



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

September 17, 2001

Ms. Leah Dever
Manager, DOE-Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001, M-1
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Ms. Dever:

Request for Representation on the Oak Ridge Reservation Land-Use Focus Group

We understand that DOE-Oak Ridge Operations officially announced the creation of a new focus group and land-use planning process during a press conference on August 29.

According to published reports, the process will focus on the environmental assets of Oak Ridge, with the goal of drafting a "roadmap for development on the reservation" and that this process will allow for the identification of properties which should be off limits to development. The land-use group is purportedly a compromise to DOE's performing an extensive and complex environmental impact statement on the entire reservation.

We further understand that the land-use focus group includes representatives from various governmental entities, business organizations, and advocacy groups. Among these advocacy groups are Advocates for the Oak Ridge Reservation, Friends of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Nature Conservancy, and the Tennessee Conservation League.

As you know, the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board has since 1995 been an interested and involved party in environmental land-use issues at the Oak Ridge Reservation. Our board served as leader of the End Use Working Group and continues advocacy of land-use issues through our various stewardship initiatives.

Because aspects of the environmental cleanup program will have a bearing on the land-use planning process, we request that a member of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board sit on the land-use focus group. This request received the unanimous support of our members at our September 12 meeting.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to receiving your written response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Luther V. Gibson, Jr.".

Luther V. Gibson, Jr., Chair

cc: Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO
Rod Nelson, DOE-ORO