

ROCKY FLATS CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF WORK SESSION

July 3, 1997

FACILITATOR:Reed Hodgin, AlphaTRAC

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

BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Aluisi, Susan Barron, Jan Burda, Tom Clark, Tom Davidson, Eugene DeMayo, Tom Gallegos, Paul Grogger, Mary Harlow, Victor Holm, Susan Johnson, Sasa Jovic, Bob Kanick, Jim Kinsinger, Tom Marshall, Linda Murakami-Sikkema, David Navarro / Jeremy Karpatkin, Steve Tarlton

BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Beverly Lyne, Todd Saliman, Gary Thompson / Frazer Lockhart, Tim Rehder

PUBLIC / OBSERVERS PRESENT: Lt. Cody Chudyk (Young Marines); Kenneth Werth (citizen); Joe Rippetoe (citizen); Mari Margil (RFLII); Mariane Anderson (DOE); Carl Spreng (CDPHE); Ken Korkia (CAB staff); Chris Millsaps (CAB staff); Deb Thompson (CAB staff)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Comment: Kenneth Werth: Ken read from a letter he wrote to DOE, EPA, CDPHE and other government agencies commenting on the issue of transportation to WIPP. Main points included: 1) According to the 5/97 final Waste Management PEIS, three sites will be used for disposition - WIPP, Yucca Mountain, and another centralized area yet to be chosen. DOE's plan is to move all its waste to these three sites by 2006, even without knowing that WIPP or Yucca Mountain will open, or where the third site will be. The program will stretch beyond 70 years with an estimated cost of more than \$200 billion. 2) The 16 sites will transport 3,841,142 hauls by truck and 308,113 hauls by rail. His figures show that in a 15 year period, more than 256,476 loads will be shipped - over 701 truckloads per day and over 56 per day by rail. Will our infrastructure support this? 3) How will these shipments be monitored, what kind of surveillance will take place, how many trucks are needed, how much will it cost, and does the manpower exist? 4) Finally, why does DOE believe it can override the preference of citizens and destroy the environment in three states?

Response: Bob Kanick: The Ten Year Plan does not make the distinction of the fact that the underground conveyors at WIPP limit the amount of waste. They in fact expect shipment to last 30 or 40 years. It is not intended that all the waste will be sent to WIPP in 10 years.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM

VULNERABILITIES (Mary Harlow): The Plutonium and Special Nuclear Materials Committee drafted a recommendation commenting on and making specific recommendations based on its review of the Highly Enriched Uranium Vulnerabilities study and proposed corrective actions. However, a few specific issues remained to be addressed at the committee level, and thus the recommendation was withdrawn from CAB's agenda at this time. The committee will review and discuss the draft recommendation, and bring it back to the Board at its next meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON PRIVATIZATION ISSUES (Tom Clark): CAB's National Issues Committee has, over the last year, spent time researching privatization issues at Rocky Flats and other sites in the weapons complex. A recommendation was brought to the Board for its approval, addressing privatization at Rocky Flats, for projects such as capital construction, facility D&D, and waste treatment and disposal. The recommendation, as revised by the Board, asks DOE to consider the following when privatizing projects at the site:

- Safety must be the overriding goal, not just cost savings.
- Public involvement must be guaranteed, from the beginning of projects and throughout the duration of the work.
- The existing labor force should be maintained, collective bargaining agreements should be honored, and former employees should be utilized whenever possible.
- Risk of failure needs to be minimized, with contingency plans developed up front. Financial profit must not put the project's success and safety in jeopardy.
- Agreements between DOE and the regulators must be maintained and kept in compliance.
- Both DOE and the contractor must share the risks of project failure.
- Competition between contractors should be promoted through use of a competitive bidding process.

- Requirements and the scope of work for projects need to be well-defined.
- Projects must show progress and reduce costs, with savings being used to further remediation at the site.
- Methods and milestones must be in place to monitor projects.
- The appropriate form of contract must be utilized.
- Small-scale demonstration projects for new technologies should be used.

Decision: Approve revised recommendation, incorporating changes made by Board.
APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON ROCKY FLATS FY99 BUDGET (Jim Kinsinger): A Budget Subcommittee has been set up annually by CAB to review and comment on the site's current budget request. For FY99, the subcommittee prepared a recommendation approved by CAB which supports a budget that accelerates closure in a responsible manner, maximizes cleanup and safety to the workers, and reduces the mortgage. The recommendation asks the federal government to look at long-term benefits and savings, not just short-term costs for the project. In this recommendation, CAB notes it would not support a specific dollar request without having a clearer understanding of closure plan details and without a sense the site is focused on accelerating cleanup. Also, CAB stated that DOE must demonstrate it is able to use the funding wisely by increasing efficiencies. The recommendation asks DOE-Headquarters to work more closely with sites to develop a more workable plan for allowing stakeholder involvement in the budget development and review process before work begins on the FY2000 budget request.

Decision: Approve revised recommendation, incorporating changes made by Board.
APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

LETTER EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION CLEANUP STANDARDS (Tom Marshall): A draft letter was brought to CAB for its review and approval. This letter, addressed to Secretary Peña, EPA-HQ, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and CDPHE, discusses the NRC's proposed cleanup standards to be prepared in the near future. The letter states that CAB would not condone application of any standards at Rocky Flats that would lessen cleanup at the site, and briefly discusses the Soil Action Levels approved last fall for application at the site. Board members discussed this letter, but could not reach agreement on its wording.

Decision: Table this item at this time. Board members were asked to suggest wording changes to Tom Marshall. Tom will bring the revised draft letter back to the Board at its

next meeting. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No comments were received.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON CAMU DESIGNATION APPLICATION (Tom Gallegos): The site has prepared applications for two CAMU designations at RFETS. Based on the Environmental/Waste Management Committee's review of those applications, a recommendation was drafted by the committee supporting approval of the site's application with several comments. First, CAB reiterated that it does not support onsite disposal of radioactive material; thus, the need for the CAMU should be reviewed by CDPHE regularly to ensure it remains as temporary storage. CAB recommends development of a formal process to evaluate when construction of the temporary storage facilities becomes necessary, with full public involvement in the evaluation process. The Board noted that the area slated for the bulk storage CAMU is a remediation site and thus approval of this application should be contingent on the condition that construction not be authorized until remedial action of the area has occurred. Finally, CAB noted that public involvement must continue in the future for review and comment on any documents related to the development of these facilities.

Decision: Approve revised recommendation, incorporating changes made by Board. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON T1 TRENCH PAM (Tom Gallegos): DOE, through a Proposed Action Memorandum (PAM), proposes to remediate a former waste burial trench, T1, at RFETS. The trench holds barrels containing depleted uranium chips, dry paper trash, and other waste products from Building 444 operations. The Environmental/Waste Management Committee prepared a recommendation which asks DOE to adhere to CAB's Cleanup Principles during the course of this project, in addition to addressing the following specific concerns:

- As there is a risk of fire due to the nature of the material buried in the trench, a contingency plan for fire should be written to minimize exposure to workers, the public, and the environment.
- The air monitoring program for this project should be designed so that continuous, conservative, project-specific monitoring occurs throughout the project up to its completion.
- A realistic and conservative model for expected releases must be utilized.
- A cost benefit analysis should be performed to determine if cleanup to Tier II action levels is a viable option. If such analysis shows it is not cost prohibitive,

CAB recommends that soils in the area be remediated to Tier II action levels.

- Contingency plans should be developed in the event tighter cleanup levels are approved in the future.
- Continued public input must be solicited through the process of designing pertinent health and safety documents, waste disposal plans, project monitoring plans, and emergency procedures.

Decision: *Approve recommendation. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.*

D&D COMMITTEE:

Committee co-chairs. The *ad hoc* D&D Committee elected Tom Clark and Victor Holm to serve as the committee's co-chairs. The Board was asked to approve that decision.

Decision: *Approve Tom Clark and Victor Holm to serve as co-chairs of the D&D Committee. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.*

D&D activities. Victor reviewed upcoming D&D plans and the public involvement schedule. The Decommissioning Program Plan (DPP) is a broad plan on overall decommissioning of the site, while a separate Decommissioning Operations Plan (DOP) is a detailed, project-specific plan for the decommissioning of each of the plutonium buildings. All other buildings will be taken down under the guidance of DPP. The procedures are part of the RFCA process. Stakeholders will be involved in each step of the process through working groups onsite to discuss technical matters. Through the site's planned second tier D&D "pizza" meetings, the public will have a chance to talk to management and get direct responses to their comments, questions and concerns from technical representatives. The last tier of public involvement is formal public meetings. Victor reviewed the upcoming schedule of meetings, and encouraged Board members and the public to get involved in those meetings and to work with the D&D Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Discussing issues on CABnet. CAB agreed that staff will develop a process to be used to post general issues on CABnet, so that discussions could occur via CABnet and hopefully issues of contention could be worked through or brought out to discuss prior to attending Board meetings. Specifically, the Board will begin using this process to discuss those issues brought up at June's mini-retreat.

NEXT MEETING:

Date: August 7, 1997, 6 - 9:30 p.m.

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

Agenda: * *Presentation on "Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006"; recommendation on Highly Enriched Uranium vulnerabilities; draft letter regarding NRC's proposed cleanup standards; work plan development*

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY: ASSIGNED TO:

1. Review/discuss HEU vulnerabilities recommendation and bring back to Board - Pu&SNM Committee
2. Revise and forward privatization issues recommendation - Deb Thompson
3. Revise and forward Rocky Flats FY99 Budget recommendation - Ken Korkia
4. Get comments on wording of NRC letter to Tom Marshall for revision - CAB members
5. Revise and forward CAMU Designation Application recommendation - Chris Millsaps
6. Finalize and forward T1 Trench PAM recommendation - Chris Millsaps

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:15 P.M. *

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Tom Gallegos, Secretary
Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board

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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