

Roane County Environmental Review Board

Meeting Minutes: November 5, 2015

Attendance, Board Members (and prospective members)

Present	Absent	
x		*Tom Brown, General Member
x		*Carolyn Granger, County Commission Representative
x		*Scott Gregory, Vice-Chair
x		*Mary Anne Koltowich, Recorder
x		*David Martin; Chair
x		*David Reichle, General Member
x		Colton Rue, Prospective Student Member
	x	Scott Stout, County Executive's Office Representative
x		*Allen Townsend, General Member
x		David Wasilko, Student Member
x		*Dennis Wilson, General Member

*Voting Member (## indicates number of votes cast/total votes available)

Quorum Present: Yes (8/8)

Other Attendees:

Martha Deaderick, Oak Ridge Reservation Site Specific Advisory Board (ORRSSAB)
Dave Hemelright, ORRSSAB
Dan Stitt, Citizen
Jinx Watson, Citizen
Laura Wilkerson, Federal Project Director, DOE Environmental Management (EM)

Meeting Location: Roane County Courthouse, Qualls Commissioners Meeting Room

Proceedings:

Call to Order. Interim Chairperson Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01PM. Motion made and seconded to approve the November 5, 2015 meeting agenda. Motion passed (8/8). Motion made and seconded to approve the October 1, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion passed (8/8). Guests and members present made self-introductions.

Public Comment Period. Carolyn Granger expressed her thanks for card sent by the RCERB regarding Bobby Collier's (brother) passing.

Program: DOE Oak Ridge Reservation Environmental Management. The guest speaker was Laura Wilkerson, who manages the EM portfolio of projects at Y-12. Some of her previous project experience includes handling of transuranic wastes and shipping of nuclear material out of ORNL. A summary of the presentation and discussion is as follows:

- Mission and Vision of the DOE ORR EM Program is to complete cleanup of the ORR.
- Vision milestones:

- 2016 – complete gaseous diffusion plant building demolitions at ETTP. 95% of demolition debris has gone to the Y-12 EMWMF (Environmental Management Waste Management Facility) landfill, of which 15% is low-level radioactive material.
- 2020 – complete cleanup of remaining ETTP facilities and reindustrialize.
- 2024 – expand cleanup work to Y-12 to address mercury (Hg) with the new Hg treatment facility completed and operating. Work from west to east to help ensure capture of contaminants on a downstream basis with Beta-4 building first, Alpha-5 next, Alpha-4 next, then Alpha 2 last. Alpha-5 building condemned for safety reasons. The exact strategy for addressing Hg issues is not yet decided; CERCLA regulations govern.
- Pictures of current and “cleaned up” area comparisons shown of ETTP, Y-12, and ORNL
- Onsite disposal is key to cleanup. EMWMF is a landfill west of Y-12 with a 2.18M cu.yds. of capacity, using six (6) cells. Cells 1-4 currently being used with 70% of total capacity used. EMWMF expected to be full at the end of the ETTP cleanup. Leachate collection and treatment system in place to collect any contaminants leaching into the surface water of the landfill.
- Cleanup of Y-12 and ORNL requires additional disposal capacity. Alternatives considered include 1) no action, 2) onsite disposal, and 3) offsite disposal. The scope of preferred disposal is a new onsite disposal facility with 6 cells and 2.5M cu.yds. capacity adjacent to the existing EMWMF. Sixteen (16) sites were considered. New facility to be known as the Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF). Considered most favorable location due to isolation from the public and proximity to existing EMWMF.
- Schedule EMDF milestones:
 - 2016 – complete site selection. Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) issued.
 - Early 202s - EMWMF expected to be full. EMDF to be operational 18-24 months before EMWMF closure. Design work under contract with UCOR.
 - EMDF expected to speed up ORR cleanup from expected savings of \$1 billion that can be used on more cleanup projects.
- Of an aside note – TDEC is possibly collecting \$1M/year for post-closure of EMWMF for a time period of 14 years to ensure perpetual care. Further discussion with TDEC is needed.
- TRU Waste disposal – new contract complete; treatment currently in progress. Remote-handled transuranic wastes being put into new concrete overpacks with storage back to Y-12. Debris transuranics (solids) handling 99% complete. Sludge transuranics to be handled by 2018-2019.
- WIPP (Waste Isolation Pilot Plant) – was going to re-open in March 2016. New schedule for re-opening may be decided then (March 2016).

Ms. Wilkerson was thanked for her excellent and informative presentation and subsequent answering of questions. The handout copy of the presentation can be consulted for more information and details (attached to these minutes).

RCERB Roundtable Discussions. Ongoing and new topics:

- David Wasilko, RCERB Student Member and associated with the Alliance for Appalachia, made a presentation of the Alliance's "The POWER + Plan: Toward a Bright Future for Roane County. The POWER+Plan is the federal government's proposed strategy to invest in a brighter future for communities impacted by the coal industry based on four (4) ideals:
 - Make available \$1 billion over 5 years from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund to reclaim lands in a sustainable manner promoting job creation and economic development
 - Support economic diversification and transition through 1 \$55 million POWER (Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization) initiative. Includes funding for programs focused on reemployment and job training for dislocated workers and creating new jobs in Appalachia.
 - Ensure the health and retirement of over 100,000 coal miners and their families through strengthening the healthcare and pension plans.
 - Provide tax credits to power plants using carbon capture technology.

The hope is for this plan to be voted into the federal budget by Congress (using the \$1 billion that already exists). A number of counties, cities, towns, and courts have already passed resolutions in the states of Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, and Tennessee. Further discussion for the RCERB is to consider support of a resolution supporting this program and its use for the betterment of Roane County. A copy of a proposed resolution was provided in the presentation. The proposed resolution is attached to these minutes.

- ETTP Zone 1 Soil Remediation – awaiting draft proposal to be issued for comment (expected in the next month or two).
- National Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) – requesting presentation regarding surface water problems and programs available to help mitigate these problems. Many issues surround the keeping of livestock/animals out of the surface waters. It was concluded to include the concerns surrounding Tiger Haven in this topic for further information and analysis.
- Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance (ORRCA) – possible release of the Ferguson Report on community impact resulting from the new DOE ORR EMDF facility. Note that a presentation from Ferguson has been given to ORRCA summarizing the report's key points.
- Tiger Haven -.D. Martin stated that a letter had been sent to Mr. McCray with TDEC concerning issues brought up by members of the public at the September RCERB meeting. He also stated that he spoke directly about the concerns over possible ground and surface water issues near Tiger Haven. So far, there has been no reply from TDEC. It was agreed that D. Martin is to send a letter requesting TDEC's position on these concerns.
- EnergySolutions Public Meeting October 29, 2015 regarding the renewal of the TDEC permit for hazardous waste operations at the Bear Creek Facility (TNHW-129),

impacting Roane and Anderson counties. No further action is considered necessary by the RCERB

Adjournment of RCERB Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Documents Received.

- Public Notice for Permit for EnergySolutions, Bear Creek Facility (I.D. Number TDN 982157570), commercial storage approval to receive and store PCB-contaminated metal waste for decontamination. Public hearing November 12, 2015, 3:00 – 6:30 pm at TDEC in Oak Ridge. Public comment period 10/29/15 – 12/15/15. None.

Next Meeting. The next board meeting is scheduled for December 3 at the Roane County Court House. Proposed programs: (1) County Executive Ron Woody to be invited to address the Board and/or (2) lighting ordinance (Glenn Cofer)

Attachments:

- RCERB November 5, 2015 Meeting Agenda
- DOE ORR EM Presentation to the RCERB slides
- POWER+Plan proposed resolution for Roane County

Agenda for Thursday, November 5, 2015
Roane County Environmental Review Board
Roane County Court House
Qualls Commissioners Meeting Room

6:00 PM - Call to Order, Introductions of fy2016 Officers and Chair's Comments

- The next meeting will be on December 3, 2015 at the Roane County Court House. Presentation to be announced.
- The November presentation will be an update from Oak Ridge DOE office of Environmental Management.

6:02 PM - Changes to and approval of the agenda

6:05 PM - Approve/changes October Minutes

6:08PM - Public Comment Period

6:15 PM - Presentation

7:00PM Board Business

- Alliance for Appalachia, The POWER + Plan: Toward a Bright Future for Roane County. DW
- Update on ETTP Zone 1 Soil Remediation. Draft of Proposal is being circulated. Public comment period my start this year. DCM, DW
- Request by DCM to include a presentation from the local National Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) on surface water problems and programs available to mitigate these problems, including keeping farm animals out of surface waters. Further action by Board regarding the public comments on water issues around Tiger Haven. .
- Report on the Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance. Possible release of the final Ferguson Report on community impact from new CERCLA waste site. MAK, SG, DCM
- EnergySolutions Public Meeting October 29, 2015; Renew a Permit – Oak Ridge, Roane/Anderson County.

Incoming Documents:

- Public Notice for Permit for EnergySolutions, Bear Creek Facility (I.D. Number TDN 982157570), commercial storage approval to receive and store PCB-contaminated metal waste for decontamination. Public hearing November 12, 2015, 3:00 – 6:30 pm at TDEC in Oak Ridge. Public comment period 10/29/15 – 12/15/15.

Recap of RCERB Meetings

October 2015 Quorum (5/8) Officer election, fy2016 Planning

September 2015 Quorum, (6/8) Public comments

August 2015 Quorum, (8/8) (RSI) Solar Energy Projects, Gil Hough

July 2015 No meeting by agreement

June 4, 2015 Quorum TVA exit meeting on ash spill at Kingston Plant

May 7, 2015 Quorum (6/8) Soil remediation, Zone 1 ETTP

April 2, 2015 Quorum (5/7) County environmental ordinances

March 19, 2015 Quorum (6/7) Presentation on ground water leaving the DOE OR Reservation by Bill McMillan, OR DOE-EM

February 5, 2015 Quorum (5/7) Discussion with R Woody on Board issues.

January 15, 2015 Quorum (5/7) TVA ash landfill, Bob Deacy with TVA addressed the Board

November 20, 2014 Quorum (5/7 members) Outdoor lighting code, 2015 planning

October 9, 2014 Quorum (6/7 members) Permit modification for TVA KIF coal ash/ gypsum landfill

**Proposed Resolution for the County of Roane
Alliance for Appalachia – POWER+Plan**

Whereas Roane County is a county in East Tennessee, an area of many rich assets, including our land, water, heritage and people, who have for more than 100 years provided the coal that has fueled America;

Whereas Roane County and its residents are working every day to build communities that are strong, healthy and a place where our future generations can continue to live and find meaningful work and where we can build on and celebrate our assets;

Whereas the Appalachian region of the United States is experiencing a dramatic economic transition with the decline of the coal industry and communities in Roane County have been historical sites of coal production;

Whereas we believe that the transition to a future economy should be one that celebrates our culture; invests in communities; generates good, stable and meaningful jobs; is just and equitable; and protects and restores our land and water;

Whereas the POWER+ Plan includes programs that would disburse \$1 billion in funding for Abandoned Mine Land (AML) projects that create long-term business and economic opportunities; would invest millions in workforce development and job training programs in communities impacted by the decline of the coal industry; and would strengthen the health and pension plans of 100,000 retired coal miners and their families;

Whereas no less than \$20,000 worth of AML problems and at least 1 abandoned mine sites remain in Roane County alone, and POWER+ funds could be used to create local jobs and business opportunities by addressing the risks to health, safety, and future economic development that these abandoned sites in our county pose;

Whereas the POWER+ Plan has been proposed by the White House and currently sits before Congress;

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Roane County Environmental Review Board supports passage of the POWER+ Plan by the *US* Congress and encourages Senator Lamar Alexander, Senator Bob Corker, and Congressman Chuck Fleischmann to see passage of this Plan through the federal legislative process .