

## ROCKY FLATS CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

### MINUTES OF WORK SESSION

July 11, 1996

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**FACILITATOR:** Reed Hodgins, AlphaTRAC

Tom Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alan Aluisi, Tom Clark, Ralph Coleman, Tom Davidson, Eugene DeMayo, Tom Gallegos, Paul Grogger, Mary Harlow, Susan Johnson, Jack Kraushaar, Beverly Lyne, Tom Marshall, Linda Murakami / Jeremy Karpatkin, Shirley Olinger, Steve Tarlton

**BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jan Burda, Kathryn Johnson, Sasa Jovic, Mike Keating, LeRoy Moore, David Navarro, Gary Thompson / Tim Rehder

**PUBLIC / OBSERVERS PRESENT:** Gary W. Kidd (citizen); Stan Beitscher (retiree); T. DuPont (citizen); Darrell Marsh (retiree); Charles Huebner (retiree); Tony Harrison (CDPHE); Larry Helmerick (RFFO); Carol Barker (retiree); Lee and Loren Larson (retirees); Phil Saba (retiree); Jody Saba (citizen); John Dienst (retiree); Juliene Pimentel (citizen); Victor Terkun (retiree); Tony Richter (retiree); Al Siebert (retiree); Russell McCallister (RFFO); Mariane Anderson (RFFO); Jack Vrouwes (citizen); Hank Stovall (City of Broomfield); Fred Ernst (retiree); Mike Hargreaves (RFFO); Kay Ryan (SWEIS); Ron Bates (retiree); James Kelly (retiree); Mike and Janet Brown (citizens); Karen Bates (SSOC); Ravi Batre (RFFO); Christine Bennett (AlphaTRAC); Charles M. Johnson (citizen); Joe Rippetoe (IMAA); Lew Yoder (citizen); Ralph Stephens (citizen); James Horan (citizen); JoAnn Keifert (citizen); Karen DeLockroy (citizen); Ida Mae and Phil Walters (citizens); Ronald Morris (citizen); John M. Drevescraft (citizen); Roman Kohler (retiree); Kenneth Werth (citizen); Duane Dunn (retiree); Lorraine Siefkin (disabled Rocky Flats worker); Mike Brown (ex-employee); Ken Korkia (CAB staff); Erin Rogers (CAB staff); Deb Thompson (CAB staff)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**Comment:** Stan Beitscher: After working at Rocky Flats for 30 years and retiring two years ago while EG&G was the prime contractor, I'm now being told by the Department of Energy that my retirement benefits cannot be guaranteed because of uncertain budgets.

I've organized a committee of retired and disabled Rocky Flats workers to protect our benefits, earned by years of hard, dedicated and hazardous service at the plant. All we ask is that we be assured that our benefits will be maintained and not be eroded by so-called cost savings by the contractor in each year's budget. Cost savings can be achieved by smarter and more efficient operation at the plant, in which there is great opportunity, and should not come from the pockets of the elderly and disabled former employees of the plant. We thank the Citizens Advisory Board for the opportunity to express our views and very much appreciate your support.

**Comment:** Ronald Morris: I'm a retiree from Rocky Flats. In November 1994, I switched from Mutual of Omaha to the HMO-type insurance which is now exclusive care in Antero. I called Lutheran Hospital for physician referrals and I got a very short list for the people in Arvada that would take a retiree whose primary is Medicare because I'm over 65. I finally found one. But I got a letter today - referring to exclusive care - "The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Health First no longer participates in exclusive care in Antero health plan effective August 31, 1996. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach a reasonable agreement with the health plan and that is why we have decided to stop this participation." When I first got with them, I had a 50-70 percent rejection from area physicians because I was over 65. I got a list of doctors but they're far away. There are doctors around my area, but either they won't take new patients or someone over 65. It concerns me that the company is trying to cut expenses at our expense, and they're also in conjunction with exclusive care to cut the cost to physicians, and the physicians start to balk. We'll have insurance but won't be able to find the doctors, or we'll end up with inferior doctors.

**PRESENTATION ON AUTHORIZATION BASIS** (Mark Spears, Kaiser-Hill): Rocky Flats is developing a site wide authorization basis, which will describe the necessary and sufficient criteria, standards, operating procedures and activities to ensure that site activities protect the health and safety of the workers and the public. A group of individuals has been assembled and will break into teams - the convening group, the identification group, and the confirmation group. DOE would like to encourage individuals and stakeholders to participate on the convening group, which will establish goals, objectives, protocols and expectations for the project. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Patrice McEahern at 966-4265.

**SITE WIDE ISSUES COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATION ON WORKER BENEFITS** (Tom Marshall): For the past few months, the issue of possible cuts to the benefits of retired and disabled Rocky Flats workers has been discussed at Board meetings. The Site Wide Issues Committee brought forth a recommendation to be forwarded to DOE and Kaiser-Hill which states that CAB recommends that DOE and its present and future contractors commit to provide lifetime health care benefits at the same level and cost to those retired/disabled workers.

**Recommendation:** *Approve recommendation regarding worker benefits. Minor changes to the text were suggested.*

**Action:** *Motion to accept as amended. APPROVED.*

**Q&A Session:**

**Question:** Janet Brown: What weight will this hold with the Department of Energy?

**Answer:** Jeremy Karpatkin: All CAB recommendations are forwarded to the site manager and assistant managers and other staff to evaluate and consider. At the present, my understanding is Kaiser-Hill has not submitted any proposals to the Department of Energy that relate to reducing the benefits of retirees. There has been a reduction in the benefits of the long-term disabled workers, and there are folks here who can speak to that in more detail than I can. I don't want to mislead the Board or the public on this point. The Department of Energy is aware that there is a lot of concern about this. We have not yet received a proposal from Kaiser-Hill. If at such time we do receive a proposal from Kaiser-Hill, it will be evaluated. One of the criteria that will likely be considered is community concern about that proposal. But if DOE on receiving this recommendation decides to direct Kaiser-Hill not even to bother to submit a proposal along these lines to DOE, that outcome is not likely, but the fact that there is community concern about this issue will be a factor if there is a point when Kaiser-Hill gives DOE a proposal along these lines. But as of now, said proposal has not been received.

**ENVIRONMENTAL/WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - CLEANUP PRINCIPLES AND CRITICAL REPORTING ELEMENTS** (Tom Gallegos/Tom DuPont):

In a continuation from last month's meeting, Board members worked through several more sections of the cleanup principles project, developed by the Environmental/Waste Management Committee as part of the Board's work plan.

**Recommendation:** *As there is no specific deadline for submitting this as a recommendation, table this item to be continued/finalized at next month's meeting (three sections remain for the Board to review and agree upon).*

**Action:** *Motion to accept. APPROVED.*

**HEALTH COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATION ON CDPHE COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING PROGRAM** (Beverly Lyne):

The committee requested that the Board approve sending a letter to Bob Goldsmith endorsing CDPHE's Rocky Flats Community Air Monitoring Proposal. The letter also expresses some concerns. Specifically, the letter states that CAB does not want the air monitoring program to duplicate COMRAD program monitors, and since the program relies partly on COMRAD

funding, CAB recommends a contingency plan in the event COMRAD funding is cut. Also, concern was expressed about a possible gap in monitoring locations - an additional site was recommended. The letter also recommends review of the monitoring locations on a periodic basis.

***Recommendation:*** *Approve recommendation regarding CDPHE Community Air Monitoring Proposal. Minor changes to the text were suggested.*

***Action:*** *Motion to accept as amended. APPROVED.*

### **SITE WIDE ISSUES COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATION ON SITE WIDE EIS**

(Tom Marshall): The Site Wide Issues Committee brought a recommendation for CAB's approval which restates the Board's support for completion of the Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement, but also recommends that the project be delayed so that the Site Wide EIS can be made consistent with the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement, the Vision, and the Accelerated Site Action Project.

***Recommendation:*** *Approve recommendation regarding Site Wide EIS. Minor changes to the text were suggested.*

***Action:*** *Motion to accept as amended. APPROVED.*

**FACA - REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LETTER** (Tom Marshall): At last month's meeting, the Board asked staff to draft a letter to DOE-HQ in response to individual letters received inviting Board members to participate on the EMSSAB.

***Recommendation:*** *Approve letter to DOE-HQ. Minor changes to the text were suggested.*

***Action:*** *Motion to accept as amended. APPROVED.*

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- **Rocky Flats Ten-Year Plan:** The Board approved sending a letter to DOE regarding the Ten-Year Plan and the lack of public involvement in its development.
- **Facilitation contract renewal:** The Board approved continuation of Reed Hodgin's facilitation contract on a month-to-month basis.
- **Removal of Board member:** The Board approved removal of Michael Keating as a Board member due to lack of attendance.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Date: August 1, 1996, 6 - 9:30 p.m.

Location: Westminster City Hall, lower-level Multi-Purpose Room, 4800 West 92nd Avenue, Westminster

Agenda: \* *Presentation on the Ten-Year Plan for Rocky Flats; finalize Cleanup Standards and Critical Reporting Elements; planning for the Board's September retreat/1997 work plan*

**ACTION ITEM SUMMARY: ASSIGNED TO:**

- 1) Revise and forward recommendation on worker benefits - Erin Rogers
- 2) Revise Cleanup Principles and Critical Reporting Elements document; bring back to Board at August meeting - E/WM Committee, Ken Korkia
- 3) Revise and forward recommendation on CDPHE Community Air Monitoring Program - Erin Rogers
- 4) Revise and forward recommendation on Site Wide EIS - Erin Rogers
- 5) Revise and forward letter to DOE-HQ regarding FACA membership- Deb Thompson
- 6) Draft letter to DOE regarding public involvement in Ten-Year Plan; to Board members for review-Ken Korkia
- 7) Draft contract to AlphaTRAC re: facilitation of Board meetings; to Executive Committee for review and approval-Deb Thompson
- 8) Draft letter to Mike Keating re: removal from the Board; to Board secretary for review/signature - Deb Thompson

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:30 P.M. \***

(\* Taped transcript of full meeting is available in CAB office.)

**MINUTES APPROVED BY:**

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David Navarro, Secretary

## Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board

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The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board is a community advisory group that reviews and provides recommendations on cleanup plans for Rocky Flats, a former nuclear weapons plant outside of Denver, Colorado.

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