

FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE

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

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

Minutes from March 12, 1994 Meeting

Members Present:

John Applegate
Rita Cestarc, EPA
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Constance Fox
Guy Guckenberger
Phil Hamric, DOE
Darryl Huff
Graham Mitchell, OEPA
Jerry Monahan
Tom Rentschler
Warren Strunk
Bob Tabor
Thomas Wagner
Gene Willeke

About 25 spectators, including members of public, DOE, and FERMCO representatives.

1. Approval of Minutes:

- The draft minutes of the February 12, 1994, meeting of the Task Force were approved without amendment.

2. Remarks:

Chair John Applegate reminded members that Bill Weida, an expert on economic development at Colorado College who is studying economic and employment issues at DOE sites, will be speaking at the March 24, 1994, FRESH meeting. Weida has agreed to meet with the Task Force, even though economic development issues are not going to be addressed by Task Force now. However, because Weida will be available in March, he is

scheduled to meet with Task Force members over dinner on March 24 before the FRESH meeting. Applegate said he will send out more information prior to the dinner.

Applegate also reported that the Task Force and FRESH is co-sponsoring a workshop on Envirocare of Utah, Inc., which is a commercial disposal facility that is permitted to accept low-level radioactive waste. The workshop is scheduled for April 7, 1994. The subject of off-site disposal facilities is very much related to what the Task Force is doing in developing its recommendations, and Applegate said the Envirocare workshop will be helpful in letting Task Force members know a little more about what would happen if wastes were disposed off-site.

Applegate said more information would be distributed to Task Force members about both sessions.

The chair reported that DOE revised its plan to notify the Task Force and other interested parties about waste shipments from the site. (Copies of the revised letter were given to Task Force members at the meeting.)

The revised plan expands the list of interested parties that will be notified to include Morgan, Crosby, and Ross townships; emergency management officials from Hamilton and Butler counties; FRESH; the reading room of the Public Environmental Information Center, and any individual or group that requests it. The plan also will include providing monthly notification of incoming hazardous materials. DOE will provide information about tabular information about projected and actual shipments to and from the site. The information includes the scheduled date or actual date of shipment, the types of materials, the volumes, the mode of transport, and the destination.

Applegate said the letter from DOE conveying the details of the plan brings the matter to a close, although he said that DOE would welcome any comments for improving the notifications. Task Force members also were provided at the meeting a copy of information projecting waste shipments from the site in March and April, 1994.

Applegate noted that Rita Cestaric from U.S. EPA was sitting in for Jim Saric. He also introduced Don Ofte, the new president of FERMCO, and welcomed him to the Task Force meeting and to Fernald.

3. Report on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement:

Applegate told Task Force members that Tom Wagner represented the group at a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement meeting in the Washington, D.C., area last month. He asked Wagner to report on the meeting.

Tom Wagner said others from the Fernald area also attended the meeting, including Vicky Dastilling of FRESH and DOE's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Advisory Board, Doug Sarno, and Laura Hegge from Ohio EPA. This meeting was a follow up from an earlier session, and dealt with the risk assessment process that will be part of PEIS.

The real purpose of this meeting was to help DOE determine what is the best means for presenting the information that comes out of the risk assessment process. Wagner said he thought there were several issues relevant to the Task Force, including waste treatment and waste disposal. Wagner said DOE was discussing having up to 49 sites -- or as few as 4 sites -- become treatment facilities. DOE also is considering using up to 13 sites -- or as few as one site -- for disposal.

Wagner suggested that the Task Force be aware of these discussions going on at a national level. He also reported that the Superfund Reauthorization legislation contains proposed language that perhaps will redefine the composition of site-specific advisory boards (SSABs). He recommended that the Task Force make sure the legislation benefits the citizens of the Fernald area.

Applegate added that waste importation is likely to be a significant issue for the Task Force. He explained that, as part of the development of technology on site, a certain amount of material from other sites may be brought to Fernald for treatment to see if the technology works. This issue is relevant to the Task Force's transportation concerns if materials are going to be coming on to the site, as well as because of the implications for future use. Applegate suggested forming a sub-committee to look into waste importation. The Task Force agreed; Lisa Crawford, Darryl Huff, and Bob Tabor volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.