

Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation 2000-3

to the U.S. Department of Energy

Public Participation in Decision Process for Closure Plan Assumptions

Approved March 8, 2000

Paul Golan
Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Field Office
10808 Highway 93, Unit A
Golden, CO 80403-8200

Dear Mr. Golan:

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board (RFCAB) has recently been looking for the best way to comment on the site's budget request and the anticipated 1999 *Path to Closure* (PTC) document. As part of this process, we were given a draft excerpt from the PTC describing the changes in assumptions since the last version of the plan. These changes reflect the switch from a 2010 closure goal to 2006. RFCAB is concerned about several of these working assumptions. However, we are aware the site does not consider assumptions to be decisions until they have been through a regulatory process.

With this in mind, RFCAB is interested in working with your office to clearly identify decision processes for a number of assumptions, and to determine how best the Board and other members of the public can fully participate in each. We also hope these discussions can help to prioritize which issues the community should discuss first based on an analysis of when each decision must be made. Our goal is to ensure both timely and meaningful public involvement in these very important decisions. As a starting point for our discussions, RFCAB is most interested in those assumptions related to caps, surface water quality, and environmental remediation.

We request that the Department agree to meet with the Board and our staff to begin working on these plans as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gerald L. DePoorter
Chair

Cc: Steve Gunderson, CDPHE
Tim Rehder, EPA
Anna Martinez, DOE-RFFO

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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