

# **Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board**

**Fernald  
Hanford  
Idaho**

**Nevada  
Northern New Mexico  
Oak Ridge**

**Paducah  
Rocky Flats  
Savannah River**

June 19, 2006

Mr. James A. Rispoli  
EM-1/DOE-HQ Forrestal Building  
U. S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Rispoli:

## **Incorporation of Lessons Learned in Future Site Closures**

The EM Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs wish to acknowledge, congratulate, and thank all those who have been involved in the tireless, consistent, and thorough work of the Fernald and Rocky Flats SSABs. Past and current members, along with agency and contractor support, have contributed immensely to the success of the Fernald and Rocky Flats Closure Projects and, in the process, have provided valuable guidance and experience for future Office of Environmental Management (EM) site cleanup and closure.

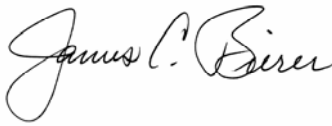
To take full advantage of this experience, the Chairs request that EM ensure the following lessons provided by the Fernald and Rocky Flats SSABs are considered and incorporated in policies that ultimately will guide closure at other EM sites.

- A transparent, open, and consultative decision-making process among the Department of Energy (DOE), regulators, contractors, and the community is critical in fostering cleanup success and site closure.
- The Chairs believe the Local Stakeholder Organization (LSO) legislation for Fernald, Rocky Flats, and Mound was seriously flawed. In order to improve the process in the future, EM should work with other DOE landlord programs (e.g., the Office of Legacy Management) to ensure that continuing stakeholder involvement entities: (1) are Federal Advisory Committee Act chartered to allow operation in an advisory role; (2) are scoped to address all potential future long term stewardship, cleanup, and public involvement issues at the closure site; (3) are fully representative of the community; and (4) build on the experience of the local EM SSAB (e.g., decision-making processes, membership, scope of issues, etc.).
- EM should engage other DOE landlord programs early in planning to ensure a smooth and sound site transition from EM.
- EM policy should facilitate active engagement between other DOE landlord programs and the local EM SSAB. This should include EM encouraging and facilitating the new landlord's consideration and adoption of local SSAB recommendations.

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- Requirements for long-term public education and active public involvement should be included in institutional control plans for the closure site as they were at Fernald.
- Development of accessible and understandable risk communication tools is critical if contamination is left behind at the site.
- The local EM SSAB should remain active and involved until regulatory closure is complete.

Again, the Chairs congratulate all those involved in the success of the Fernald and Rocky Flats site closures.



Jim Bierer, Chair  
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board



Kerry Trammell, Chair  
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board



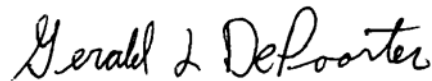
Todd Martin, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board



Chad Kerley, Chair  
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant  
Citizens Advisory Board



Bill Flanery, Co-Chair  
Idaho National Laboratory Site EM  
Citizens Advisory Board



Gerald DePoorter, Chair  
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Kathleen Peterson, Chair  
Nevada Test Site Citizens Advisory Board



Karen Patterson, Chair  
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory  
Board



J.D. Campbell, Chair  
Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board

cc: Charles Anderson, EM-2  
Doug Frost, EM-13

Frank Marcinowski, EM-10  
Melissa Nielson, EM-13