

## ROCKY FLATS CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

### MINUTES OF WORK SESSION

July 7, 1998

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**FACILITATOR:** Reed Hodgins, AlphaTRAC

Tom Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alan Aluisi, Susan Barron, Tom Clark, Tom Davidson, Eugene DeMayo, Victor Holm, Bob Kanick, Jim Kinsinger, Beverly Lyne, Tom Marshall / Angela Hutton-Howard (CDPHE), Gary Morgan (DOE)

**BOARD / EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tom Gallegos, Mary Harlow, David Navarro, Linda Sikkema / Joe Legare, Tim Rehder

**PUBLIC / OBSERVERS PRESENT:** Carol Barker (RF retiree); Delores M. Krieg (RF retiree); Kenneth Werth (citizen); Roman Kohler (RF retiree); Wally Gulden (RF retiree); Ida Mae Walters (RF retiree); James Horan (RF retiree); Ronald Bradley (RF retiree); Charles M. Johnson (RF retiree); Larry Ferris (RF retiree); Mary Pat Adams (CAB intern); Ken Korkia (CAB staff); Erin Rogers (CAB staff); Deb Thompson (CAB staff); Brady Wilson (CAB staff)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**Comment:** Carol Barker: I'm speaking tonight for the Rocky Flats Retired and Disabled Workers Benefits Protection Committee. We do have our chairperson on the way here, and he will speak during your second open forum time. Since you helped us once before, we are going to ask for your help again. Larry Ferris will do the presentation for our committee.

**REPORT ON SOURCE EVALUATION FOR WALNUT CREEK CONTAMINANT EXCEEDANCE:** This agenda item was postponed for discussion at a later date. The report by staff on the source evaluation for Walnut Creek will be presented at the D&D / Closure Plan Focus Group meeting to be held Monday, July 20.

**SITE WIDE ISSUES / BUDGET FOCUS GROUP CO-CHAIR:** The focus group

nominated Jim Kinsinger to serve as co-chair of the Site Wide Issues / Budget Focus Group, replacing David Navarro who recently resigned as co-chair of that group.

***Decision:** Approve Jim Kinsinger as co-chair for the Site Wide Issues / Budget Focus Group. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.*

### **LETTER TO DOE CONCERNING BUDGET PROCESS AND PUBLIC**

**PARTICIPATION** (Tom Marshall): The Site Wide Issues / Budget Focus Group prepared a draft letter recommending that DOE-RFFO improve its public participation process for development of the FY2001 budget for Rocky Flats. The focus group felt that public involvement in the FY2000 budget development process was not well-defined, which made it difficult for stakeholders to provide input. The letter asks DOE to improve the process for next year by providing the group with a schedule of budget development milestones, including a description of opportunities for public involvement so as to allow the best opportunity to influence budget development decisions. CAB would like to receive appropriate information to help understand planned activities, associated costs, and implications of both lower and higher funding scenarios. The Board also asked to receive a timeline and plan in time to have this information incorporated into its 1999 work plan.

***Decision:** Approve letter of recommendation to DOE regarding improvement of budget process and public participation. APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.*

### **DISCUSSION OF CAB ROLE IN ACTINIDE MIGRATION STUDIES**

**OVERSIGHT** (Tom Marshall): This item was also postponed. CAB's co-chairs will discuss a proposed plan for the Board's role in oversight of the Actinide Migration Studies at their next meeting in August. A final proposal will be brought before the Board for its approval.

### **DISCUSSION OF CAB PARTICIPATION IN LAS VEGAS SSAB LOW LEVEL**

**WASTE FORUM** (Ken Korkia): The SSAB for Nevada is sponsoring a forum August 16-19 in Las Vegas, and have asked each SSAB to send six individuals to participate. The purpose of the seminar is to discuss low level waste issues as they impact each of the sites respectively, as well as the weapons complex sites as a whole. Each site is also asked to prepare a poster and bring other pertinent information detailing low level waste issues at that site. Panel discussions about specific topics will be held. Through this seminar, the groups hope to gain a better understanding of low level waste issues at each other's sites. The Executive Committee discussed CAB's participation and wants the Board to participate. Both the chair and vice chair will be attending, as well as Ken Korkia. Other Board members interested in attending are Bob Kanick, Victor Holm and Tom Clark. Staff will register those individuals, and travel arrangements will be made within the next few weeks.

**SELECTION OF DATE FOR CAB SEPTEMBER RETREAT** (Ken Korkia): The Board agreed to hold its annual retreat on Sunday, September 13, to finalize CAB's work plan and review other issues. Staff will determine a location and the co-chairs will draft an agenda for the retreat.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**Comment:** Larry Ferris: I am the chairman of the Rocky Flats retiree benefit organization group. This is a personal issue concerning the retirees prior to the time that Kaiser-Hill assumed operation of the facility. We believe over the 50 years since the plant started, there has never been a change in the retiree medical benefits program. So if people retired in 1960, 1970, 1980, they always kept the same benefits with them. It has always been factored into the retirement as part of it. Because we do not have an escalator, there is no cost of living increase associated with our pensions. Now Kaiser-Hill has come into the facility, and they presented us a proposal about two months ago that would take what we presently have as our benefits, and take us to the same position as active employees. If you took that in true dollars, it would be about \$100 to \$200 a month per person in terms of retirees and the average person, depending on the medical costs that you incurred individually. They have since pulled back the proposal after meeting with us. It has to go yet to DOE for approval, both here and in Washington. We have written a white paper expressing our position, and we strongly feel the costs are not increasing dramatically for this group of people. In most cases they're decreasing because this group of people continues to die. It is a group of about 2,000 individuals, both salaried and Steelworkers. The group is not increasing in size. We are asking for your help in expressing some concern from the outside to DOE, and also to Kaiser-Hill, that in terms of dollar savings our costs are not 1/2 of 1% of what the plant budget is. It took many years of work to make the facility do what it did. All of us appreciate the time we were there, we had good jobs, we'd like to see it closed and are supportive of what they are doing, but we don't think taking a part of it off our backs in order to achieve what they're trying to do in the future is a way to run an operation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- New Board members: The Membership Committee recommended two individuals to serve on the Board. Both Carol Barker and Dr. Meir Carasso were approved by CAB to become its newest members.

=> Carol Barker is a former worker at Rocky Flats. She retired in 1995 after 30 years at the site. Carol served as a program administrator for work force restructuring, director of safety, safeguards and security management systems, manager of health and safety support systems, and worked many years in the environmental monitoring area as well. She has a BS in Business Administration,

and is a long-time resident of Westminster.

=> Meir Carasso has a Ph.D in engineering, and is retired from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden. Throughout his career he has worked on numerous energy related research, development and engineering projects. Dr. Carasso was as a manager in the Systems Integration Office of the California Energy Commission, a project engineer for Bechtel Corporation, a program and research assistant at the University of California-Berkeley, and an engineer for Lockheed. He is a resident of Lakewood.

- Bylaws: A proposed change to CAB's bylaws, which covers the process for the Board taking action without a meeting, was approved unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Date: August 6, 1998, 6 - 9:30 p.m.

Location: Westminster City Hall, lower-level Multi-Purpose Room, 4800 West 92nd Avenue, Westminster

*Agenda: Report from CRESP on survey of area residents; recommendation on worker benefits; report on source evaluation for Walnut Creek contaminant exceedance; discussion on planning for CAB community forum*

**ACTION ITEM SUMMARY: / ASSIGNED TO:**

1. Forward letter of recommendation to DOE regarding budget process and public participation - Erin Rogers
2. Discuss and draft proposal regarding CAB role in Actinide Migration Studies oversight - CAB Co-Chairs
3. Register CAB members for Nevada low-level waste forum - Deb Thompson
4. Plan details for CAB September retreat - Deb Thompson

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M. \***

(\* Taped transcript of full meeting is available in CAB office.)

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

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Tom Gallegos, Secretary  
Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board

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The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board is a community advisory group that reviews and provides recommendations on cleanup plans for Rocky Flats, a former nuclear weapons plant outside of Denver, Colorado.

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