

Lefevre

**SUMMARY NOTES FROM
WASHINGTON STATE NUCLEAR WASTE BOARD MEETING**

October 21, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

Warren A. Bishop
Curt Eschels
Terry Frazee
William Funk
Terry Husseman
Ray Lasmanis
Representative Dick Nelson
Representative Nancy Rust
Dick Watson

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Introductory Remarks

At 3:15 p.m., Chairman Warren Bishop opened the meeting. Because the Joint meeting of the Nuclear Waste Board and Nuclear Waste Advisory Council had just heard a presentation by Curt Eschels and Jeff Breckel on development of a joint Washington-Oregon position on funding for Hanford cleanup, Mr. Bishop suggested that the Board act on this agenda item.

Resolution Supporting Request for FY 1990 Funding

Ray Lasmanis made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded. Terry Husseman commented that last year Hanford received 15 percent of the total pie and this year Hanford needs it to amount to about 50% of the pie. He indicated that it is important to build a coalition to build a larger pie. The Chair called for a vote on Resolution 88-8 which passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair asked if there were additions or corrections to the corrected June 17 minutes and the August 18-19 minutes. There were no additions or corrections. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence/Recent Developments

Max Power briefly discussed the draft report from the Oregon Hanford Advisory Committee, BWIP closure status, and the PETT correspondence. The folders mailed to each member contained detailed information on each subject.

Terry Husseman discussed the status of the Tri-Party negotiations. USDOE, EPA, and the Department of Ecology have gone into almost full-time negotiations. Major issues include enforceability and the roles of each agency. There has been progress on schedules for specific cleanup actions and this schedule is consistent with Resolution 88-8. Mr. Husseman could give no estimate when the parties expect to reach an agreement. If the parties reach a tentative agreement, a notice will be published and public hearings will be held.

Mr. Eschels asked about the status of cesium capsules which were reported to have contaminated a Georgia sterilization facility. Mr. Provost reported that early in June Radiation Sterilizers Inc., an irradiation company using USDOE cesium chloride capsules had discovered severe contamination from one or more capsules. USDOE, NRC, and the state of Georgia immediately began an investigation. Ultrasonic tests were conducted on all 252 capsules at the site. Because each capsule contains 40,000 to 50,000 curies of cesium, the investigators had to be very careful in carrying out the tests. Apparently two capsules showed indications of water between the two steel shells and up to 29 capsules showed indications of corrosion. In mid-September, three canisters were shipped to Oak Ridge for sectioning in order to determine the location and extent of corrosion. On August 12, Max Power sent USDOE a letter requesting additional information. A copy of the response will be sent to Board and Council members. The problems will significantly impact plans for capsule use, storage, and disposal.

Pacific State Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation

Dick Watson reported that the Committee met on October 17 in Seattle. Representatives from Wyoming and Utah attended the meetings and expressed interest in entering into the Pacific States Agreement. The Committee is working on a field test of vehicle inspection standards, a mutual aid agreement, and a model permitting system for transportation of radioactive materials. The next meeting will be November 30 in Boise. A copy of a status report is attached.

Committee Assignments and Mission Statements

Chairman Bishop described the Board committee structure and emphasized that most of the Board and Council's work will be done by committees. He indicated there were two changes to the committee assignments which were listed in the October 11 memo. Dr. Michael Spranger asked to be on the Defense Waste Committee. Nancy Hovis agreed to move from the Defense Waste Committee to the Transportation Committee. The updated list of committee assignments is attached.

Each committee would probably meet about six times a year in the months when the Board and Council do not meet. Staff developed a draft mission statement which were reviewed by the Planning Task Force and Committee chair-persons. Earlier in the day, the Nuclear Waste Advisory Council reviewed the statements and recommended some amendments. The Chair asked for approval of the mission statements until the individual committees desire to change the statements. Ray Lasmanis made a motion to accept the statements if the redundancies contained in the revised statements are corrected. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Copies of the final mission statements are attached. Each committee will develop detailed work plans.

Technical Uncertainty at the WIPP Site

Don Provost briefly reviewed the technical problems at the WIPP site and the resulting impact on Hanford TRU waste management. Congress did not pass the WIPP land withdrawal bill because of technical and policy problems. Idaho Governor Andrus has announced he will not allow TRU wastes from the Rocky Flats Plant in Colorado to the INEL facility in Idaho until the WIPP facility opens. The action by Governor Andrus probably will not affect Hanford operations, but there is a strong need to move ahead with the WRAP facility which would handle Hanford TRU wastes.

Proposed Joint Meeting with Oregon Board and Council

Earlier, it was agreed that it would be desirable to hold a December 1988 joint meeting with the Oregon Hanford Waste Board and Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, respective staffs were unable to find a mutually acceptable December date. The Oregon Board and Advisory Committee will meet on December 2 in Portland. They will invite the Washington Board and Council to attend. It is uncertain how many members can attend because a legislative weekend starts on that date. Respective staffs are now looking at a joint meeting sometime in February.

Other Business

Chairman Bishop asked members to note the following meetings on their calendars.

- November 10, 11, and 12 - Hanford Dose Reconstruction Project Technical Steering Panel meeting at the Tyee Hotel in Tumwater.
- December 15 and 16 Board and Council meetings will be held on the 16th with a possible joint meeting on the 15th.
- April 14 and 15 - a two day conference on defense waste management will be held at the University of Washington.

Bill Funk announced that Don Provost would be making a presentation to members of the Pacific Northwest Pollution Control Association in Cour D'Alene on November 2.

Public Comment

The Chair asked if members of the public wanted to comment. Bill Mitchell, Director of the Northwest Nuclear Safety Campaign, asked about the status of the consent decree with USDOE. Terry Husseman said that USDOE had indicated they were not willing to enter into a consent decree with the state of Washington. However, they indicated they believe they have the flexibility to ensure the state's enforceability concerns are addressed in a single document. With that precondition, the parties went back into negotiations on a single document to cover RCRA, CERCLA, and an action plan. There will be ample opportunity for the public to comment on this approach.

James Beard of Greenpeace expressed concern about getting into a gentlemen's agreement with USDOE. The state needs the force of law in the agreement. If a consent decree is not feasible, the state should move very cautiously. Mr. Husseman agreed caution is needed and the state will look at all options including a consent decree, a single agreement, and a lawsuit.

Adjourn

Mr. Bishop adjourned the Nuclear Waste Board meeting at 4:40 p.m.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE ENERGY OFFICE

809 Legion Way S.E. FA-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1211

October 21, 1988

MEMORANDUM

TO: Warren Bishop, Chair
Nuclear Waste Board

FROM: Dick Watson, Washington Representative
Pacific States Committee on Radioactive Materials Transportation

SUBJECT: Status Report

The Pacific States Committee met on October 7 in Seattle. Besides the representatives of the member states, there were also representatives from Wyoming and Utah in attendance. Both states have expressed interest in entering into the Pacific States Agreement. The status of the various projects of the Committee are as follows:

1. **Inspection Standards Field Test** - The initiation of the field test of vehicle inspection standards to be undertaken with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) has encountered some delays in contracting with CVSA and the U.S. Department of Energy. It is anticipated that these problems will be ironed out this month and the project initiated. To refresh your memory, this five year, \$1.2 million project will field test the CVSA vehicle inspection standards on the shipments of TRU wastes from the Idaho National Engineering Labs (INEL) and Hanford to the WIPP site in New Mexico. Of particular interest with respect to interstate regulation is an evaluation of the effect of frequency of inspection.
2. **Mutual Aid Agreement** - The committee reviewed a draft multi-state mutual aid agreement under which the resources of an agreement state could be called upon to help respond to a radioactive materials transportation accident. This draft was developed in consultation with the responsible agencies in each of the states. A final draft is being prepared in response to comments at the meeting. This draft will be reviewed by the Transportation Committee of the Nuclear Waste Board as well as the responsible agencies.
3. **Model Permitting Legislation** - The Committee continued work on a model uniform permitting system for transportation of radioactive materials in the agreement states. The Committee evaluated the potential revenues from a permit system and concluded that to generate revenues necessary to support significant emergency response or training activities would require very large fees. Consequently, it was decided that any fees should be kept at a nominal level.

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The Committee was briefed on the U.S. D.O.E. challenge of the Colorado permit system. Of particular concern was that instead of contesting elements of the Colorado system as inconsistent with federal regulations, D.O.E. is asserting that the entire system is inconsistent because of the alleged inconsistency of some elements. Oregon, a member state, is supposedly next on the list for challenges. Colorado is entering into legal action and is asking the states to file amicus briefs. The Committee took no action, however, the individual states should consider this request.

The Committee reviewed draft permitting legislation. A revised draft is being prepared in response to the Committee's comments and will be reviewed at the next meeting. This draft will be made available to the Transportation Committee for review.

The next meeting of the Pacific States Committee will be November 30 in Boise.

RHW/as
G-M5-33

cc: Representative Dennis Dellwo
Representative Dean Sutherland
Representative David Cooper
Curt Eschels
Max Power
Joe Stohr

ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Environment and Health Committee is to provide necessary data and prepare appropriate actions regarding environmental and health effects of radioactive wastes and emissions throughout the state.

To accomplish this mission, the Committee will:

1. Track the progress of dose reconstruction and health effects studies arising from the earlier recommendations of the Hanford Health Effects Review Panel. Coordinate the state's input to the Washington state representative of the Technical Steering Panel for dose reconstruction. Coordinate state involvement in the Thyroid Morbidity Review Study being conducted by the Centers For Disease Control.
2. Inform the Board and Advisory Council of relevant issues and events regarding environmental radiological monitoring. Coordinate state follow-up to the QATF environmental program review of 1987-1988.
3. Provide timely information to the Board on issues which cross over from nuclear waste into other areas, such as hazardous waste, water quality, air quality, and water supply.
4. Facilitate public involvement and education activities using existing Nuclear Waste Board and Advisory Council procedures and participants.
5. Make recommendations to Nuclear Waste Board and Advisory Council.

**NUCLEAR WASTE BOARD
RADIOACTIVE AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE WASTE COMMITTEE
PROPOSED MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Radioactive and Chemical Defense Wastes Committee is to provide necessary data and prepare appropriate actions on the timely, cost effective and safe management and disposal of Hanford defense wastes to the Nuclear Waste Board and Nuclear Waste Advisory Council.

To accomplish this mission the Committee will:

1. Recommend priorities for cleanup projects
2. Recommend priorities for future cleanup research
3. Develop policy direction regarding tank wastes, buried TRU wastes, and contaminated soils
4. Recommend actions concerning funding levels for state and federal oversight
5. Review and provide draft comments on major CERCLA, RCRA and NEPA documents.
6. Evaluate public hearing testimony and recommend Board action on significant issues.
7. Support technologies which enhance cleanup while helping to diversify the Hanford site.
8. Provide guidance on policy issues
9. Periodically report on cleanup status
10. Facilitate public involvement and education activities using existing Nuclear Waste Board and Advisory Council procedures and participants.

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**NUCLEAR WASTE BOARD
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
PROPOSED MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Transportation Committee is to:

1. Provide public information and involvement in the work of the Pacific States Agreement Committee (PSAC) and in the state's participation in other interstate and intrastate arenas on nuclear waste transportation, using existing Nuclear Waste Board and Advisory Council procedures and participants.
2. Coordinate Washington state agency input to the PSAC and other interstate and intrastate bodies.
3. Inform the Board and Advisory Council of the activities of other entities involved in transportation issues.
4. Engage in original research studies only at the request of recognized lead entities, such as the Pacific States Agreement Committee, Western Governor's Association and Western Interstate Energy Board.
5. Facilitate public involvement and education activities using existing Nuclear Waste Board and Advisory Council procedures and participants.

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