



MEETING SUMMARY

Date: June 11, 2003

Topics:

- Rock Flats Cold War Museum
- Status of Records Management
- Follow-Up to NRD Roundtable

Attendees:

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

Sandy Butterfield
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Bob Tabor

FRESH

Edwa Yocum

The Perspectives Group

Doug Sarno
David Bidwell

U.S. Department of Energy

Ed Skintik
Gary Stegner
Anne Wickham

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Donna Bohannon
Tom Schneider

Fluor Fernald

Luther Brown
Joe Shomaker
Ric Strobl
Sue Walpole
Eric Woods

Other

Jason Krupar

General Updates

Doug Sarno called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda. Joe Shomaker announced that two groups have expressed an interest in repatriating the Seneca and Shawnee remains at the site. He also stated that Barbara Krandall has asked that the current Native American burial site at Fernald be marked with a boulder. Joe stated that although there are boulders at the site that would be appropriate, a means to move them has not been identified. Joe also showed the committee members a booklet on the area's Native American history, which will be mailed to key stakeholders and employees.

Eric Woods stated that work has begun on an institutional controls plan for Fernald. He anticipated that a first draft would be submitted to U.S. EPA in the Autumn of 2003. Committee members asked that the community have an opportunity to review and comment on preliminary drafts.

Rocky Flats Cold War Museum

Jason Krupar spoke to the group regarding efforts to develop a Cold War Museum at the Rocky Flats site in Colorado. Jason recently joined the faculty at the University of Cincinnati, but was a founding member of the Rocky Flats Cold War History Museum. Jason explained that in 1998 a variety of stakeholders, including retired employees, site personnel, activists, and local governments, formed an informal group focused on the site's history. In 2001, the primary contractor for the cleanup of the Rocky Flats site, Kaiser Hill, offered the group \$150,000 over two-years to lay groundwork for a museum. The group incorporated as a nonprofit organization, hired a part-time director, and contracted with a Washington, DC firm to study the feasibility of a museum. Jason also noted that the 2002 authorization bill for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge included a provision that a museum could be established at the site. Before Jason left Colorado, there were indications that the existing visitor's center for the site and its contents might eventually be turned over to the museum organization. Jason's advice to the Fernald community was to get Congressional representatives involved early in its effort to develop a multi-use education facility. He also stressed the importance of obtaining and properly preserving artifacts and photographs from the site. Jason stated that he would provide the Stewardship Committee with contact information for the director of the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum.

Status of Records Management

Luther Brown spoke to the committee regarding the status of records management at Fernald and within DOE. Luther stated that the recently renegotiated closure contract removed Fluor Fernald's responsibilities to disposition pre-1992 site contractor records. These records, produced by National Lead and Westinghouse, total around 25,000 boxes. He stated that Fluor has worked well with DOE-Fernald on records management issues in the past, but that details have not yet been worked out as to how this separation of responsibilities will be handled. He noted that disposition of records is not included in the FY04 baseline, but something must be done soon to reduce the volume of records or the records storage facility will run out of space. Luther noted that many records are still active and in the field, and that the total number of records expected to be produced by the end of 2006 is close to 50,000 boxes. Gary Stegner stated that there are approximately 2,000 boxes of DOE records at the site, and that those records have also been organized well.

Luther explained that once work is completed at the site, the Office of Legacy Management would be responsible for the management of site records. However, DOE is currently debating how records will be prepared before they are transferred from Environmental Management to Legacy Management. Until DOE Headquarters determines who will pay for preparing closure site records for

this transfer and who will manage the work, progress in preparing the records at Fernald is likely to be slow.

Luther noted that DOE Headquarters did conduct a meeting focused on records management in April of 2003, which was attended by approximately 50 people. Representatives from all of the DOE closure sites stressed the need for clear guidance and additional resources directed towards record management. Otherwise, Luther reported, Legacy Management will inherit a significant problem in 2006. One possible solution discussed at this meeting was the use of an interim storage facility for closure site records, because transaction fees are charged by Federal Records Centers each time information is accessed. Luther stated that this meeting also provided another opportunity to build a positive relationship with the Grand Junction Office, which has been named as the long-term steward for Fernald. Five teams were established to address records management issues. Luther stated that a conference call was planned for June 13 in order to continue discussion of these issues.

Doug stressed that the Stewardship Committee should stay up-to-date on these issues, but reminded the group that records management is only part of ensuring that information is available to the public after closure. Luther reiterated his commitment to work with the community before any records are destroyed. The group briefly discussed issues related to organizing and cataloguing photographs and videos, which has been a major concern of the Fernald community. Luther stated that photographic records are managed by Fluor's public affairs staff, but the numbers of this staff have been reduced significantly. Doug stated that records management would likely be a significant focus of the FCAB's annual retreat in September of 2003.

Eric Woods presented the committee with a draft long-term stewardship records matrix, produced at the site using the template developed by the Grand Junction Office. He stated that the site needs to know, specifically, what information the community wants to be retained.

The committee also discussed the DOE Headquarters response to the recommendations in the FCAB report, *Telling the Story of Fernald*. The committee members agreed that a letter should be drafted that would thank DOE for its response but reiterate the community's concerns at a general level. This letter should make it clear that the FCAB will continue to provide input on these issues.

Follow-Up to NRD Roundtable

The committee discussed what action should be taken by the FCAB as follow-up to the May 8, 2003, Natural Resource Damages roundtable discussion. Committee members expressed their disappointment that so many questions were left unanswered at the roundtable. They also noted that the proposed \$5 million damages payment likely would not be adequate to fund all the activities that were being lumped into a potential settlement. Doug suggested that the Board weigh in on what principles should guide settlement of the NRD claim. The Stewardship Committee agreed to recommend that the FCAB send such a letter to the NRD Trustees and the judge overseeing the lawsuit.

The committee concluded the meeting with a brief discussion of agencies and organizations that could serve as the steward of natural resources at the site.

Next Meeting

The next Stewardship Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 13, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in T-214.