

Citizens Advisory Board Committee Minutes



Committee: Clean/Close RWMC

Date: April 5, 2006 – 9:30 a.m. (MT)

Participants

Board Members: Doc DeTonancour, Co-Chair
R.D. Maynard, Co-Chair
Bill Flanery
Bruce Wendle

DOE-ID: Shannon Brennan
Brian Edgerton
Kevin O’Neill
Mary Willcox

Support Staff: Lisa Aldrich

Objective(s) for the Committee Call

- Public Involvement Plan for buried waste RI/FS
- Report from DOE-HQ low-level waste strategy
- Action memo for Pit 4/6 retrieval (ARP-II)
- LMAES Pit 9 facility demolition
- Drum fire update
- Lysimeter (well) update
- AMWTP shipping update
- Subsurface Disposal Area (SDA) update
- Plutonium fact sheet
- New member orientation (introduction to RWMC)

Drum Fire Update

Following through the next authorization step for “thumbtack” [drum venting tool]. Concerns are being addressed with the workers. Doc asked if there have been any other drum fires. Brian answered not at this time, but do anticipate additional occurrences. The drums are vented down in the pit. They are required to maintain a safe distance. Doc asked if the proper procedure is to bury the drum if a fire occurs. Brian answered that is proper procedure to first put soil, then magnesium oxide as a bin or bag that would be placed over the drum. Magnesium oxide has not been used before. Magnesium oxide is a solid material (like sand) used as a fire suppressant. It has been used in the industry in the past.

Update for lessons learned on drum fire in July.

Well Lysimeter Update

O’Neill reported the study is ongoing to further understand where the uranium is originating from. Origination is unknown at this time.

Include at least an update in the May meeting.

LMAES Pit 9 Facility Demolition

A task order is being prepared to issue a procurement for demolition. There is good equipment with no contamination that will be put into public auction for sale to obtain a reasonable return. Nothing currently planned for the Gem Facility. It will not be a part of this scope.

AMWTP Shipping Update

Proceeding well with shipments even though the weather impacts some ability to ship. An extension with the contractor will be established along with shipping goal (2,000 cubic meters/year). Rick Provencher's status will include this topic.

Since the CAB has asked for timely announcements on operational events, Willcox notified the committee that there was an equipment failure with the super compactor. A puck drum dropped 2 ft and cracked the glove box glass (similar to a crack in a windshield). It is currently being investigated. The problem seems to be identified.

Public Involvement Plan for RI/FS

Mark Arenez says there has been no change and are in listening mode. Once the litigation is over, they can proceed.

DOE-HQ LLW Strategy

Headquarters is trying to release the strategy in time for the upcoming chair's meeting. It should be available into May and is a possibility for a presentation at the May Meeting.

Action Memo Pit 4/6 Retrieval

It is currently being reviewed by DOE. There is some interest in the outcome of the "all means all" litigation. Currently on hold because of the changes stemming from the drum fire. Once they can see that these changes are good, they can be applied to ARP-II.

SDA Update

Working overall with the low level waste disposal strategy. Plan to work with the regulators to discuss concerns via a technical exchange at the end of this month.

Draft letter from Nick Ceto has not been formalized or submitted.

New Member Orientation

Executive/Administrative committee to take the lead on coordinating new member orientation as discussed in the Strategic Issues committee call April 3, 2006.

Actions

- Mary Willcox will check with Jeff Perry on plutonium fact sheet.
- Portage to develop and distribute minutes for the call.