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**FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE TRANSMITTAL OF APPROVED
MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 18, 1995 MEETING**

03/21/95

APPLEGATE TASK FORCE
8
MEMO

FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE

A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Chair:

John S. Applegate

Members:

James Bierer

Marvin Clawson

Lisa Crawford

Pam Dunn

Dr. Constance Fox

Guy Guckenberger

Darryl Huff

Jerry Monahan

Tom B. Rentschler

Robert Tabor

Warren E. Strunk

Thomas Wagner

Dr. Gene Willeke

Alternates:

Russ Beckner

Jackie Embry

Ex Officio:

J. Phillip Hamric

Graham Mitchell

Jim Saric

MEMORANDUM

TO: Task Force Members

FROM: John S. Applegate, *JSA* Chair

DATE: March 21, 1995

RE: Transmittal of Approved Minutes from February 18, 1995 Meeting

I have enclosed the minutes of the February 18, 1995 meeting, as approved by the Task Force at its March 11, 1995 meeting. If you have any questions, please call me at 556-0114 or Judy Armstrong at 738-0003.

JSA:jaa
Enclosure

C:PA:(FCTF):95-1048

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Minutes from February 18, 1995 Meeting

Members

Present:

John Applegate
James Bierer
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Constance Fox
Guy Guckenberger
Darryl Huff
Gene Jablonowski, U.S. EPA
Graham Mitchell, Ohio EPA
Tom Rentschler
Bob Tabor
Thomas Wagner
Gene Willeke

Members

Absent:

Phil Hamric, DOE
Warren Strunk

Guests:

Dan Caruso, Mayor, Borough of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania
Jack Craig, DOE

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Applegate at 8:34 a.m. Approximately 25 spectators were in attendance representing FRESH, CLEAN, ODH, GCBCTC, ATSDR, Ross Township, local residents, FERMCO, DOE, U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA, and other interested parties.

1. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the January 14, 1995 Fernald Citizens Task Force meeting were approved without amendment or correction.

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2. Remarks:

Chair John Applegate announced that the budget and grazing agenda items would be deferred to the end of the meeting in order to proceed with the final discussion and recommendation on waste disposition.

Ken Morgan announced that he was the Deputy Designated Federal Official and in this position is a liaison between the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Fernald Citizens Task Force. He announced that Gary Stegner would be fulfilling these duties on a day-to-day basis in the future.

Applegate reported that the National Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C. and was attended by six Task Force members, was very informative and provided much information about issues at other sites across the DOE complex.

The date of the May meeting, without objection, was set for May 6, 1995.

3. Environmental Monitoring Committee

Dr. Gene Willeke reported that the Environmental Monitoring Committee has met twice. The committee is concerned that some risks may have been overstated (leaching from the disposal cell) and some understated (the movement of vast quantities of contaminated soil off-site). Willeke also reported on a new federal rule for Uranium Mill Tailings Remediation Action (UMTRA) sites, which sets acceptable levels of total uranium in groundwater at 44 ppm compared to the proposed MCLs of 20 ppm. This was followed by a general discussion of the effect that this ruling would have on the acceptable levels the Task Force has recommended, since the new standard is not directly applicable to the Fernald site. Gene Jablonowski reported that it would be the decision of Region V of the U.S. EPA whether or not to apply these standards to the Fernald site. Lisa Crawford and Pam Dunn expressed the view that the new standards should not be applied to Fernald. Applegate suggested that the Task Force work with the Ohio and U.S. EPAs during the coming months to resolve this issue and that it could be addressed in the Task Force's Final Report.

4. Report on January 25, 1995 Task Force Public Workshop:

Applegate expressed his thanks to the many Task Force members who were present at the January 25, 1995 Workshop. He stated that a good number of the public was in attendance. The input received at the meeting, especially from local Township Trustees will be very helpful to the Task Force. In general, it was a successful meeting.

5. New Information for the Toolbox:

Applegate framed the issue for discussion: "Should any waste material stay at the site, and if so, what should stay, and what should go?". The meeting was turned over to Doug Sarno who explained the corrected and new information in the 1995 Toolbox. The new information includes a new work plan which, due to projected budget constraints, moves the discussion of cleanup priorities to March, 1995. New information was presented regarding the risk assessment assuming respirators, which lowers carcinogenic risk by a factor of ten, but that is offset by increase in exposure time and susceptibility to injury due to accident. Also, the cost to outfit one worker for one work year is approximately \$26,000. Additional information was provided regarding the use of man-made materials in the cell lining system and modelling. The cell proposed by DOE is designed to last for 1,000 years, but for the purpose of modelling, the man-made components are not expected to last 1,000 years and are therefore not included in the model. Sarno discussed the other man-made liners presently on-site and their failures, but pointed out that the proposed cell design incorporates a new system which does not rely on the man-made components.

Sarno presented information regarding the intermodal (train, then truck) shipment of waste to the Nevada Test Site (NTS). Costs would still be higher than shipping by rail to Envirocare because wastes have to be containerized and because of transfer at the rail/truck exchange point. Applegate and Crawford reported that rail transportation to any truck exchange point in Nevada would be negatively viewed by those in Nevada. Risk is negligibly increased in this option.

Jerry Monahan suggested that a piping system carry waste to Nevada. This would be safer and more cost effective than truck or rail shipment, but he agreed that it may not be possible from a political or engineering standpoint. Sarno agreed to investigate whether such a system had ever been evaluated.

Sarno responded to previous questions regarding total complex-wide shipments of waste to NTS. The volumes and trucking routes from all facilities are presented on page 18a of the 1995 Toolbox. At present Fernald is the primary shipper of waste. Fernald is ahead of other sites in its clean-up programs and this accounts for the large volumes of waste coming from Fernald. Sarno reported that full use of the Envirocare facility does not appear to face any immediate political obstacles. Finally, Sarno turned to pages 24 - 25 of the 1995 Toolbox which shows relative activity per Operable Unit (OU). These pages show that the waste in OUs 2, 3, and 5 represent the lowest level waste on the site. Further, the reason these are to be cleaned, from a hazard standpoint, is to protect the Great Miami Aquifer (GMA).

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6. Report of Dan Caruso, Mayor of the Borough of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania:

Applegate introduced Dan Caruso, Mayor of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, who was involved in the siting and design of a disposal cell for radioactive materials in his community. Caruso mentioned that Dennis Carr (FERMCO) who was in the audience, was also involved in the building of the Canonsburg cell. Canonsburg's experience with uranium began in 1911 when uranium was discovered in the area. A large quantity of mill tailings and residues were generated during extraction by the Canonsburg Vitro plant. Two hundred and twenty homes, several parks, and other public areas were contaminated by the time clean-up began in the early 1980s. Of 10 homes located near the site, it was found that 11 deaths due to various cancers occurred. In a community downwind from the site, 17 cancer deaths were found, 14 in one family. At a local Catholic school and religious residence, 5 nuns died from cancer and others experienced cysts. The school was closed. The estimated amount of contaminated material was 123,000 cubic yards. A cost analysis was performed which compared costs of building a disposal cell or shipping the waste off-site. It was decided that the most cost effective method of cleaning the waste would be a disposal cell to which the local community agreed.

The Borough of Canonsburg obtained a grant from the Department of Energy to educate local school children about the radioactive waste. Applegate asked if the feeling of the community had changed in any way over the years and Caruso answered that residents still remain convinced that the cell has not had a detrimental effect on their health. Caruso invited all to come to Canonsburg to see the evidence. He reported that after ten years time, the cell is a moot issue and doesn't concern the residents. Carr reported that the material found at the Canonsburg site was more hazardous than the material found at Fernald, including radium concentrations as high as 40,000 pCi/g.

The mayor presented Applegate with newspaper articles and information regarding the clean-up at Canonsburg. He said that he thought that the Task Force was much more knowledgeable about the task at hand than the Canonsburg citizens group had been. Applegate thanked Mayor Caruso for making the trip to Cincinnati and for his helpful presentation.

7. New Business:

Applegate began the discussion of the waste disposition question by reporting that Bob Tabor (who had to leave early) suggested that the vote be deferred to obtain more local input. Applegate expressed his view that the local view had been fully aired and considered at numerous Task Force meetings and especially at the January 25, 1995 Workshop. Therefore, a vote should be taken at this meeting, as previously

announced. The Task Force schedule had been specifically designed to have a public workshop to get public input before a recommendation was made. Darryl Huff also suggested that the vote be deferred. Milton Whaley, of Ross, Ohio, asked the Task Force to vote for shipment off-site. Ross Township Trustee David Young agreed and suggested that, if given 30 days, he could put together another meeting be held with Ross Township citizens in attendance. Willeke suggested that a decision should be made today, but that the rationale for the decision be listed as a separate item. Jerry Monahan expressed his concern that more public input, specifically from Ross should be received prior to a vote. Applegate reminded everyone that the Task Force has made extraordinary efforts to involve the local community and that their voice has been heard loud and clear. However, there will also be additional opportunities for public input during the OU5 process. Applegate suggested that perhaps an interim decision would be in order; any recommendation that the Task Force makes at this point, is really an interim decision anyway until the Final Report is issued. Tom Rentschler suggested that a resolution be drafted and voted on today, but to amend any statement, if necessary, prior to the Final Report.

Willeke moved that "The Fernald Citizens Task Force recommend favoring an on-site disposal cell that would accept waste only from the site and within acceptable levels." The motion was seconded by Tom Rentschler. Discussion on the motion then took place. Monahan proposed that the motion be tabled until the next meeting. After some parliamentary discussion, the motion to table was seconded by Huff. The motion to table failed with 9 opposed and 2 in favor. Additional discussion took place and the final draft resolution was read to the Task Force:

The Fernald Citizens Task Force recommends the construction of an on-site disposal facility to accept, from the Fernald site only, materials solely with low levels of contamination meeting the waste acceptance criteria.

An amendment to the motion was also presented by Willeke and was added to identify the key considerations that went into making this recommendation. After discussion and additions by members of the Task Force, the considerations included:

- Provides the most immediate way to protect the aquifer,
 - Least total transport risk;
 - Cost considerations/availability of funds;
 - Risk to other communities;
 - Risk to environment;
 - Availability of disposal area elsewhere;
 - Risk to remedial workers and public;
 - Political realities;
 - Off-site waste;
 - Low levels of waste going in;
 - Definition of waste acceptance criteria;
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- Aesthetics, technology, and design;
- Availability of monitoring;
- Long-term ownership (Department of Energy);
- Retrieval/new technology;
- Risk at cell failure.

Monahan noted that he would abstain from the vote on procedural grounds, but that he was in favor of the resolution. The amendment was then withdrawn and a vote taken on the final resolution. The original motion passed with 9 members in favor and 1 opposed (Huff) and 2 not present (Tabor, Strunk).

Willeke then moved that the chair be directed to prepare a complete resolution and rationale, consistent with the above-listed considerations, to be voted on at the next meeting. James Bierer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Applegate indicated that he would include both reasons for and against an on-site disposal facility, so that all views would be fairly represented.

8. Opportunity for Public Participation:

There were no additional comments on waste disposition, since public input was received during the discussion and the motion to construct a disposal cell. A discussion of the need to have more local input into the disposal cell decision followed.

9. Materials Distributed at Meeting:

OU2 Interim Record of Decision
Interim Report
Revised 1995 Toolbox
Original (1994) Toolbox
CRU 3 Fact Sheet
Consensus Values Worksheet

10. Next Meeting:

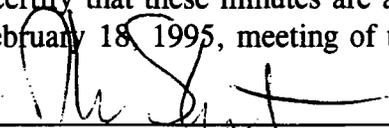
Applegate announced that grazing and budget issues would be discussed at the next meeting which would be held at the Joint Information Center on Saturday, March 11, 1995.

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The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

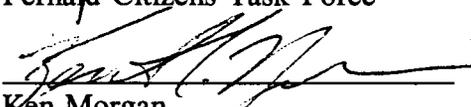
Approved

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the
February 18, 1995, meeting of the Fernald Citizens Task Force.



John S. Applegate, Chair,
Fernald Citizens Task Force

3/11/95
Date



Ken Morgan
Deputy Designated Federal Official

3/11/95
Date