

**Roane County Environmental Review Board (RCERB)
April 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes (Approved 5-5-11)**

Members Present:

Hailey Caldwell, Student
Riley Collins, Student
Bruce Kimmel, Chairman
Mary Anne Koltowich, Recorder
Frank Kornegay
Gail Okulczyk
Dave Reichle, Vice Chairman

Members Absent:

Brian Niekerk

Guests:

John Kammeyer, Vice President, Coal Combustion Products (VP of CCP), TVA
Warren Kocher, Roane County Planning Commission
Bert Robinson, Manager, Media Relations, TVA
James Smith, Roane County Resident
Ron Woody, Roane County Executive (Mayor)

Agenda: Approved (see attached)

Public Comments: None.

Proceedings:

The April 7, 2011 meeting of the RCERB was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Bruce Kimmel.

- 1) Approval of March 3, 2011 RCERB Meeting Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 3, 2011 RCERB meeting minutes as presented during the meeting. The minutes had previously been reviewed via e-mail and comments were incorporated. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.
- 2) Program: TVA Kingston Fossil Plant Gypsum Pond Leak and Recovery: Bert Robinson, TVA, arranged for this meeting of the RCERB to be a discussion and site tour of the gypsum pond leak and recovery efforts. He introduced John Kammeyer, TVA VP of CCP. The following is a summary of the discussion and site tour:

- **General** – TVA is spending \$1.5-2 billion on converting coal ash storage to dry storage facilities utility-wide
- **Gypsum Pond Leak Causes** – Engineering studies and evaluations have attributed the leak to be primarily due to:
 - 1) The geology of rock pinnacles with soft soils in between, allowing water from rainfall to erode from above, and water table rise to erode from below, and
 - 2) The three-foot deep clay liner was not strong enough to resist existing water pressures.

These two factors combined to allow a 3-inch hole (dropout) to develop that acted as a siphon in the gypsum pond. The leak was actually visible by the vortex that had formed on the surface. It was emphasized that the dropout occurred in an area where only water leaked; no stored gypsum went into the Clinch River.

- **Remediation** – The 50-acre pond has been divided into Phase I and II areas. The 3-foot clay liner is being peeled back and removed into storage for as much reuse as possible. In areas of soft soils, particularly near the area of the leak, soils will be over excavated an additional four (4) feet. About 1-foot of gravel and 1-foot of sand

will be added back as filters, along with a 60-mil manufactured plastic-like liner added on top of the replace 3-foot clay liner layer.

- **Future Plans** – A silo is under construction to store dry ash with the ability to load into “closed” trucks.
- **Seismic Risk** – The pile of gypsum to eventually accumulate is predicted to be about 80-90 feet in height. The pile is mainly hidden by trees on the riverfront, so there will be little visible from the Clinch River or across the river (Kingston). Analysis of a 2500-year period of seismic events determined “0” chance of dry stack gypsum/pond failure
- **Inspection Program** – Daily, weekly, and monthly checks of the dikes are made by plant operating personnel. Thorough 1-year and 5-year inspections are going to be performed by engineers trained and qualified to the dam safety standards. CCP storage dikes were not required to have these inspections before the ash spill; this is a major change to TVA practices.
- **Questions** –
 - 1) It was asked if it was still planned to transport gypsum from the TVA Bull Run plant and store it at the Kingston Plant. Those plans have changed; gypsum will no longer to be moved from Bull Run to Kingston.
 - 2) It was asked what plans are being made to recycle or otherwise dispose of the gypsum (instead of storage). The response is that efforts are underway to both sell the gypsum (currently no market due the economy) and to contract disposal (pay a company) to haul it away if that cost is close to equal that of the cost to store the gypsum and maintain the gypsum pond.

John Kammeyer and Bert Robinson were thanked for their time and for their informative discussions and tour arrangements.

3) Remainder of RCERB Agenda: Postponed until the next meeting scheduled for May 5, 2011.

4) Upcoming Programs:

Waste Management – Invite Ralph Stewart to a future RCERB meeting to discuss updates to the county’s waste management program and the possibility of re-establishing Hazardous Waste Disposal Day in the county.

Clinch River Monitoring Wells – Invite John Owsley from TDEC (oversight of DOE ORR activities) to provide an update on the sampling of wells south of the Clinch River.

TVA Emory River Ash Spill – Invite Craig Zoeller, EPA Project Manager, to provide a program updating progress on ash spill cleanup and future cleanup plans.

Student Members – Provide ideas for programs on topics they believe important to them environmentally.

7:45 pm - Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Anne Koltowich
2011-2012 Roane County ERB Recorder

Attachment: April 7, 2011 Agenda

Meeting Agenda April 7, 2011; 6:00 P.M.
Roane County Environmental Review Board
TVA Kingston Steam Plant

- 6:00 Call to Order
- 6:01 Approval of Agenda
- 6:05 Approval of March 3, 2011 RCERB Meeting Minutes
- 6:10 Public comment time
- 6:20 Program – Bert Robinson, Manager, Valley Relations – Status and Update on the TVA Kingston Fossil Plant Gypsum Pond
- 7:00 Roundtable Discussions – deferred until the May RCERB meeting
- A) RCERB participation with the Roane County Planning Committee (Midge Jessiman, Roane County’s State of TN Community Planner)
 - B) Oak Ridge LOC update – Gail Okulczyk
 - C) Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Notice of Public Meeting March 31, 2011 Available live web video streaming beginning at 9:00 am; location: www.dnfsb.gov
 - D) Schedule upcoming programs

Documents for Review/Comment:

- 1) Army Corps of Engineers - Public Notice No. 11-09: “Nationwide Permit Reissuance Request For Comments”; refer to http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/cof/special_notices.htm
 - 2) Permit Number TNHW-127, NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PERMIT MODIFICATION OF THE TENNESSEE HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT PART B PERMIT FOR THE Y-12 NATIONAL SECURITY COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IDENTIFICATION TN3 89 009 001 OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37831: http://tn.gov/environment/swm/ppo/y12nsc_tnhw127.pdf
 - 3) Notice of Intent and Fact Sheet, NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AND TREATMENT PERMIT FOR ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC: Energy Solutions, LLC submitted a Class 3 Permit Modification request to DSWM on August 8, 2007, to add a new storage and treatment unit, P4 RCRA Treatment Building, to its operations at the Bear Creek Facility. The new unit will have a storage capacity of 33,750 gallons and a treatment capacity of 22,600 cubic feet per day. DSWM proposes to approve the Class 3 Permit Modification. http://tn.gov/environment/swm/ppo/energy_sol_noi_modify_tnd982157570.pdf
 - 4) EPA DMR-QA Study - Current Study 31, mailed in January 2011, includes chemistry, microbiology and Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) tests. <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/monitoring/programs/cwa/dmr/#study>
 - 5) Gypsy Moth Spray Project – Public Open meeting March 24, 2011 Midway Elementary School: Spraying dates of April 18 and 22 using small low flying aircraft
 - 6) Recommendation 196: Revised Recommendations on Alternatives to Memorialize the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park and Manhattan Project Exhibits in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/Recommendations/FY2011/Recommendation196.pdf>
- 7:30 adjourn