

**Roane County Environmental Review Board (RCERB)
September 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes (Final Approved)**

Members Present:

Bruce Kimmel, Chairman
Mary Anne Koltowich, Recorder
Frank Kornegay
Gail Okulczyk
Robert Peelle
Dave Reichle, Vice Chairman

Members Absent:

Hailey Caldwell, Student
Riley Collins, Student
Brian Niekerk

Guests:

David Adler, DOE Oak Ridge
Dave Hemelright, ORR Site Specific Advisory Board
Warren Kocher, Roane County Planning Commission
David Martin, ORR Site Specific Advisory Board
Elizabeth Peelle, Roane County Citizen

Agenda: Approved (see attached)

Public Comments: None

Proceedings:

The September 1, 2011 meeting of the RCERB was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Bruce Kimmel.

- 1) Approval of August 4, 2011 RCERB Meeting Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the August 4, 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 – Dave Adler, U.S. DOE Oak Ridge Operations, DOE ORR Offsite Groundwater Monitoring (including Jones Island Road area)

ORR DOE approached the offsite groundwater monitoring program to prioritize working on offsite insults first. During the 1990s through about 2006, the ORR concentrated on characterizing and remediating (as necessary) the waste burial grounds and tanks (e.g., underground storage tanks for gas, diesel). The focus now is dealing with contaminated buildings, with working on the K-25 building, which is deteriorating very quickly.

Ninety-nine (99%) of the contaminated groundwater is within the boundaries of the ORR; some sampling results indicate contaminants slightly exceeding allowable drinking water standards. It has migrated to the Clinch River with limited amounts appearing to have gone under the river off the ORR as two samples exhibited contaminants (Jones Island Road area). These were one strontium-90 detection and one technetium-99 detection in two different wells with results low and not exceeding any drinking water standards. There have been no repeats in detection in subsequent samples. Since these detects, DOE has installed water lines and is providing city water to about 45 residents, and paying for this water. All the residents have voluntarily stopped using their wells as to help prohibit further contaminant migration. Four (4) quarters of monitoring/sampling events have been completed.

Some residential wells exhibit brine if they are very deep (500-600 feet). There has been some new residential development in the Jones Island area. When DOE ORR learned of these new residents, they were asked to not install any wells. Again, these new residents were attached to city water with DOE paying the bills. There are now about 20 offsite full-spectrum sample-enabled wells installed by DOE with two new wells installed further north

in the Pawnook Road area at TDEC's request. There are also ten (10) wells being monitored at the back of the Roane Industrial Park area. With the number and placement of all these wells, DOE is also able to analyze and determine groundwater flow.

On the ORR, the shallow waste burial areas have produced contaminated shallow groundwater. Most of the contamination seen is from these areas. DOE is starting to look at deeper sources, such as the hydrofracture waste injection that occurred deeper. There are some 1000-foot deep wells on the ORR side of the Clinch; strontium-90 has been seen at 500 feet deep, along with trichloroethylene (TCE). DOE ORR is working with the EPA and TDEC and looking at longer-term next steps, including isotopic studies. DOE is focused on cleaning up off-site land to prevent the need for land deep restrictions.

Robert Peelle brought up the topic of a 1000-year flood/dam break and the need to conduct a future look at what could result if White Oak Lake Dam failed or large volumes of water scoured the river and carried contaminated sediments/groundwater downstream. Dave Adler responded that this was an excellent point. DOE has been upgrading the White Oak Dam to handle more water, but plans to study this issue further. Plans are to install about 10 - 15 more sampling locations on the ORR. About \$5 million/year is spent by DOE on the groundwater monitoring program, with sample costs running about \$200,000/year.

Dave Adler was thanked for his excellent technical and candid discussion, and he offered to be of further assistance to the RCERB as needed.

3) Roundtable Discussions

A. Recycling in the Schools

As Riley Collins and Hailey Caldwell were unable to attend this meeting, discussion is deferred until RCERB's next meeting.

B. Strategic Planning Session

As Frank Kornegay and Brian Niekerk were unable to attend this meeting, it was decided to defer this discussion until RCERB's next meeting.

C. DOE ORR Offsite Monitoring Wells Draft Resolution

With the new information gained from Dave Adler's presentation and discussion, it was decided the focus of this resolution needs to be revisited. It may be necessary to research the need for deed restrictions on land sales in the areas known to be affected by the DOE ORR offsite groundwater contamination migration. This is early in the thought process with more effort needed to determine any path forward.

D. Update on ORR Local Oversight Committee (LOC) 9/1/11 Meeting

Mary Anne Koltowich attended the special called meeting of the ORR LOC that occurred 9/1/11 from approximately 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm at the Roane Alliance Building. As of June 30, 2011, the five-year agreement between TDEC and DOE that provides the grant monies for the TDEC Oversight and the ORR LOC oversight functions expired. DOE and TDEC have come to an agreement that DOE will fund TDEC's oversight on a month-to-month basis. However, the ORR LOC has no allotted funds and has little money left. The paid staff members are no longer being paid (President and Administrative Assistant).

There was full attendance by the ORR LOC Board Members – Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP)-adjunct to the ORR LOC, Anderson County, City of Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB), Roane County, RCERB, Loudon County, Knox County, Meigs County, Rhea County, and Morgan County. Several board alternates and members of the public were also present. Much of the discussion

centered around other “bodies” performing similar functions and activities (e.g., ORR Site Specific Advisory Board and EQAB); is the ORR LOC the best vehicle? The ORR LOC Vice Chair stated the organization has saved \$1 billion in costs to the taxpayers and made a motion for the ORR LOC to continue as-is as soon as funds become available.

The Roane County Executive expressed concerns as to the organizational structure under which the ORR LOC operates. With it being a 501(c)(3), the Board members can be financially held liable for any outstanding obligations and with no errors/omissions protection. At this time, outstanding obligations stand at about \$19,400 (\$15,300 being the last six weeks of unpaid payroll). Mr. Woody further explained that if the ORR LOC was run under a government agency, it would be under the coverage of the government and board members would not be vulnerable to financial liabilities and errors/omissions. The Oak Ridge City Manager, in a letter to TDEC dated August 3, 2011, suggested the deletion of the reference to the ORR LOC in the Tennessee Oversight Agreement (TOA).

Another motion was made by Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge City Mayor, to “decommission” the ORR LOC as a 501(c)(3) and decide on a different operating format, while keeping the CAP. John Owsley, TDEC Oversight, helped explain the relationship between DOE and TDEC and then between TDEC and the ORR LOC. He said TDEC is offering a one-year grant to fund to ORR LOC from July 1, 2011 until June 30, 2012. The ORR LOC would need to review the proposed contract and decide its course of action. Consensus was reached that more information would be needed to decide a path forward at this time and to gather additional information as to what would be entailed for the ORR LOC to dissolve itself as a 501(c)(3) organization. It was agreed for the full ORR LOC to have another meeting on 9/9/11, beginning at 3 pm, at the Roane Alliance, to decide on a further course of action.

E. New Business – None at this time

7:30 pm - Adjourn

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

Attachments:
September 1, 2011 Agenda

Meeting Agenda September 1, 2011; 6:00 P.M. Revised/Approved
Roane County Environmental Review Board

- 6:00 Call to Order
- 6:01 Approval of Agenda
- 6:05 Approval of August 4, 2011 RCERB Meeting Minutes
- 6:10 Public comment time
- 6:15 Program – Dave Adler, U.S. DOE Oak Ridge Operations, DOE ORR Offsite Groundwater Monitoring (including Jones Island area)
- 7:00 Roundtable Discussions
 - A) Ideas and actions to help encourage high school students, in particular, and younger grades also to recycle in the schools – Riley Collins, Hailey Caldwell, Gail Okulczyk
 - B) Strategic Planning Session Update – Bruce Kimmel
 - C) Draft Resolution on DOE ORR Offsite Groundwater Monitoring Program
 - D) ORR LOC meeting 9/1/11 – Mary Anne Koltowich
 - E) New Business

Upcoming Events:

- 1) 2011 Oak Ridge Emergency Management Forum, Thursday, September 8, 2011, at the Y-12 New Hope Center. Online registration until September 6, 2011 at: <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/oremforum> under 2011 EM Forum. Walk-in registration also available morning of the forum.

Documents Received for Consideration:

- 1) **Subject:** Notification of Licensing Actions
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 2011 11:23:05 -0500
From: Division.Radiological Health <Division.Radiological.Health@tn.gov>
To: Division.Radiological Health <Division.Radiological.Health@tn.gov>
The Division of Radiological Health has received a request from Duratek Services, Inc., 1560 Bear Creek Road, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, to amend their Tennessee Radioactive Material License Number R-73006-F13 to extend the onsite residence of currently stored liquid waste streams past the 365 day authorization due to unforeseen start-up delays of the recently licensed dryer system which is now operating well and processing material as expected. The extension is requested for a nominal 150 days for the oldest waste. The target date to complete processing is January 31, 2012. The location for these activities is the Duratek facility at 628 Gallaher Road, Kingston, Tennessee.
See <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/rad/ppo/> for public participation opportunities.
- 2) TVA draft EA Kingston Fossil Plant Ash Recovery – Proposed Recreation Areas, public comments due 9/16/11 and may be submitted online to Kelly Baxter, NEPA Specialist, TVA at krbaxter@tva.gov. Website for review: http://www.tva.gov/environment/reports/kif_rec/index.htm