

Opening Remarks for ECA Chair Ron Woody

2018 National Cleanup Workshop

- Good morning and welcome to the National Cleanup Workshop.
- My name is Ron Woody. I am the County Executive of Roane County, Tennessee, and I also serve as Chair of the Energy Communities Alliance.
- ECA has worked closely with the Energy Facility Contractors Group and the Department of Energy (DOE) over the past year to develop this meeting.
- The purpose of the workshop is to discuss our shared challenges, opportunities, and goals.
- Looking around this room, I can see that the partnership between contractors, communities, and DOE is strong, and support continues as we work together addressing our cleanup mission across the DOE Complex.
- I don't want anyone to lose sight of the importance of the work - my goal and the goal of our communities is to ensure that our environment is clean and safe – The cleanup mission is important to all of us. Roane County houses two of the three DOE facilities in Oak Ridge.

But all three facilities are located in valleys which drain through Roane County. The outfalls and drainage runoff flow to the Clinch River which borders DOE. The County Seat (City of Kingston) by water is downstream 5 miles from the site. Kingston then has 5 miles of shore frontage of the Clinch River before merging into the Tennessee River. I live 10 river miles below Kingston. The commercial fishing business that put shoes on our feet and clothes on our backs as young kids and teenagers have been shut down because of activities during WWII and the post-war DOE mission. I live 20 river miles from the DOE site. My dad fished the river as a young boy, and I hope one day we can commercial fish again.

*I represent a community that is interested in cleanup.

- This is our fourth National Cleanup Workshop, and we now have over 650 participants here today and hundreds more streaming the conference live and on YouTube. We continue to attract excellent speakers including:
 - Representative Chuck Fleischmann from my home state of Tennessee;
 - Idaho Representative Mike Simpson, who has been hard at work as Chair of the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee
 - Paul Dabbar, the Undersecretary of Science; and o Anne White, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.
- I want to thank DOE for their ongoing support and leadership on this conference. By working together there is recognition that we all are in this together, not just

as DOE, States, Tribes, Local Governments, citizens and contractors, but we all contribute to the success of the mission.

- As I was preparing for today, I want to recognize various challenges and opportunities:
 - I want the communities to be acknowledged as partners and be engaged in headquarters and site-level decision making.
 - I want us to work as partners with DOE contractors in our communities;
 - I want us to make sure DOE has the funding it needs to continue a successful cleanup mission
 - I want us to cleanup the environment.

Successes: There has been a number of successes

- EM's participation in these meetings and workshops shows us they are committed to communicating and working with us even as policy decisions on some of our priorities remain in development.
- We have on of the largest budget in EM's recent history this year.
- DOE is moving forward and awarding contracts.
- DOE recently conveyed 80 acres of land to the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant back to the community.
- DOE obtained approval and held a groundbreaking for a new underground ventilation system at the Waste isolation Pilots Plant.
- The resumption of liquid waste operations at the Savannah River Site is another positive development.

Goals, Challenges, and Opportunities

- We continue to desire a policy/law that will start to identify and dispose of radioactive waste based on its characteristics versus the current practice of focusing on the source. This can potentially save DOE over \$40 billion.
- On challenges, many do still remain, and we need to ensure that communication and engagement remain a priority for DOE and NNSA.
 - ✓ Folks these facilities are in our communities, they bring good paying jobs, but they also bring negative economic impact on various communities. We must recognize these impacts and work to relieve these negative economic impacts.
 - No more tax exemptions - in TN and in NM - we need DOE and NNSA to understand the long-lasting impacts to our communities and think about

the long-term issues like schools, infrastructure and quality of life for the DOE workforce when contractors become exempt for paying taxes like other businesses in our states – these are not short-term missions.

- Decreasing and failure to pay Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). Our communities are faced with fluctuating economies based on annual congressional appropriations which result in significant burdens on local infrastructure and schools - burdens that end up being borne by local taxpayers.
- DOE Order 140.1: The Environmental Safety and Health Office's failure to involve or even notify anyone (States, local governments, communities, DNFSB) on a new draft DOE Order 140.1, - which we believe impacts health and safety at the sites. While ECA supports efficiencies in the DOE and DNFSB working relationship, we want to make sure that it is not at the expense of health or the safety of workers in our communities.
- I know that we have a lot to discuss and I look forward to getting things underway. Meetings like this help build trust and strengthen relationships as we work to accomplish our common goals.
- Finally, I want to give a big "Thank You" to all of our sponsors for this meeting, and we thank each of them individually.
- Your support allows us to bring everyone together and get a clearer understanding of how best to coordinate and collaborate on how best to achieve the cleanup mission.

Before I turn the mic over to Billy, here is a short story.

Enjoy the Conference.

Let me now hand this over to my good friend Billy Morrison.

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Helping People Solve Their Own Conflicts

Individual reading and reflection:

I want you to identify the conflict(s) in the following story and the steps taken to resolve the conflicts.

Once upon a time, a Wise Man was attending the funeral and receiving of friends of a longtime friend who had passed after an extended illness. The Wise man observed the deceased the three sons were distraught but him being wise he knew it was not over their father's death as it was not only a prepared death by not only by the father but also by

the sons as they had watched their father's faithful life and painful death,

The Wise man ask why the sons were so distraught. "My children, what is the matter?"

And the sons answered, "Our father just passed away, and we loved him so much."

"But," said the Wiseman, "I am sure he loved you too, and no doubt he has left something behind for you?"

The three sons answered, "Yes, he did indeed, He left behind silver coins for us. And in his will it is stated that $\frac{1}{2}$ goes to the eldest son, $\frac{1}{3}$ to the second, and $\frac{1}{9}$ to the youngest.

We loved dad, and we agree with the parts granted to each. But there is a problem: he left behind 17 silver coins. We have all educated and know that 17 is a prime number. And we will be unable to divide the 17 according to his wishes."

The Wiseman thought for a while, and then said, "I have a silver coin and will give you mine then you have 18."

And they started to protest: "No, we know your father gave you this coin, his only coin and it is precious to you."

The Wiseman interrupted them, "My children, take the coin, go ahead."

So they did and then divided the Silver Coins according to the father's instructions:

- 18 divided by 2 (one-half) = 9, so the eldest son received 9 silver coins.
- 18 divided by 3 (one-third) = 6, so the second son received 6 silver coins.
- 18 divided by 9 (one-ninth) = 2, so the youngest son got 2 silvers coins. Thus the three sons received $9 + 6 + 2 = 17$ silver coins in all.

$$9+6+2=17$$

One silver coin remained, the Wiseman's silver coin. The Wiseman said: "Are you happy? Well, then, maybe I can get my silver coin back?" And the three men, full of gratitude, said, "Of course," not quite understanding what had happened.

The Wiseman blessed them and quickly rode off into glowing evening sun.

Review the story and list the steps the Wiseman used to help the brothers resolve their conflict:

My Challenge to you is to be that wise man or women. Let's solve and some problems.

Possible responses:

Notice a situation that needs attention,

Stop the routine, Perceive people's emotions,

Ask questions,

Listen,

Look for something positive to build on in this case, love between parent and children],

Ask about other circumstances that might not have been explained yet,

Take time to contemplate,

Look for what's missing,

Offer something dear to oneself and others,

Let the parties in conflict work out their own solution based on criteria they can agree upon,

Check whether they are satisfied,

Ask them to give back what they don't need,

Move on.