

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17670
Boulder, CO 80308-0670
www.rockyflatssc.org

(303) 412-1200
(303) 412-1211 (f)

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 – February 2007

Board meeting summary: (February 5, 2007)

Election of Stewardship Council 2007 Officers

The Board elected following board officers for 2007:

Chairman – Lori Cox (Broomfield)

Vice Chairman – Jeannette Hillery (League of Women Voters)

Secretary/Treasurer – Karen Imbierowicz (Superior)

Terms run until the February 2008 meeting.

Approval of Letter Re: Worker Compensation

The Board approved a letter to the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health expressing support for Rocky Flats workers' petition to be designated a special cohort class under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOIPCA). In its letter the Board expressed concern about the ongoing delays in implementing the program and asked that the Advisory Board not deny the petition if outstanding issues regarding data reliability are not addressed and if missing records are not uncovered. This approach tracks the direction established by Senator Salazar and Representatives Udall and Perlmutter. The letter will soon be posted on the web at http://www.rockyflatssc.org/board_policies.html

EPA briefing on deleting Rocky Flats from the CERCLA National Priorities List

EPA is in the process of deleting off-site lands and the lands DOE will transfer to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from the CERCLA National Priorities List. The lands DOE will retain will not be deleted at this time. EPA must determine, in consultation with the state, that one of the following criteria has been met: 1) DOE has implemented all appropriate response actions required; 2) all appropriate response under CERCLA have been implemented and no further response action is necessary; or 3) the remedial investigation has shown that releases pose no significant threat to public health or the environment. EPA states they could delete based on any of these options but chose option 2.

DC Talking Points

The Board approved talking points members and their staff can use during meetings in Washington, DC with Congress and DOE.

Legacy Management (LM) Quarterly Update

The Stewardship Council hosted the LM quarterly update meeting. The reporting quarter was the third quarter of 2006, July – September. Updates on the following topics were presented:

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

No issues of concern were raised during the update. The meeting minutes will be posted on the web following the May Stewardship Council board meeting.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary:

The DOE-Legacy Management (LM) monthly report for January included the following activities:

- Because of the snow, field work was limited. DOE started building the fence demarcating the boundary between DOE and Refuge lands, but due to the snow the project has been delayed. LM believes they need 3 days to complete the installation.
- LM awarded a contract for the road/parking lot revegetation project.
- LM is preparing to discharge water from the terminal ponds (A-4 and B-5) in order to have sufficient room in the ponds to capture spring runoff.
- LM, EPA and CDPHE have decided that the cutoff date for data to be evaluated as part of the CERCLA 5 year review will be December 31, 2006. EPA and CDPHE will begin formal review of the report on August 1, 2007.
- LM is expecting to award a support contract to help with the upcoming Triennial Review of Water Quality Control Commission Regulations in 2009. Preparations for this review must begin in 2007.
- Fieldwork at the site included:
 - continued maintenance of the erosion control systems
 - replacement of erosion control systems damaged by sunlight, winds, and precipitation
 - collection of a small number of water samples
 - landfill inspections (more on this item below)

Congressional update

In February Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) to fund the federal government through fiscal year 2007 (fiscal year ends September 30, 2007). The CR includes Department of Energy programs.

In early February the Administration submitted to Congress its 2008 budget which includes \$194 million for DOE's Office of Legacy Management. The Administration requested \$200 million in FY 07. According to *Weapons Complex Monitor*, "the proposed cut reflects cost reductions in long-term monitoring activities, a reduction in two sites' pension contributions and a change in the method of managing pension and post-retirement benefits for contractor retirees." Additionally, "the bulk of the FY08 budget proposal, \$117 million, would go toward covering

pension and medical benefits for contractor retirees at several completed cleanup sites, such as Rocky Flats, Fernald and the Pinellas Plant in Florida.”

Agency update:

On February 13th, Scott Surovchak (LM) sent the following email regarding slumps on the Original Landfill:

We discovered two features on the Original Landfill (OL) last week that indicate settlement and/or slumping. This was the first inspection of a significant portion of the OL surface that we could conduct following the December 20th snow storm. Several large “glaciers” remain on the center of the OL and the eastern Diversion Channel is still full of solidified snow. The site in general more resembles a typical March-April condition than what it should look like during January-February, our driest months of the year. Water is everywhere and the mud is bottomless in most areas. The OL is likewise completely saturated by the slowly melting snow for the first time since the completion of the remedial action in late summer of 2005.

The westernmost feature as indicated by the red line on the 1994 photo and the 2006 photo displays both horizontal and vertical displacement in the form of cracks. Close ups of this feature can be seen in attached photos numbered 190, 193, 198, 200, 205, and 206. The eastern portion of this slump has apparently not yet moved enough to manifest itself on the surface and is still undefined. On Friday we located the southern extent where the slump feature is exhibiting a slight rise above the surface of the OL, equal to amount of vertical drop at the top of the slump. The bottom of the slump is located immediately above (to the north of) the western edge of diversion berm #3.

The easternmost red line on the olfslump photos encompasses what appears to be a compaction/subsidence feature at the present time. Photos numbered 141, 142, and 143 depict the current status of this subsidence feature.

I should have some more recent photographs taken by our folks yesterday to send out later today or tomorrow. I didn't take any photos during yesterday's walkdown with Carl Spreng. I'll take some more pictures in about an hour, if the snow doesn't obscure the surface again.

We have implemented the requirements of the OL M&M plan including notification of the regulatory agencies, staking and photographing of the features, securing professional engineering consultation (One of our geotechnical engineers is onsite today and a second engineer from the GJ office will be here by the middle of next week), and protecting the westernmost slump exhibiting the separation from further intrusion by surface water. Our engineers should have some initial input later this week regarding nature of the features and possible mitigating actions. We do not anticipate taking any action, other than those

described above, until the movement stops or we have conclusive evidence of nature of the features.

Staff will continue to track this issue.

LM is in the process of recompeting its Grand Junction contract, currently held by S. M. Stoller Corporation of Broomfield, Colorado. Stoller's work includes conducting long-term surveillance and monitoring work at Rocky Flats. A decision on the new contract is expected shortly.

USFWS finalized entrance signs for Rocky Flats. The language, which can be found at <http://www.fws.gov/rockyflats/Signage/Sign.htm>, is along the lines of the Stewardship Council's proposed revisions to USFWS' draft language.

Site document update:

DOE signed the Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement. EPA and CPDHE intend to sign it in mid-March.

Stewardship Council update:

February marks the end of the Stewardship Council's first year. During the second year, Northglenn will be a voting member and Golden will rotate to the non-voting member. The Board also elected new officers for 2007 (see meeting summary above).