

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 Westminster -- Town of Superior
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders -- Ken Foelske

Monthly Status Report – November 2007

Board meeting summary:

With the exception of the Legacy Management Quarterly Update, the meeting was a business meeting. Board membership and staffing are discussed under “Stewardship Council Update” below.

Approval of Bylaws Amendment

The Board approved an amendment to the bylaws regarding appointment of community members to the Stewardship Council Board of Directors. The amendment, which was reviewed at the October 2nd meeting, provides the member governments shall appoint the community members to the Board. This provision is consistent with prior DOE guidance.

Approval of 2008 Budget

The Board approved the 2008 budget. The budget includes a 4.7% decrease from the 2007 budget. Expenditures are expected to remain relatively flat.

Approval of 2008 Work Plan

The 2008 Plan builds on the Stewardship Council’s efforts in 2007. The Board will continue to focus on DOE management issues, worker issues, outreach, communications, and some USFWS issues.

Legacy Management (LM) Quarterly Update

The Stewardship Council hosted the LM quarterly update for the second quarter of 2007.

Updates included:

- groundwater monitoring
- surface water monitoring
- air monitoring
- ecological monitoring
- surveillance, maintenance and site operations

DOE discussed various topics relating to water quality:

- Prior to discharge of the terminal ponds both DOE and CDPHE sample the water to ensure its meets the various standards. Because initial sampling results between these two agencies varied, both DOE and CDPHE took additional samples prior to discharge.

- The Colorado Water Quality Control Commission agreed to review the site-specific uranium standards at its January 2009 meeting. The triennial review of the Big Dry Creek watershed, which includes the Rocky Flats drainages, will occur later in 2009.
- The Solar Ponds treatability study for nitrate-contaminated groundwater has been completed. A final report will be issued at a later date.
- DOE repaired the slumps and subsidences on the surface of the Original Landfill cover. More than 158 tons of soil was used to repair the damage.

The meeting minutes, which include a more thorough summary of DOE's report, will be posted on the Stewardship Council's website following the February 2008 Stewardship Council board meeting. DOE's second quarter 2007 monitoring and maintenance report can be found at:

http://www.lm.doe.gov/land/sites/co/rocky_flats/reports.htm

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary:

November highlights for the site included:

- On November 20th, the Rocky Mountain Fire Department toured the site as part of its new emergency response contract.
- The uranium signature analysis report on site water samples was received from the Los Alamos National Laboratory in late November and will be evaluated and discussed with the CDPHE. The report will be included as an attachment to the 3rd Quarter Site Surveillance and Maintenance Report and will be discussed at the February 4, 2008, Stewardship Council meeting.
- The annual dam safety inspection reports were completed and the inspection reports will be transmitted to the State to satisfy the 6-year inspection report requirement.
- On November 12th, contractor staff submitted to DOE the final geotechnical investigation work plan for Original Landfill (OLF) repairs; it was subsequently provided to CDPHE for approval. The geophysical survey (non-intrusive) is expected to occur December 3-4. Planning for the test pit excavations and borehole drilling (intrusive fieldwork) is also underway.
- DOE provided to USFWS its annual Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse report. Several monitoring locations met the success criteria and DOE requested concurrence from USFWS that no further monitoring and reporting of these locations was needed.
- The 991 Slump Regrade Project was completed on November 20th. Soil was removed from the hillside and spread uniformly over the 903 Pad/Lip Area. Fertilizer was then applied in preparation for reseeded.
- The Rocky Flats CERCLA Administrative Record (AR) and the Reading Room were closed to public access as LM screens the document collections for Personal Identification Information (PII). Some instances of PII were found.

Fieldwork at the site during November included:

- maintenance on groundwater treatment systems
- replacement of erosion control systems damaged by sunlight, winds, and precipitation
- vegetation surveys
- collection of water samples
- landfill inspections

Rocky Flats Special Exposure Cohort Petition:

On November 9, 2007, Senator Salazar and Representatives Udall, Perlmutter and Salazar wrote the Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao expressing support of her Department's decision to approve special exposure cohort status for 775 former Rocky Flats workers who worked in Building 881. These workers had been overlooked during the initial approval process. These members of the delegation expressed continued concern over Labor's implementation of the program, including concerns over accuracy of information and access to records.

Congressional update:

The overriding issue in Congress is the ongoing stalemate over funding for many of the federal agencies. In early November Congress approved and the President signed a stop-gap measure to fund most federal agencies through December 14th. Included in this funding package is Department of Energy programs. It now looks increasing likely that Congress will group funding for most federal agencies into an omnibus appropriations bill.

Agency update:

None at this time.

Site document update:

None at this time.

Stewardship Council update:

At the November meeting, the Stewardship Council approved a measure to continue contracting with David Abelson and Rik Getty. This contract, along with all support contracts (legal, accounting, minutes preparation and website maintenance), will be reviewed annually.

The member governments also appointed members for 2008-2009. Returning to the Board are the League of Women Voters, Rocky Flats Cold War Museum, and Rocky Flats Homesteaders. Karen Imbierowicz, who has represented the Town of Superior on the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council and the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments since 2001, will step down as a Superior Town Trustee in April 2008. She was elected to continue serving on the Stewardship Council in her individual capacity, replacing Ken Foelske who opted not to reapply.