

WM DOCKET CENTER MINUTES OF NUCLEAR WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
October 17, 1986

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9:00 a.m.
EFSEC Hearings Room
Rowesix - Building #1
4224 Sixth Avenue S.E.
Lacey, Washington

Council Members Present:

Warren A. Bishop Chair
Harry A. Batson
Philip Bereano
Phyllis Clausen
Nancy Hovis
Valoria Loveland
Terry Novak
Sam Reed
Robert Rose
Commissioner W. H. Sebero
Betty Shreve
Jim Worthington

The meeting was called to order by Warren A. Bishop, Chair.

Mr. Bishop commented on the Joint Board and Council meeting of October 16, 1986 regarding the Hanford Health Effects Panel held in Richland, stating the findings of the Panel would lead to significant new directions. Mr. Bishop also mentioned Council member Sam Reed's suggestion of incorporating into a resolution "a statement of direction" for the Board and Council regarding the follow-up of recommendations that resulted from the panel. Mr. Bishop stated one major element would be to identify the kinds of studies and directions that should be followed, then to proceed in obtaining the necessary funding to carry out those studies.

Mr. Bishop's next reference was to the KCTSeattle 9 documentary, which examines issues surrounding radioactive waste disposal, titled "Nuclear Legacy". It is a one-hour report that will air on Channel 9 Monday, November 3, at 9:00 p.m., and will be broadcast nationally over PBS on December 15.

Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the September 18, 1986 and September 19, 1986 meetings be approved as corrected. Phil Bereano stated that on September 19, page 7, the word "with" should be omitted. Phyllis Clausen commented that two corrections to page 9 should read "...that after the Oregon Steering Committee meeting in October..." and "...Oregon Advisory Committee will hold a brainstorming session."

WM Record File

101.3

WM Project 10

Docket No.

PDR ✓

LPDR ✓

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Significant Recent Developments

Terry Husseman reported that several significant events had occurred since the last NY Council meeting. One such event was the issuance of the final report of the Near Term Transportation Review Working Group which was chaired by Curt Eschels and staffed by Bill Fitch. Mr. Husseman called upon Mr. Fitch to give a final summary of the conclusions from the study group.

Mr. Fitch stated that he last appeared before the Council on April 18, 1986. During that time, the Near Term High-Level Nuclear Waste Transportation Review Working Group was in the middle of its processing procedures. The working group had been created by the Governor on January 15, 1986 to review the movement and transportation of high-level nuclear waste into and throughout the state of Washington. Mr. Fitch also stated the working group was to identify any risks that might occur to the public. He reported that the Near Term Transportation Working Group held their last meeting on June 25 and the draft report was published on July 16, with the final report being published on October 1, 1986.

Mr. Fitch noted that although the working group completed their survey they did not come to closure with the USDOE regarding the principles of understanding. He said it was a process whereby the state and the USDOE would negotiate a principle of understanding that would contain the terms and conditions for the movement of high-level nuclear waste into and throughout the state of Washington. He reported the areas of disagreement between the USDOE and the state centered on matters of liability, notification, and inspection. When the process was ended the USDOE recommended that further negotiations be conducted as part of the Consultation and Cooperation Agreement under the Nuclear Waste Board authority. In conclusion, he commented that the state of Washington and the USDOE's working drafts are included as appendices in the report.

Mr. Fitch said the Near Term Transportation Working Review Group has developed seven findings and conclusions which can be found on pages 8-10 on the final report.

Warren Bishop called upon the Council for discussion and comments following Mr. Fitch's report.

Phyllis Clausen inquired as to the terms of notification regarding emergency response, should there be an accident. She also questioned the coordination of agencies responsible for an emergency response.

Mr. Fitch replied that there should be a planning initiative undertaken to develop a master plan in coordinating the activities of federal, state, and local government agencies involved in the handling of transportation of high-level radioactive materials.

Betty Shreve asked Mr. Fitch if the Near Term Transportation Working Group's report had been reviewed by the Transportation Commission.

Mr. Fitch responded that the report had been circulated between July and October to the Commission for comment.

Further discussion followed.

Mr. Husseman continued the discussion of significant recent developments, reporting that the Joint Board and Council meeting on October 16, 1986 was in reference to the Hanford Health Effects Panel held in Richland the week of September 22-26.

Mr. Husseman referred to a letter from Secretary Herrington to Senator Broyhill relating to the "indefinite postponement" of a second-round repository site. Mr. Husseman stated that the letter was to clarify the usage of the word "discontinued" instead of "indefinitely postponed", the latter of which is correct.

Another recent development was the meeting between the states and tribes of the first-round held in Reno on October 14-15. Mr. Husseman said the members consisted of the three state finalists (Washington, Texas, and Nevada) in addition to the three affected Indian tribes (Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Yakima). Plans for future meetings, to be held approximately every two months, will be to coordinate and share information concerning the sites already nominated.

Mr. Husseman next discussed the appropriation process that is currently before Congress. The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) requested \$677 million and the final decision of the Conference Committee was to appropriate \$499 million, \$79 million of which is contingent upon USDOE demonstrating to the U.S. Senate and House Appropriation Committees that they have made good faith efforts to enter into C&C agreements with the states and tribes. In addition, USDOE has funds left over from last year of approximately \$200 million which they can apply for work this year. Mr. Husseman continued, stating that the language provides the money appropriated to USDOE cannot be used toward drilling of an exploratory shaft at any site during fiscal year '87.

Phyllis Clausen expressed her concern that the public is unaware that, because of information regarding reduced funding, drilling would not take place this fiscal year. She inquired as to what steps the Office of Nuclear Waste Management was taking to be sure the public realized site characterization is continuing with the funding that is left over from the previous year.

Mr. Bishop responded by stating the public meetings currently being held by the Nuclear Waste Office address this situation.

Mr. Husseman reported that in June 1986, Basalt Waste Isolation Project (BWIP) was asked to provide a list of all current activities at Hanford related to site characterization and also to provide a list of all planned activities for 1987. BWIP agreed to provide lists of planned activities, which they sent to USDOE headquarters several months ago. Mr. Husseman stated that he was to receive a copy of the lists (approximately 15-20 pages) in late October and this would certainly help to clarify what activities at Hanford are related to site characterization.

Max Powell, of Richland Operation Office, noted that the 15-20 page report, prepared by BWIP, contains all activities from approximately June 1986 - June 1987.

Warren Bishop added that Mr. Husseman and he attended a lengthy meeting with John Anttonen, Director of BWIP Project, urging the report be released.

Referendum 40 Information Meetings

Mr. Bishop referred to the Referendum 40 informational meetings that are scheduled to take place in five different locations throughout the state. The purpose of the meetings is

to provide background information on Referendum 40 and will describe the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, the site selection process, and how Washington citizens can get involved. Mr. Bishop stated that the presentations will be made in alternate fashion between Jerry Parker, staff, and Max Power, Project Coordinator for Northwest Repository Projects, WIPP.

Jerry Parker, staff, proceeded to present a slide show regarding background information dealing with the issues of siting nuclear waste repositories. The slide show is to be used during the upcoming Referendum 40 meetings.

Council members were invited to comment on the slide show and discuss recommendations.

The Referendum 40 informational meetings will be held at the following locations in October:

- o October 14, Spokane, Gonzaga University, Hughes Auditorium, E. 502 Boone Avenue
- o October 21, Vancouver, First Presbyterian Church, 4300 N. Main
- o October 22, Yakima, Yakima Valley Community College, Student Union Building, South 16th Avenue and West Nob Hill Road
- o October 23, Kennewick, Kamiakin High School Auditorium, 600 North Arthur
- o October 28, Seattle, Seattle Center, Nisqually Room

All of the meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Local Government Committee Report

Bill Sebero prefaced the committee report by stating the Council's appreciation of the limited agenda items, thus providing more time for in-depth discussions.

Mr. Sebero reported the Local Government Committee established a survey of questions to better assess local government officials' knowledge regarding nuclear waste issues. He stated the committee's survey generated more questions than assessed knowledge and the questions being asked by the local officials refer to technical aspects that exceed the committee's expertise. Mr. Sebero said the Local Government Committee was requesting a representatives from committee staff to attend the next Local Government Committee meeting to assist the members in developing responses to the questions dealing with technical issues, such as: 1) groundwater, 2) transportation, and 3) environmental impacts.

Mr. Sebero moved for approval the Local Government Committee's request for assistance from the Transportation Committee. The motion was seconded and carried

Mr. Sebero reported that Warren Bishop had previously contacted the Local Government Committee requesting assistance to the Socioeconomic Committee in dealing with the consortium of governments in the five county area of the Tri-Cities. Mr. Sebero continued by stating Valoria Loveland and he had contacted local governments, consisting of 13 members, in and around the Benton-Franklin area, which resulted in forming the Mid-Columbia Consortium of Governments.

Mr. Sebero referred to the joint meeting between the consortium, Socioeconomic Committee, and Local Government Committee held on October 7 at the Sea-Tac Office Tower. This meeting was to review and assist in the Mid-Columbia Consortium's request for funding of PETT. He said Mr. Husseman and staff of the Nuclear Waste Office offered to draft a proposal which would be acceptable to all parties so that funding could be implemented.

Public Involvement Plans

Warren Bishop introduced Paul Korsmo, URS, who represents the contractor for Public Involvement.

Mr. Korsmo reported on the status of activities for the public information involvement program. He stated they were doing the final revisions of three slide shows, nearing readiness of a graphic identity for published materials, and drafted a preliminary action plan regarding activities for 1987. Mr. Korsmo added he would be working closely with office staff to prioritize the near term activities of the coming year.

Mr. Korsmo asked the Council for comments and suggestions.

Mr. Bereano suggested the upcoming newsletter should let the public be aware that a "public involvement plan" has been drafted and is in preparation. He said input of the public into our public involvement plan would be an important element of participation.

Betty Shreve suggested that a small questionnaire be included in the newsletter rather than random comments.

Warren Bishop ask that additional suggestions and comments pertaining to public involvement be presented to the office staff so they could be forwarded to URS.

Other Business

Phyllis Clausen commented on the Joint Washington and Oregon meeting to be held on March 19, 1987. She asked if an evening meeting would be more acceptable to Council members than a daytime meeting, adding that an evening meeting might be more convenient for public to attend.

Ms. Clausen suggested the "Informal Council" meeting be held in the morning, with a separate Oregon/Washington Council meeting in the afternoon. She also suggested a joint dinner between Oregon and Washington followed by the evening meeting.

Betty Shreve moved that the Joint Washington and Oregon Council meeting be held on the evening of March 19, 1987. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Husseman stated that a special notice would be prepared to let everyone know the regularly scheduled Council meeting had been changed.

Public Comment

None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.