



# Roane County Environmental Review Board

What We Do and Who We Are

Presentation to the Roane County  
Commission, August 13, 2012

Executive Summary #6a

# RCERB Purpose

- ▶ RCERB is a volunteer–manned advisory group serving the Roane County Executive and Commission.
- ▶ RCERB helps inform and advise the Roane County Executive, Commission, and citizens about environment–related activities occurring and proposed in the County that could have significant consequences for citizen health & safety, and/or to the county’s natural resources.
- ▶ RCERB is an advisory body; it has no regulatory or political authority. We understand that the Roane County Executive & Commission may consider recommendations from the ERB in making their judgments.

# RCERB Membership

- ▶ Currently consists of 5 to 7 general members and 1 to 2 student members. Board members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the Roane County Commission.
- ▶ General members serve for overlapping terms of 3 years. High school student members serve until the end of his/her senior year or a maximum 2-year term.

# 2011–2012 RCERB Members

- ▶ Bruce Kimmel – Chairman, *Tetra Tech*
  - ▶ Mary Anne Koltowich – Vice Chairman, *EnergySolutions*
  - ▶ Gail Okulczyk, Recorder, *EnergySolutions*
  - ▶ David Reichle – Retired, formerly ORNL Assoc. Director
  - ▶ Frank Kornegay – Retired, formerly ORNL SNS Ops Mgr
  - ▶ Brian Niekerk, Isotek Systems LLC
  - ▶ Robert W. Peelle, Retired, Lifetime Member Emeritus
  - ▶ Hailey Caldwell, RCHS Student representative
  - ▶ Riley Collins, RCHS Student representative
  - ▶ \*Liaison – Warren Kocher, RC Planning Commission
- ▶ New term year starts August 1, 2012 for 2012–2013

# RCERB 2011 – 2012 Focus Areas

- ▶ **TVA Ash Spill** – continue to follow recovery project & monitoring
- ▶ **Air Quality/Non-Attainment Issues** – if area exceeds air quality standards, Roane County faced with expensive requirements
- ▶ **Plateau Park** – Roane County vulnerable to wastewater treatment violations
- ▶ **TVA Gypsum Pond / Pile** – additional potential for environmental damage
- ▶ **ORR Cleanup Activities** – risk-based priorities, funding, communication
- ▶ **Clinch River/Jones Island Groundwater** – DOE providing drinking water due to well contamination
- ▶ **Waste Management/Recycling** – promote recycling in our county and schools

# Future Focus Areas

- ▶ Unkempt/Abandoned Properties – Support District Attorney for forced cleanup
- ▶ “Clean Marina Initiative” Participation – Review proposals for marina expansions/new marinas (Caney Creek and Blue Springs marinas already participate)
- ▶ Modular Nuclear Reactor Units (SMRs) – Follow Clinch River Breeder Reactor site activities, RCERB registered with the NRC as a “stakeholder”
- ▶ Hazardous Waste Day – Promote and support
- ▶ Recycling – support program(s) for all RC schools

# TVA Emory River Ash Spill

- ▶ Review of water and air sampling results since the initial event
- ▶ Represented on the Long Range Recovery Committee (LRCC no longer operates)
- ▶ Attends TVA/EPA/TDEC Open Houses and workshops (e.g., 6 workshops during April, May, and June 2012 for the upcoming EE/CA)
- ▶ Review and comment of TVA Permits/Work Plans/ Reports
- ▶ Requests EPA Project Manager, Craig Zeller, to provide status updates



# Air Quality Issues

- ▶ Air quality and “non-attainment” issue – high priority topic
- ▶ Roane County – may become a member of county “compact” with Knox and other surrounding counties
- ▶ “Compact” area – if found to exceed air quality standards, emission controls required, includes installation of air monitors, car testing, and other actions expensive to implement
- ▶ Recent news indicates that Knox and area meet air quality standards for now, but continued awareness is required for future; Blount recently failed



# Air Quality Issues (cont'd.)

- ▶ Industrial park off I-40 near 360 mile marker – particular concern with two major truck facilities in residence as trucks do a huge amount of idling thus increasing air emissions
- ▶ Possible truck stop – may also become major resident of this same industrial park
- ▶ RCERB – would like to be a partner with the Industrial Board when bringing in industry to promote awareness of possible environmental issues, so planning can be more effective

# Plateau Park – Cumberland, Co.

- ▶ Roane County has one of the few public-owned treatment works (POTW)/wastewater treatment plants in the state
- ▶ Plateau Park – needs to connect with our water treatment system
- ▶ Impact – cost and ability to stay in regulatory compliance
- ▶ Plateau Park effluents dependent on tenants/industries present. Potential for Roane County WTP to be impacted by unpermitted effluents; fines could result

# Plateau Park (cont'd.)

- ▶ Industrial Development Board – including Roane/Morgan/Cumberland counties need to evaluate the feasibility of and potential impacts of various industries coming into Plateau Park
- ▶ RCERB – attended forum in February 2011 at RSCC; provided questions and suggestions
- ▶ Potential Site Tenants – need review as to types of wastes generated and if current WTP can handle
- ▶ RCERB – attended forum in 2012 on area industrial park availability and features

# TVA Gypsum Pond Leak (Jan. 2011)

- ▶ RCERB – Toured site and reviewed causes of leak and plans for gypsum storage presented by TVA
- ▶ Original NPDES permit – RCERB provided input to TDEC for required sampling, monitoring, and inspection criteria (including diking)
- ▶ Gypsum now stored dry in a pile to be approx. 60 ft high (TDEC permit is for 200 ft high wet storage)
- ▶ Gypsum is more toxic than fly ash, less stable, and more subject to liquefaction
- ▶ Recycle – Since scrubber conception, RCERB has strongly encouraging TVA to sell or contract disposal of gypsum vs storing near Clinch River

# DOE ORR Cleanup Activities

- ▶ RCERB follows DOE ORR Cleanup Program plans, status and progress
- ▶ RCERB advises Roane County Executive re risk-based cleanup priorities
- ▶ RCERB has offered to help in developing new interlocal government agreement group path forward

# Clinch River/Jones Island Groundwater

- ▶ TDEC – provides oversight of DOE groundwater monitoring program
- ▶ Evidence of migration of ORR contaminants across Clinch River
- ▶ DOE – provided city water to area residents, samples ORR and offsite ORR wells, has installed additional monitoring wells in Jones Island area
- ▶ RCERB – in direct contact with TDEC and DOE personnel involved to stay informed

# Waste Management/Recycling

- ▶ Recycling – RCERB student project for RCHS to have recycle program; Ralph Stewart is a key participant
- ▶ Litter – more involvement, awareness, participation needed to reduce local littering
- ▶ Residential Developers – lack of construction debris cleanup; monitor TDEC Notices of Violations (NOVs)
- ▶ Roane County Solid Waste Program and Coordinator, Zoning Ordinances, and RCERB liaison with Planning Commission are positives



# RCERB Recent History

- ▶ 1989 – Established by Resolution #1975
- ▶ September 1991 – Modified Resolution #1975 by Resolution #2271 to increase membership to seven (7)
- ▶ August 2007 – After being inactive for a number of years, re-activated by Resolution #08-07-04, increasing membership to eight (8) general members and one (1) student member
- ▶ September 2009 – Adopted Resolution #09-09-11 amending the 2007 Resolution #08-07-04, adding terms of incumbent members with expiring terms to be automatically extended until appointments of replacements.
- ▶ March 2011 – Adopted Resolution #03-11-12 clarifying creation, purpose and membership