



AK RIDGE RESERVATION

Environmental Management

June 5, 1998

Mr. Rod Nelson
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
DOE/ORO
P.O. Box 2001, EM90
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. Nelson:

At our June 3, 1998 Board meeting, the Oak Ridge Reservation Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (ORREMSSAB) reviewed and approved the enclosed "End Use Recommendations for the Y-12 Plant, Chestnut Ridge, and Upper East Fork Poplar Creek." Out of the 13 SSAB members present at the Board meeting, 12 approved the recommendation with one abstention.

These recommendations are based upon and consistent with the conclusions reached by the End Use Working Group, an independent group initiated by the ORREMSSAB.

We look forward to receiving your written response to our recommendation. Thank you for your continued support of the ORREMSSAB.

Sincerely,

William M. Pardue, Chair
ORREMSSAB

WMP/sb

Enclosure

cc: Margaret Wilson, DOE/ORO
Marianne Heiskell, DOE/ORO
Karol Hazard, DOE/HQ
John Hankinson, USEPA Region IV
Earl Leming, TDEC
Susan Gawarecki, LOC
EUWG Members
ORREMSSAB Members

P.O. Box 2001 • Mail Stop EW-91 • Oak Ridge, TN 37831 • (423) 241-3665



End Use Recommendations for the Y-12 Plant, Chestnut Ridge, and Upper East Fork Poplar Creek

Using the industrial complex at the Y-12 Plant in a manner that is safe and protective of human health and the environment is important to the long-term vitality of the Oak Ridge community. For the foreseeable future, ongoing missions for the Y-12 Plant and Chestnut Ridge dictate uses for much of the property.

For purposes of end use recommendations, the Y-12 Plant was divided into two areas (see map). In the eastern area of the plant, surface soils contain relatively low levels of contamination and this area can be made suitable for uncontrolled industrial development. This area is bounded by residential and commercial property.

In the western area of the plant, surface soils are more heavily contaminated and would require significant excavation for uncontrolled industrial use. In addition, ongoing national security missions are located in the western area of the plant which requires that it remain under federal government control. This area of the plant is bounded to the west by the Bear Creek Valley waste disposal areas.

The Chestnut Ridge area, adjacent to the Y-12 Plant to the south, is used for a variety of waste management activities and contains active and closed landfills.

Contaminated groundwater plumes flow beneath much of the Y-12 property and off site into Union Valley to the east. Recognition of the impacts of contamination from the Y-12 Plant and Chestnut Ridge on surface water and groundwater resources is essential to planning overall remediation.

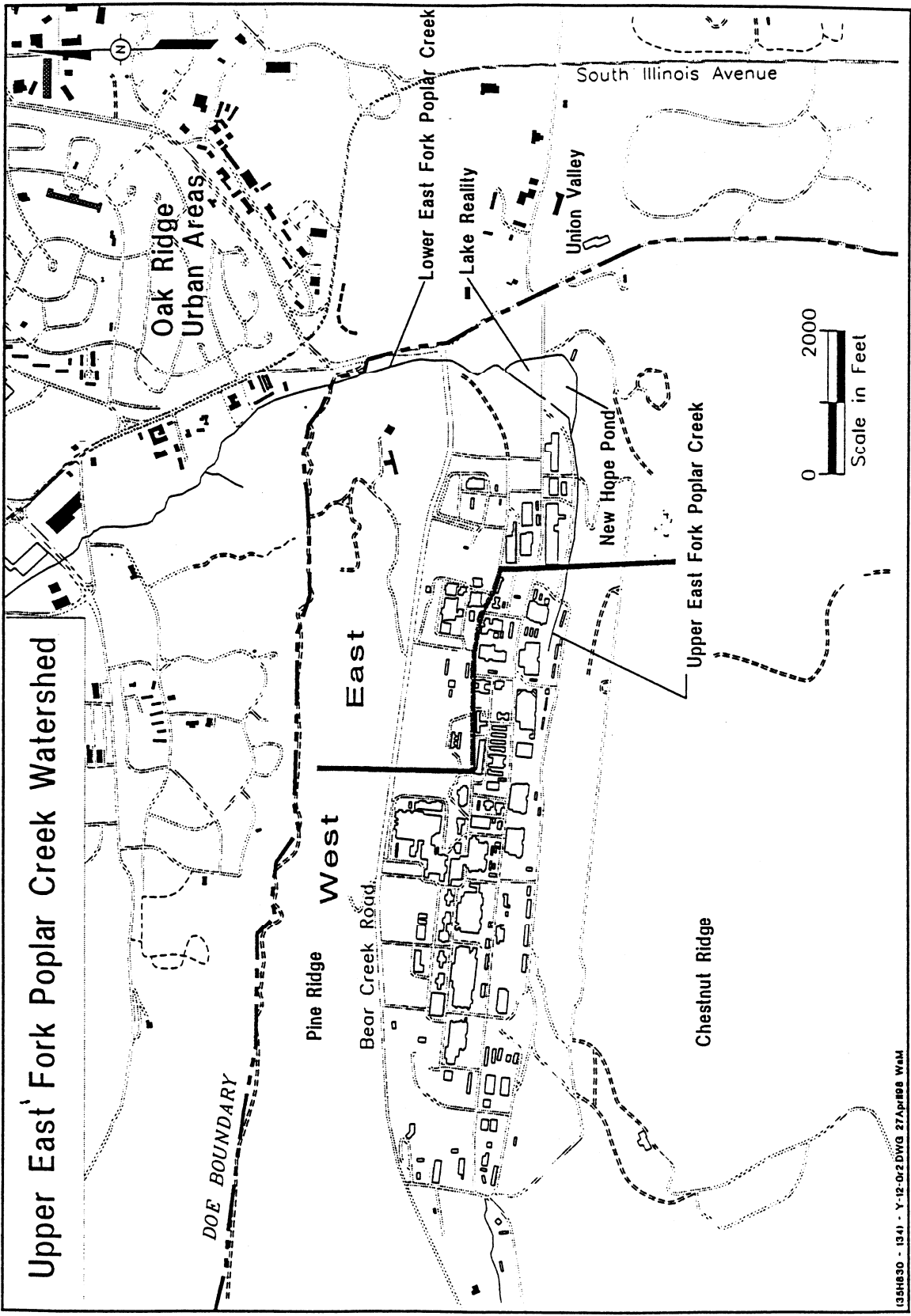
The following recommendations are made for the Y-12 Plant, Chestnut Ridge, and Upper East Fork Poplar Creek (numbers do not imply priority):

- 1) The western area of the Y-12 Plant is expected to remain controlled industrial property. As opportunity arises, national security activities should be concentrated in the western area to allow for the broadest possible use of the rest of the plant.
- 2) The eastern area of the Y-12 Plant should be made suitable for uncontrolled industrial use.
- 3) Lake Reality and the RCRA-closed New Hope Pond will require continued federal government control. Use of these sites should be consistent with end uses for the eastern area of the Y-12 Plant (i.e., for parking or other non-intrusive uses).
- 4) The Chestnut Ridge property should continue to be used and safely maintained for regulated waste disposal for the Oak Ridge Reservation.

- 5) The Upper East Fork Poplar Creek, its tributaries, and surface waters on Chestnut Ridge must eventually meet State water quality standards. In the interim, water quality must not pose an unacceptable risk to: a) industrial workers at the Y-12 Plant, and b) residential and commercial users surrounding the Lower East Fork Poplar Creek and its tributaries.
- 6) Contaminated groundwater from the Y-12 Plant and Chestnut Ridge must be controlled by the federal government such that it does not permanently impact the use of currently uncontaminated groundwater.

Short-term control and long-term remediation of contaminated source areas must be assured regardless of who is responsible for the facility. Implementation of these recommendations by the DOE must be consistent with the Community Guidelines and needs for long-term stewardship. If DOE cannot meet these recommendations for the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Watershed, exceptions must be discussed in a public forum as part of the decision-making process.

This recommendation is based upon and consistent with the conclusions reached by the End Use Working Group for the Y-12 Plant, Chestnut Ridge, and Upper East Fork Poplar Creek (End Use Working Group recommendation dated May 7, 1998).



Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Watershed

Oak Ridge
Urban Areas

Pine Ridge
West

Bear Creek Road

East

Lower East Fork Poplar Creek

Lake Reality

South Illinois Avenue

Union Valley

New Hope Pond

Upper East Fork Poplar Creek

Chestnut Ridge

