

MINUTES

St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force Priorities Working Group

April 24, 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
Donovan Larson, St. Louis Co. Water Co.
Tom Manning, City of Hazelwood
Sally Price
Mitch Scherzinger, MDNR
Jan Titus, Lambert Airport

Support

Jim Dwyer, Facilitator

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Determination</u>
<i>Call to Order</i>	Jim Dwyer called the meeting to order at approximately 9 a.m.	
<i>Develop Agenda</i>	<p>Mr. Dwyer asked the group to identify issues it would like to cover during the meeting. The following agenda was developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Minutes • Ballfields proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) EE/CA (2) Liability Issues (3) Recontamination Issues (4) Task Force Response • Coldwater Creek Panel report(s) 	

- Re-evaluation of FY '96 and '97 recommendations -- especially ballfields project
- Understand cost estimates

*Approval of
Minutes*

Mr. Dwyer asked if there were corrections to the draft minutes of the February 7 and February 21 meetings. The minutes were approved as amended.

The minutes of the February 7 and February 21 meetings were approved as amended.

*Discussion of
Working Group
Schedule*

The working group then discussed whether it needed to meet more frequently in order to accomplish its work. It was agreed that the group would meet again on May 1 and would assess whether more frequent meetings would be necessary at that time.

*Discussion of
Remediation
Option Matrices*

Mr. Dwyer said the principal objective of the polling exercise at the April 16, 1996 Task Force meeting was simply to establish a clearer sense of where the Task Force appears to be headed. He said it is now clear that the group is headed toward the upper end of the cleanup spectrum.

Mitchell Scherzinger pointed out that Option IV received the majority of the votes in almost every instance, except for West Lake Landfill in which Option IV received one-half the votes.

Jack Frauenhoffer suggested that the working group devote its time to other matters. The working group agreed.

*Coldwater Creek
Panel Report(s)*

Mr. Dwyer reported that he had discussed with Ron Kucera that it would be helpful for the Task Force to have some means of distinguishing the majority report issued by the Coldwater Creek Panel from the addendum report prepared by Mimi Garstang.

Mitch Scherzinger said he would arrange to have the two reports combined in a way that would indicate the differences clearly.

The working group decided to defer consideration of the Coldwater Creek report(s) until its May 1, 1996 meeting.

*Re-evaluation of
FY '96 and FY '97
Priorities*

Mr. Dwyer suggested that the working group consider the Coldwater Creek Panel report(s) before re-evaluating the recommendations for fiscal years 1996 and 1997.

Mr. Frauenhoffer asked whether Mr. Dwyer had spoken with Dave Miller. Mr. Dwyer reported that Mr. Miller is available to talk to the working group about the ballfields EE/CA by telephone.

Mr. Frauenhoffer questioned the cost estimates in the EE/CA. He said that the cost estimate information provided earlier by SAIC describes a \$20 million option for the ballfields, while the same option is estimated to cost about \$7 million in the EE/CA. Mr. Dwyer suggested calling Mr. Miller and inquiring about differences in the cost estimate information.

Ballfields EE/CA

Liability Issue

Jan Titus reported that there has been correspondence between the City of St. Louis and the City of Berkeley on the issue of liability, but that the two municipalities have not reached agreement. Ms. Titus said she doubted that the cities would reach agreement anytime soon. She suggested that the funds set aside for the ballfields restoration in FY '96 and '97 might be better used on another project, given the complexity of the issues that remain to be

resolved before the ballfields project could proceed.

Sally Price expressed concern that failure to spend the money allocated to the St. Louis Site this fiscal year might impact future budget requests. Mr. Scherzinger cautioned the working group not to allow budgetary scare tactics to influence the Task Force. He said the Task Force had indicated at its April meeting its preferred options for remediation of the ballfields and other components of the St. Louis Site. He questioned whether the Task Force should support a less acceptable remediation alternative solely because of the fear of losing funding.

Ms. Price said she was not recommending that. Rather, she said she is advocating making a decision and moving on, especially because of future funding concerns.

Recontamination

The working group also discussed the potential for recontamination of the ballfields after cleanup. Mr. Scherzinger said that DOE would be liable for any recontamination that may occur.

Ms. Price noted that Dave Miller had suggested to her, when she expressed concerns about the possibility of recontamination, that she raise the issue during the public comment period on the ballfields EE/CA. Kay Drey said she was certain the ditches would become recontaminated.

Mr. Dwyer reported that he had discussed this issue with Dave Miller (SAIC), who explained that the ballfields remediation plan included segregating the drainage ditches on either side of McDonnell Boulevard to minimize the potential for recontamination.

The ditch on the south side of McDonnell Boulevard would be made independent of the ditch on the north side, which would prevent recontamination of the ballfields via stormwater runoff from SLAPS. Ms. Drey said there still could be recontamination via wind deposition.

Mr. Dwyer said the Task Force has been consistent in questioning whether a proposed remedial action would allow the potential for recontamination of the cleaned up property, thus resulting in a wasteful expenditure of the limited funding available. He said the objective of the Task Force has been to ensure that projects recommended to DOE would result in final cleanup of the subject properties.

Donovan Larson said that if the ballfields and the north ditch are remediated, separate from any work at SLAPS, recontamination isn't likely to occur when remediation work begins at SLAPS.

Mr. Fraenhoffer agreed it would be possible to excavate SLAPS without airborne spread of contamination. He explained that there are measures that are routinely employed to suppress dust during remediation activities, and that such measures are standard features of risk management.

Tom Manning agreed. He said the real question is whether the Task Force wants to proceed with the ballfields remediation plan.

Mr. Dwyer recorded the issue of on-site controls during remediation activities for future discussion.

Tom Binz observed that the working group has finally come around to discussing the operational solutions that he has been

advocating for some time. He advised that he has contacted several environmental contractors to obtain photos illustrating how remediation can be accomplished in ways that minimize the spread of contamination, and he suggested that this information might be useful for the working group to consider.

Mr. Frauenhoffer said the real concern is about future exposures to people and the environment if the proposed cleanup of the ballfields is implemented. He said there is concern that effective measures be taken in three distinct phases: 1) during preparation activities for remediation, 2) during the interim period while waiting for final remedial actions at SLAPS, and 3) during the construction/remediation phase at SLAPS.

Mr. Scherzinger said that if the working group were to look at the Eva Avenue staging area, it would see the kinds of controls DOE has instituted to prevent the spread of contamination. He described berms, grading and other measures that DOE has implemented at the staging area and said that a ramp will be installed so dump trucks will not have direct contact with the staging pad, and therefore with contaminated dirt. He said measures of this sort can be implemented at a reasonable cost.

Kay Drey said she would be interested in viewing the Eva Avenue staging area.

EE/CA

The working group then discussed the draft Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) document for the ballfields.

Participants expressed concern about whether it would be possible to complete the proposed project this fiscal year, given the concerns expressed earlier about the potential for recontamination of the site and

whether a less-than-complete cleanup (as proposed) would be protective of human health and the environment.

Because of these concerns and the unresolved issue of liability, Mr. Manning recommended that Berkeley and St. Louis city officials report to the working group in two weeks, by May 8, with an indication of whether the ballfields project is feasible for this fiscal year. Mr. Manning proposed that if the ballfields project cannot be implemented in FY '96, the Task Force reallocate the funds set aside for the ballfields cleanup and divert them to the Mallinckrodt cleanup project.

Ms. Drey repeated her opposition to the notion of excavating only hot spots (which in this instance are defined as 50 pCi/g or greater). She suggested that the working group send a letter to Dave Adler advising that it does not want the EE/CA to be formally released at this time. The working group decided to wait until May 8 before making a decision concerning the EE/CA.

Mr. Dwyer advised that he had received a facsimile transmission from Dan Wall describing his observations and recommendations on the draft EE/CA. He distributed copies of the fax to the working group for review.

The meeting adjourned at approximately noon. Several participants then went to view the Eva Avenue staging area.

The next meeting of the Priorities Working Group is scheduled for May 1, 1996.

Approved July 2, 1996

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

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for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



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