GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Meeting Minutes Cover Sheet

Please find attached the Open Meeting Minutes from the Groundwater Protection Program of July 8, 2002.

If you have any comments or changes to these minutes, please reply to this email and your comments will be incorporated into the next meeting minutes.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Meeting Minutes

SUBJECT **GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM MEETING - JULY 8, 2002**

TO Distribution

FROM Dick Wilde, Groundwater Protection Program Manager

DATE July 31, 2002

ATTENDEES
See Attached List

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Attendees
Groundwater Protection Program Distribution List

NEXT GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM OPEN MEETING:

Next Meeting: Monday, August 5, 2002 – 1-3 p.m.
Location: 1200 Jadwin, Conference Room 1C1 (Badging Not Required)
Local Call-In Number: (509) 376-7411
Toll Free Call-In Number: (800) 664-0771

MEETING MINUTES:

A Groundwater Protection Program (GPP) Open Meeting was held on July 8, 2002, in Richland, Washington, in Conference Room 1C1 of 1200 Jadwin Avenue.

PROGRAM REPORT:

Explanation of Organizational Changes (Dick Wilde)

The philosophy in the transition was to make as few changes as possible in order to keep the continuity going. Many of the managers from Bechtel Hanford, Inc., came over with the project to Fluor Hanford. Particular focus during the transition was on the operational group under Russ Fabre. We did not want those operations to come to a stop or to become unsafe. Basically, the project organization transitioned as it was with a few exceptions. The procedures were blue-sheeted with only minor modifications made. We are operating to the same basic procedures. We have not missed a beat in ongoing work. There are a couple of new managers who you may not have met. Carl Connell is in charge of environmental information systems. Jerry Lester is our project control lead. The remaining managers, like Bruce Ford, Jane Borghese, Craig Swanson, and Russ Fabre, have been with the project for a long time. We also did not disrupt the integrated projects that were with the project – Tony Knepp with CH2M Hill Hanford

Group, Inc., (CHG), Bob Bryce with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), and Mark Freshley with PNNL. We are all located on third floor of the 1200 Jadwin Building in Richland, Washington.

Introduction of Managers and Task Leads (Dick Wilde)
Bruce Ford is manager of the 200 Area Remediation task and will talk about the waste sites. Jane Borghese is Groundwater manager. Carl Connell is the manager of Environmental Information Systems group. Tony Knepp with CHG is the manager of Tank Farm Characterization.

Overview of Current Work Status (Dick Wilde)
For the 200 Area waste site work, we worked hard in the third quarter of fiscal year 2002 prior to transition to ensure that a number of actions were completed. We were successful in getting the majority of those actions completed. Two work plans, one for 200-MW-1 and 200-LW-1, were issued as Rev. 0. The studies on identifying alternate borrow sources for silty-loam to be used in surface barriers are complete. 200-CW-5 Operable Unit activities included drilling a characterization borehole to groundwater, and a portion of the 200-CS-1 Operable Unit characterization trench work was completed. This summer two field activities will be performed to support carbon tetrachloride investigations. There will be cone penetrometer work and geoprobe investigations performed at a number of sites that have the potential to leak carbon tetrachloride into the soil. Investigation sites are planned both inside and outside the Plutonium Finishing Plant fence-line. Those investigations will begin in July and continue into August. Other planned fieldwork is continuation of the ongoing monitoring program at the Hanford Barrier. Office work includes the completion of the Feasibility Study for the Gable Mountain B pond and receiving comments on the Ecological Evaluation report.

Well sampling and maintenance will continue for *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980* (CERCLA) and for the wells monitored by PNNL. There are pump-and-treat operations on-going at UP-1 and ZP-1. Upgrades from HR3 AND KR4 were completed at the end of May and they are operating well. On In-Situ Redox Manipulation (ISRM), 17 well injections have been completed. There is a re-injection planned at ISRM in August. In the office, comments are due from U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) on the 100 Area report.

QUESTION: Didn't the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) issue a letter to DOE about NR2 looking at technologies?

ANSWER: Yes, regarding alternative treatments along the river. A separate document is being prepared. Mike Thompson of DOE-RL is leading that. If you have questions regarding this issue, you should contact him.

Our main databases transitioned smoothly. The main users have been up and running since Monday afternoon. The web interface is being worked as quickly as possible. It may be back up by the end of this week. The GPP website will be next, we are to start working on that at the end of this week. Both sites will come under the Central Plateau website. Under projects, you'll find the Groundwater page. There will be a few links to clean up. The virtual library will have to be cleaned up. Other work planned for this summer includes revisions to the front end of databases and updating the virtual library more frequently.

CHG is doing fieldwork implementing run-on control at 3 200 East Area tank farms. The design review is tomorrow. Some water lines were cut at the T-TX-TY Farms. The lines being tested next week are at A and C tank farms. An open valve was found in a line that fed into the surface barrier north of the BY tank farm. That valve was shut down and B lines will be turned back on. Drilling continues in the south end of

the TX Tank Farm. The first hole is complete, at about 125 feet deep. A second hole will be completed by the end of this month, and a third hole will be completed next month.

There will be a draft of the B/BX/BY WMA Field Investigation Report to the Office of River Protection (ORP) in September. The Plan is due to Ecology in January 2003

There will be a meeting to discuss interim barriers at the end of this month. Recommendations will be out for review by end of this year.

QUESTION: The virtual library is an excellent tool. Will the virtual library be made available to more people?

ANSWER: The virtual library will be available only to those with Hanford Local Area Network (HLAN).

QUESTION: What is a Central Data File?

ANSWER: The sample database, waste database, and well database all operate on the same server. They have been up and running. Then we brought servers over and did testing. They've been available almost without interruption.

The annual report for the immobilized low-activity waste (ILAW) performance assessment was just sent out for ORP review. Four boreholes for the ILAW activity were drilled this spring in the 200 East Area. Two boreholes are within 10 feet of one another along First Street. In the hole on the east side, groundwater was hit in Hanford formation; for the hole on the west side, groundwater was hit in the Ringold formation.

Preview of FY2003 Planning (Dick Wilde)
DOE put in an $800 million fund for use as sites could justify it. Hanford turned in a request, and it was accepted for $48 (433) million.

The draft of the new initiative is complete. A number of comments from DOE, regulators, and stakeholders were received on the need for the initiative. We have turned in the initiative to DOE and the regulators. More meetings will be held for the next several weeks to come to agreement on that initiative. The updated version of the Performance Management Plan is owed to DOE by July 17, 2002. All of the initiatives proposed are field oriented. It's not a lot of paper studies. In parallel, we've been working with Office of Science and Technology EM50 to get funding for carbon tetrachloride and 618-10 and 618-11. It may be months before that gets finalized. Right now everyone is looking at the same kind of emphasis. I'll have more details by the time we meet for the August Open Meeting.

QUESTION: What sort of risk assessment work is being done to drive groundwater protection?

ANSWER: The proposal focuses on five areas. Remediation of the inventory sites, recharge issues on the central plateau, the 2012 cleanup, accelerated pump and treats, and *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976* (RCRA) and CERCLA. There are 13 specific actions. It's those things that are obvious. Many of them are things that are not scheduled to happen until the mid-20s. So it's possible, if we find the funding, to accelerate the clean up.

QUESTION: Is this initiative being wrapped into the accelerated work plan?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: May I see a copy of it?

ANSWER: It will be available by the end of the week.

QUESTION: Did the initiative grow out of the C3T team?

ANSWER: Part of it. It focuses on minimizing long-term effects. We got input from those who have been involved in project for years, as well as input from the regulators and from the C3T group. We assembled the thinking of a lot of people.

QUESTION: What is status of the pump-and-treat efforts?

ANSWER: We are putting together a step-by-step process to look at alternative approaches.

QUESTION: I'm not familiar with other activities going on.

ANSWER: Some of the pump-and-treats for chrome are successful. Carbon tetrachloride groundwater pump-and-treat needs additional work. Soil vapor extraction to remove carbon tetrachloride from the vadose zone has been effective. We're going to attack those uranium sites.

COMMENT: A status of pump-and-treats would really help.

Hanford Site Expert Panel (Virginia Rohay/John Morse)
We have had a series of meetings to consider ideas for reformatting the expert panel. It will now be called the Hanford Site Expert Panel. The six-member panel will address projects specific to clean up and closure of the site. A list of proposed member names will be sent out. The panel members are representative of people with state as well as national experience. The panel is composed of two members from the previous panel and four new members. We hope to have the panel in place by August. An initial expert panel meeting will take place in the September or October timeframe.

QUESTION: What disciplines are represented on the panel?

ANSWER: The members have experience with regulatory issues on a national level, chemistry, risk assessment, groundwater remediation, and fate and transport. The focus is not just on groundwater and vadose zone problems but also on the larger issues.

COMMENT: The panel ought to keep in touch with the new chair of the National Council on Radiation Protection. There is potential for big gain there.

ITRC at the Hanford Site (Dib Goswami – Ecology)
There is an ITRC Working Group, which was established in 1995. Over 40 states are involved. The group came to Hanford to make presentations and conduct workshops. ITRC has several technical teams, one of which is a phytoremediation team. The group is organized with stakeholders and regulators involved. There are about 14 technical teams altogether. Last year, a team was established for Hanford cleanup involvement. I plan to give an update to the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB). We are going to have a

meeting tomorrow. An ITRC workshop on phytoremediation is scheduled in October in Seattle. The goal is education and stakeholders, regulators and tribal nations can participate free.

QUESTION: Backing up to the last topic, the Tri-City Caucus would like to have voice in selection of the Expert Panel members.

ANSWER: Who is the contact from the Tri-City Caucus regarding the Expert Panel?

ANSWER: Gordon Rogers.

QUESTION: Is there any criteria to evaluate all the candidates consistently? How are you going about evaluating pump-and-treats?

ANSWER: We look at the goal of pump-and-treats and consider whether or not we are achieving that goal. We evaluate that by taking samples. We also keep a record of how much contaminant is being removed. And, we look for a decrease in the contaminant concentration of the plume.

QUESTION: Are salmon really affected by chromium?

ANSWER: Those things are being evaluated.

COMMENT: I think there ought to be a specific set of criteria.

ANSWER: We try to use standard criteria. The major plumes are being addressed.

The country has an existing suite of water quality standards, and they disagree some with each other. There are situations where concentration limits were set, and new data causes people to question those limits. It's very easy to start a pump-and-treat and difficult to shut it off. In the case of chromium 6, we are re-evaluating the basic science that established the standard. It's not an easy thing to determine. There are a lot of scientific opinions. Our goal is to determine if we've done enough or not.

COMMENT: Regulatory issues are separate form public involvement. The area of genuine risk needs to be on the table. The public involvement process is much more justified than just to obey the law.

QUESTION: Regarding the method for evaluating pump-and-treat systems, it would be useful to see the description of how risk is factored into those evaluations.

ANSWER: Okay.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

See attached Public Involvement Calendar

On the evening of July 9, 2002, from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm, at Hanford House in Richland, Washington, there will be a basic discussion of the groundwater situation at Hanford. It will be a Groundwater 101 kind of thing. Ecology will be distributing a brochure.

Four weeks from today we'll have another open meeting.

NOTES:
Groundwater Protection Program Web Site location: http://www.bhi-erc.com/vadose

If you have questions or comments, please contact Barbara Howard (509-373-3871) or Alison Bryan (509-373-4456).

ATTACHMENTS:
1) Groundwater Protection Program One Month Look Ahead Calendar

ATTENDEES:
Martin Bensky – HAB
Jane Borghese – FH
Alison Bryan – FH
Don Clarke – DEC Enterprises
Carl Connell – FH
Russ Fabre – FH
Bruce Ford – FH
Dib Goswami – Ecology (by phone)
Paul Henwood – MACTEC-ERS
Jerry Isaacs – FH
Edye Jenkins – GPP
Charley Kincaid – PNNL
Tony Knepp – CHG
Jerry Lester – FH
Sandra Lilligren – Nez Perce (by phone)
Fred Mann – CHG
John Morse – DOE-RL
Ted Repasky – CTUIR
Virginia Rohay –
Gordon Rogers – HAB
Sue Safford – Oregon Office of Energy (by phone)
Tom Stoops – Oregon Office of Energy (by phone)
Craig Swanson – FH
Dick Wilde – FH

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

July 2002

ONE-MONTH LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR

July 8	GW/VZ Program Open Meeting (1-3 p.m., 1200 Jadwin, Richland, WA)
July 10-11	HAB Meeting, Richland