

MINUTES

St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force  
Priorities Working Group

May 1, 1996 Meeting

Berkeley City Hall  
Berkeley, Missouri

APPROVED

Participants Attending

Lori Batton, City of Berkeley  
Tom Binz, Laclede Gas Co.  
Kay Drey  
Jack Frauenhoffer, Mallinckrodt  
Sally Price  
Mitch Scherzinger, MDNR  
Jan Titus, Lambert Airport

Support

Jim Dwyer, Facilitator

Agenda Item

Minutes

Determination

*Call to Order*

Jim Dwyer called the meeting to order.

*Develop Agenda*

Mr. Dwyer then asked the group to identify issues it would like to cover during the meeting and he listed the following outstanding matters:

1. Encouraging cities of St. Louis and Berkeley to resolve liability issues by May 8.
2. The need to accept, reject or modify the cleanup standards described in the Ballfields EE/CA
  - a) issue of setting new precedent by permitting 50 pCi/g to remain in place
  - b) issue of two feet of clean cover (Berkeley's position and Task Force proposal) versus one foot (as proposed in EE/CA)

He also reported that he had been advised that the City of St. Louis and Lambert Airport have adopted a policy of "no net increase" of contaminated material at

## SLAPS.

*Discussion of  
Ballfields EE/CA*

The working group then discussed each of the four remediation action options as presented in the Ballfields EE/CA.

- 1 No action
- 2A Complete removal of contamination, interim storage at SLAPS, regrade ditch, drainage controls at SLAPS
- 2B Complete removal to commercial disposal facility, regrade ditch, drainage controls at SLAPS
- 3 Hotspot removal, recontour ditch, cover ballfield with one foot of clean fill, drainage controls at SLAPS

Jan Titus reported that Dan Wall (EPA) supports Alternative 2A, as indicated in his draft comments to DOE regarding the EE/CA.

Kay Drey said she thought the Task Force should decide how clean it wants each of the 10 component sites for which it developed remediation options, as well as determine which of the sites should be cleaned up first. She said she thought the ballfields was among the least significant of the 10 component sites.

Mr. Dwyer said the issue of the ballfields cleanup was significant at this time because of the need to utilize the funds allocated for that project in FY '96. He said the working group needs to determine whether the ballfields cleanup project should proceed as planned, or if the funds should be reallocated to another project.

Mitch Scherzinger reminded the group of the outcome of the vote taken at the April Task Force meeting on the ballfields cleanup options and reported that one participant voted for Option I, one voted for Option II, five voted for Option III, 15 voted for Option IV, and one person abstained.

Jack Frauenhoffer then recited the details of

the remediation plans for the ballfields described in Options III and IV of the cleanup options matrix developed by the Task Force.

The Option III remediation plan includes hotspot removal and installation of a protective cover; removal of contamination to standards suitable to user scenario; reduce contaminant concentration; ensure no recontamination, and exhumation of adjacent contaminated areas.

The Option IV remediation plan includes exhumation of all contaminated soil to cleanup standards; clean up groundwater to standards, and ensure no recontamination.

Tom Binz said he thought the original idea of recommending the ballfields cleanup project was not because the working group thought it was a high priority, but because it seemed possible to do the work within the FY '96-'97 budget and would accomplish a major objective of the City of Berkeley.

Mr. Fraenhoffer pointed out that there are significant differences in the cost estimates contained in the EE/CA and the estimates prepared earlier by SAIC. He said the earlier cost estimate information reflects total cost of all measures stipulated on the Task Force remediation option matrices, while the EE/CA describes only the cost of remediating the ballfields without any value assigned to ongoing programmatic costs.

Ms. Drey repeated her belief that any kind of interim actions at SLAPS would enable DOE to declare that SLAPS is no longer an emergency. She said she thinks the \$4 million allocated for the ballfields cleanup should be used instead to start planning remediation of SLAPS.

Mr. Scherzinger stated that historically the DOE has taken the position that if there is no exposure there is no risk and therefore they (DOE) cannot justify the expense of remediating such a site. He said that the

MDNR has never agreed with DOE on this issue. He also said that he shares Ms. Drey's concerns that, if an interim measure at SLAPS were to sufficiently reduce exposure, DOE would then conclude there is no longer any risk.

Mr. Dwyer suggested that the focus of discussion should be on what the Task Force believes, rather than what DOE may think. He also said the working group may be too concerned with detailed engineering solutions at this point, and suggested as an alternative that a Task Force recommendation could start with the premise that a certain, specific level of cleanup will be achieved. Then, as an interim measure leading toward that ultimate objective, the Task Force could recommend that actions be taken promptly to reduce ongoing contamination from SLAPS to Coldwater Creek. The recommendation need not specify the type of engineering controls to be installed, but could be expressed in terms of performance-based objectives, with detailed engineering to follow.

The working group continued its extensive discussion regarding the merits of recommending any interim activities at SLAPS, without reaching any conclusions.

The next meeting of the Priorities Working Group is scheduled for May 8, 1996.

Approved July 2, 1996

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

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# ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri

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