

MINUTES
OF THE
LOCAL PRIORITIES WORKING GROUP

April 19, 1995

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:45 a.m. Those in attendance were:

David Braun, Union Electric
Robert Shelton, City of Berkeley
Jan Titus, Lambert Airport
Kay Drey, Coalition for the Environment
Tom Binz, Laclede Gas Company
George Eberle, Grace Hill Settlement
Jack Fraenhoffer, Mallinckrodt
James Dwyer, Facilitator

Minutes of the April 12 meeting were not available for review or approval due to the illness-related absence of Lorraine Batton.

Mr. Binz distributed a draft document defining "Institutional Controls" for use by the group as it considers various remediation options. Following discussion it was agreed that modifications were in order. Mr. Binz agreed to rework the document for the next meeting of the group.

Mr. Dwyer distributed a document titled "Cost Comparisons of Interim Alternatives for the SLAPS and Ballfields," and a colorized map titled "Distribution of Thorium-230 activity on the Ballfields," both provided by Dave Miller of SAIC. He also distributed for review and comment the third draft of the Principles, Objectives, and Guidelines document prepared by Mr. Braun. Several minor modifications were proposed.

There was considerable discussion concerning such diverse matters as potential funding sources, Brownfield legislation and its impact on FUSRAP, and the need for ongoing information and education programs designed to increase community awareness. It was proposed by George Eberle and agreed unanimously that a statement concerning the need for "Ongoing community education and awareness programs to ensure community input into the process and into the monitoring of institutional controls" will be incorporated into the final report of the Priorities Working Group in the form of an advisory to the Task Force.

Discussion then centered on the DOE proposal to respond to certain erosion and gamma radiation concerns at SLAPS by installing a Hypalon barrier and covering it with 5,000 to 7,000 cubic yards of imported clean dirt. Mr. Dwyer explained that the proposal was made by the DOE in response to concerns expressed by EPA and MDNR, and that Col.

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Griggs and Anna Ginsburg, among others, had agreed to the proposal during a meeting held at the Airport on Monday, April 17.

Kay Drey expressed her concern that importing clean dirt will inevitably add to the volume of contaminated material, thereby compounding the task of remediating the site. She also argued that any action that could be viewed as an "improvement" to the SLAPS site would serve to strengthen the argument that the contaminated material should remain where it is, contrary to her belief that it should be excavated and shipped to a more suitable permanent disposal site.

There followed extensive discussion concerning the merits of the DOE proposal, its probable impact on the community (both actual and perceived), and whether there are alternative cleanup projects which could be completed for comparable cost and might yield more benefit. The drainage ditches along McDonnell Boulevard, the ballfields, and additional residential properties were offered as possibilities. Mr. Shelton expressed his support for the proposal. Mr. Frauenhoffer suggested that since agreement has been reached among the principal parties, and since we have not yet developed a list of cleanup priorities, we should not object to this proposal, but should focus on FY96 and beyond.

There was also discussion concerning the evolution of the DOE proposal, whether (and when) it was described to the Task Force, and whether conditions at the ditches along McDonnell Boulevard or the Downtown riverfront trail might not present greater risk to human health, and therefore command higher priority.

George Eberle proposed that it is essential that the Task Force develop an overview of the cleanup process and a clear sense of priorities, in part to be able to respond to proposals of this sort in a timely and effective manner.

It was agreed that additional information will be sought to enable the working group to develop a recommendation concerning SLAPS.

Meeting adjourned.

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