Board on Toxic Substances and Worker Health. We ask your Administration take appropriate steps to ensure the Board is transparent and independent from the Department of Labor to ensure appropriate supervision of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act.

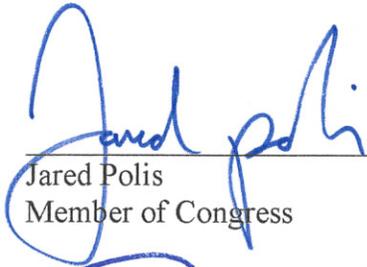
We represent thousands of former nuclear weapons workers who manufactured nuclear weapons in an effort to protect our nation. As a result of their work for the U.S. government, some workers developed cancers and other diseases. In 2000, Congress acted to provide health care and benefits for former nuclear weapons workers by passing the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA). Unfortunately, implementation of EEOICPA has been plagued by delays, and workers still have not received the benefits they deserve.

Following the recommendation of both the Government Accountability Office and the Institutes of Medicine, Congress included language in Public Law 113-291 to create an independent advisory board to improve transparency, accuracy, and efficiency of processing claims under EEOICPA. Critical to this mission of the Board is having independent voices outside of the Department of Labor (DOL) analyze current practices of DOL to make recommendations based on science, and allowing the Board to conduct an independent peer-review of the Site Exposure Matrix.

The success of the Board relies on educated and passionate members willing to follow the evidence wherever it leads them and make substantive recommendations to DOL on how to improve the accuracy and efficiency of their claims processing. We urge you to consult with worker health and advocate organizations with expertise on this issue as you make decisions over the coming weeks on the Board's members.

Thank you for your efforts to implement Congress' intent with the Advisory Board on Toxic Substances and Worker Health and your support of providing sick nuclear workers with the benefits they have earned through their service to our country. Please contact our offices if we can be of any further assistance.

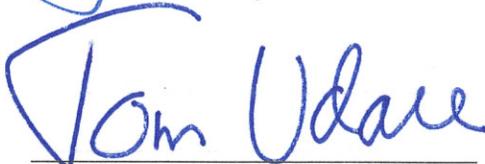
Sincerely,



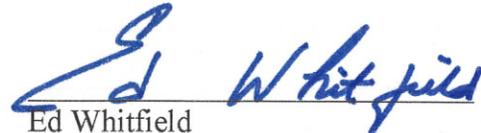
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



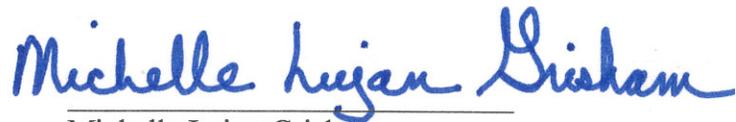
Tom Udall
U.S. Senator



Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress



Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senator



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress