

MINUTES

St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force

October 10, 1995 Meeting

Hazelwood Civic Center
Hazelwood, MissouriParticipants Attending

David Adler, U.S. Department of Energy
(ex officio)
Tom Binz, Laclede Gas Company
Rick Cavanagh, St. Louis County Dept. of
Health
Joseph Cavato, St. Louis County
Kay Drey
Jack Fraenhoffer, Mallinckrodt Chemical
Co.
Mike Garvin, City of St. Louis
Anna Ginsburg, City of St. Louis
Robert Geller, Missouri Dept. of Natural
Resources
James Grant, Mallinckrodt Chemical Co.
Leonard Griggs, Lambert Airport
Tom Horgan, Congressman Talent's Office
Donovan Larson, St. Louis County Water
Co.
Nancy Lubiewski
Tom Manning, City of Hazelwood
Eileen O'Connor, Union Electric
Sally Price, Community Representative
Elsa Steward, Missouri Dept. of Natural
Resources

Support

Miranda Duncan, Co-Facilitator
Jim Dwyer, Facilitator

Patti Hazel, FUSRAP
Chuck Jenkins, FUSRAP
Dave Miller, SAIC
Mary Muchane, SAIC
Sarah Snyder, FUSRAP

Other Interested Parties

Wayne Black, St. Louis County Department
of Health
Bradley Brown, St. Louis County Water Co.
Barbara Cooper, Congressman Talent's
Office
Michael Hutcheson, Woodward Clyde
Consultants
Ed Mahr Jr.
Linda Meyer, Weldon Spring Site Remedial
Action Project
Robert Morgan, Berkeley Research
Associates
Josh Richardson, City of Berkeley
Conn Roden, St. Louis County Dept. of
Health
Mitch Scherzinger, Missouri Dept. of Natural
Resources
Jan Titus, Lambert Airport
Ted Trimpa, Dawn Mining Co.
Robert Wester, R.M. Wester and Associates

Agenda ItemMinutesDetermination

*Welcome, Opening
Comments,
Announcements*

Vice Chair Anna Ginsburg called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m. Ms. Ginsburg then asked for announcements.

Kay Drey announced that the University of Missouri-St. Louis International Center for Tropical Ecology has scheduled a symposium on environmental justice as part of World Ecology Day on October 20, 1995. The symposium starts at 8:45 a.m. and lasts until 1:30 p.m. It will be held in the J.C. Penney Building.

Ms. Ginsburg then turned the meeting over to Jim Dwyer, the facilitator.

*Administrative
Matters*

Selection of Chair

Mr. Dwyer reported that the chairperson, Dr. Alpha Fowler Bryan, had submitted her resignation from the Task Force due to professional commitments. He asked for volunteers or nominations for chairperson. Jack Fraenhoffer nominated Sally Price, with a second by Jim Grant. There were no other nominations, and Ms. Price was unanimously selected chairperson.

**Sally Price was
unanimously
elected
chairperson.**

*Appointment of
Donovan Larson to
the Task Force*

Mr. Dwyer advised that he had received a letter from the St. Louis County Water Co. asking that Donovan Larson be appointed to the Task Force. He advised that Mr. Larson has been an active participant on the Priorities Working Group and that the County Water Company has a direct interest in Task Force matters, particularly in the vicinity of SLAPS.

**The Task Force
approved adding
Donovan Larson as
a member.**

Ms. Drey moved that Mr. Larson be made a member of the Task Force. The motion was

seconded by Mr. Fraenhoffer.

Ms. Ginsburg said she had no objection to Mr. Larson's being added to the Task Force, but asked if the Task Force shouldn't have a policy for adding members. She said she envisioned a flood of requests for membership to the Task Force as the group started making recommendations.

Mr. Larson said the only reason he was asked to join the Task Force was to represent the water company. He said he doesn't mind a discussion about how to name people to the Task Force.

The Task Force unanimously approved Mr. Larson's membership.

*Discussion of Task
Force Membership*

Mr. Dwyer said that Ms. Drey has asked to discuss membership and meeting times at today's meeting. Ms. Drey said she had two motions she wished the Task Force to consider. She read from a statement:

"Because members of the St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force will be voting in the near future on the preferred disposition of the radioactive wastes in the city and county, and because the Task Force recommendations will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy as the result of long months of collective research and group discussions, I believe that membership in the Task Force should be limited to people who attend the meetings regularly and accept their responsibility to become as well-informed as possible.

"To achieve this objective, I would like to propose two new ground rules in two separate motions. The first has to do with attendance; the second, with voting rights.

"The first motion: I move that attendance at all regular or special meetings of the full Task Force be required of members. Except for emergencies or other compelling circumstances, a member who misses either three consecutive meetings or five meetings over a 12-month period shall be deemed to have resigned.

"The second motion: I move that only Task Force members or their designees be entitled to vote at Task Force meetings. At working group meetings, only members of the working group or their designees may vote."

Mr. Dwyer asked that the motions be considered separately.

Mr. Larson seconded the motions for the purpose of discussion.

Mr. Dwyer said the current ground rules allude generally to members' responsibility for attending meetings, although specific attendance requirements are not called out. He said the Task Force also determined that designees are acceptable because principal participants are not always able to attend meetings.

Mr. Grant said it is reasonable to have some ground rules. He observed that the Task Force has been flexible in order to be inclusive. He said there may be a lot of people who are interested and may want to participate, which is an issue that needs to be addressed. However, he said he was not ready to vote on this today.

Mr. Dwyer suggested that the best thing might be to address these issues next month.

Tom Binz said a notice should be mailed to

all Task Force members to let them know that an attendance policy is under consideration.

Mr. Frauenhoffer said he knew of one Task Force member who wants to participate, but cannot because of his work schedule. If the Task Force changed its meeting times, this member could participate.

Ms. Price said the Task Force needs to remember that this group will be scrutinized. The more representative this group is of the community, the more it will help the final outcome of the recommendations. She added that not attending meetings does not necessarily mean that the members are not informed.

The first motion was tabled until next month.

Mr. Dwyer said that when the working groups were established, it was agreed that participation was open to all interested parties. Ms. Drey replied that the working group meetings should be far more open (because only members know about them). She said that she was not trying to prevent people from joining working groups. She said she was trying to prevent potential problems, such as occurred when the Priorities Working Group was debating priorities. When the working group was voting on specific activities at one meeting, there was an onslaught of utilities representatives, which possibly skewed the outcome in the utilities' favor.

The second motion was tabled until next month.

Ms. Drey asked that a list of the Task Force members be distributed. Mr. Dwyer said a

list of the current members would be attached to the draft minutes.
(ATTACHMENT A)

Joseph Cavato said he wanted to clarify his position. When Dr. Bryan resigned, he was appointed to the Task Force by the County Executive to fill Dr. Bryan's seat. He said Rick Cavanagh, acting director of the St. Louis County Department of Health, will henceforth sit on the Task Force in place of Conn Roden, who had been representing the health department.

Ms. Ginsburg repeated her concern that the Task Force needs a clear policy for adding members and for defining the roles of the Mayor and the County Executive in determining appointments.

Mr. Dwyer said he would prepare a package for consideration by the Task Force. Ms. Ginsburg asked Mr. Dwyer what would be prepared. He said the package would contain a list of current participants, the current ground rules and perhaps some kind of proposed new policy.

Ms. Ginsburg asked how those recommendations will be developed. Mr. Grant proposed establishing a subcommittee to discuss these issues. Mr. Grant, Ms. Price, and Ms. Drey volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

*Discussion of
Meeting Times*

Ms. Drey asked whether there was a better time to meet than at 7:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. She pointed out that the mayor of Berkeley is unable to attend Task Force meetings at that time because of a conflict with her job.

Leonard Griggs said the Task Force had

engaged in this discussion when it started and had concluded that the morning of the second Tuesday was the preferred meeting time.

Bob Geller suggested that the Task Force ask the public to state its preference on the meeting times.

*Approval of
Minutes*

Ms. Ginsburg asked if there were any changes to the draft minutes from the September 12, 1995 Task Force meeting.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Ms. Drey asked that she be added to the participants' list.

Dave Miller said the correct volume of soil for the ballfields is about 50,000 cubic yards, and not the 250,000 cubic yards recited on page 9.

Ms. Drey also asked that a sentence on page 8, which summarized the concerns of the Priorities Working Group, be clarified.

Ted Trimpa of Dawn Mining Co. said the capacity of that facility is 35 million cubic feet, and not the 30 million cubic feet recited on page 7.

Public Comment

Mr. Dwyer asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Trimpa gave Task Force members an update about the Dawn Mining facility. He said the facility, which is located near Ford, Washington (approximately two hours from Hanford), is licensed to accept 11(e)2 materials (basically thorium- and uranium-contaminated soil). Pricing still is being developed and work is underway to dewater the tailings pond at the site.

Ms. Drey asked if there were rail access to the facility. At this point there is none, Mr. Trimpa said. The wastes, which are required

to be containerized, would have to be shipped by rail to Spokane and then by truck to the site.

Mr. Dwyer said the Priorities Working Group had discussed the economic impact of not having direct rail access to a disposal site, and had concluded that it was an important factor in determining the relative suitability of a potential site. Ms. Drey said that when Salt Lake City disposed of waste, both train and truck were used.

Mr. Larson asked for information about the site. Mr. Trimpa said he would send some information.

*Status of FY 96
and FY 97
Priorities*

Mr. Dwyer asked Dave Adler to provide an update on the status of the near-term priorities approved at the last Task Force meeting.

Mr. Adler explained that the federal budget had not been approved yet, so some of the work has been delayed. He went through the items individually:

• Evaluate use of local disposal facilities for minimally contaminated soils.

Mr. Adler said work is underway on this proposed activity. Discussions have been initiated with the MDNR, because any such landfill located in Missouri would require MDNR approval for use. The next step will be to identify actual vendors of potentially suitable disposal facilities. He said he hopes to have an idea if this is a viable option by next Spring.

• Identify and evaluate suitable location(s) for a new in-state disposal or interim storage facility.

Mr. Adler said he will discuss the process DOE has to go through to implement this activity at the November meeting of the Task Force.

● Remove contaminated soils from haul route properties located in North County.

Because of the federal budget situation, this activity is likely to be delayed until next Spring. He said Envirocare shuts down November 15 because officials there do not like placing waste when there is snow. Winter weather also makes rail transport difficult. However, DOE is proceeding to obtain the necessary access agreements.

DOE is proposing that the balance of Frost properties be addressed for next cleanup. This would allow DOE to get that block off the books and it is logical because the land drains from Frost.

● Restore and stabilize Airport-Owned properties.

This activity requires the publication of additional environmental documentation. DOE is developing a draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis. Mr. Adler proposed bundling all the activities being considered for the airport site into the draft document, without committing to any specific order of work. In this way, work can presumably commence next Spring and can take into consideration the findings of the Coldwater Creek Panel and resulting recommendations of the Priorities Working group and the Task Force.

This activity also would include ballfields stabilization, he said, adding that it will be important to gain acceptance of the proposal from some key stakeholders. Mr. Adler said

he doesn't want to get too far into this proposal without securing buy-in from the state (MDNR) and the City of St. Louis.

The proposal would address the area outside of the SLAPS fence, specifically the ditches and the ballfields. The focus is on freeing up that land for recreational use and creating a clean utilities corridor.

In response to a question, Mr. Adler said the current budget situation does not affect DOE's ability to monitor the site.

• Continue cleanup efforts at the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

Mr. Adler said DOE is still trying to complete the work started this year. The scope on that job grew because more contamination was found than was expected.

Ms. Price inquired how much more contamination was found. Mr. Adler said about an additional 6,000 cubic yards of soil and some more concrete and roofing materials. The job size basically doubled from original estimates. As of today, about 80 percent of the site is confirmed as clean, with another 20 percent excavated, but not backfilled. There still are several thousand cubic yards waiting to be shipped to Envirocare. That waste can be stockpiled and monitored daily until it can be shipped to Utah in the Spring.

Mr. Adler said Mallinckrodt officials are working to specify their priorities for FY 96. Their focus has been on releasing more land for unrestricted use.

• Continue soil treatability investigations for the St. Louis Site.

Mr. Adler said he will come back with a proposal for how best to use the proposed funds. He said he wants to work on issues related to technology/treatability. He said he would not recommend moving from bench-scale tests to pilot-scale yet; rather, he said it might be useful to experiment with downtown site soils first to determine whether soil washing or chemical extraction may have greater potential at SLDS than was determined to be the case at SLAPS.

Mr. Adler also said that although it was not recommended by the Priorities Working Group, DOE provided some money to the State to fund its participation on the Task Force. DOE already has sent about \$160,000 to the State, and would expect to do the same in FY 97.

He explained that the MDNR has not set aside any money to review DOE work in Missouri, which is why DOE has agreed to provide money for this site. The money will allow the State to retain staff and do perform sampling, Mr. Adler explained. Ms. Drey asked if DOE would provide her with a copy of the information about the levels of contamination and volumes found at the downtown site. Mr. Adler agreed to get her the information collected during cleanup.

*Status of
Coldwater Creek
Panel*

Mr. Adler advised that the Coldwater Creek Panel has met twice and plans one more meeting before wrapping up its work. He said the panel hopes to have its report submitted to the Task Force by its next meeting.

Nancy Lubiewski asked that the panel and Task Force members be given a copy of an article on sinkholes that appeared in the most recent issue of Missouri Resources

magazine. (ATTACHMENT B)

Mr. Geller said he would put Task Force members on the mailing list for the magazine, which is free.

*Communications
Working Group*

Mr. Fraenhoffer asked Task Force members to provide comments on the proposed letterhead and draft information sheet about the Task Force.

Mr. Geller suggested that finalizing those materials be delayed until the discussion about membership is resolved.

Mr. Fraenhoffer also asked Task Force members to review and be ready to comment on the draft public meeting plan.

Mr. Adler asked what activity the Communications Working Group intends to engage in as to near-term priorities. He said he liked the MDNR suggestion that the Task Force issue a news release.

Mr. Fraenhoffer said there have been some discussions about what activities should be undertaken.

Ms. Lubiewski asked whether the working group needed to bring draft news releases back to the Task Force. She said that would slow down the release of information.

Mr. Geller said it was his understanding that only the chairperson had the authority to speak for the Task Force. He said he still supports that.

Mr. Dwyer said the Communications Working Group exists to make recommendations to the Task Force. It may be that a recommendation could authorize

the chairperson to okay news releases.

Mr. Larson said he doesn't think anyone disagrees that the chairperson can approve news releases. He suggested leaving it to her judgment about what to bring to the Task Force, especially anything potentially controversial.

New Business

Ms. Ginsburg advised that she had raised the issue of the ballfields to city officials. She asked Mike Garvin to speak to the matter.

Mr. Garvin said there is general concern on the city's part that the city not be liable for any damages that arise after the property is put in use.

Mr. Adler asked if the city's concern extends to matters beyond the contamination. Mr. Garvin said no. Mr. Adler said issues related to contamination can be dealt with. He said DOE can make a convincing demonstration that people would be safe using the fields after remediation.

Ms. Drey moved that the Task Force request that the city counselor's office draft a letter of indemnification to present to the City of Berkeley. Ms. Price seconded the motion.

Mr. Griggs said he can ask the city to do this and have it at the next meeting. Mr. Garvin said he will talk to Berkeley and prepare something for the next Task Force meeting.

Ms. Drey said she thinks the Task Force should continue looking for another location for the ballfields. Mr. Adler said DOE is not able to go out and buy land to benefit a community. But DOE can restore the

ballfields and concession stands as part of a cleanup. DOE will not be able to buy substitute land for ballfields under the FUSRAP program.

Mr. Dwyer said he reinstituted the suggestion box, which is on the sign-in table.

He also said that a new schedule of activities, reflecting the Coldwater Creek Panel's work, was available as a handout. He encouraged members to take a copy.

The next meeting of the St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force is scheduled for November 14, 1995. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Approved November 14, 1995

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy

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