



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

May 15, 2001

Mr. Rod Nelson
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
DOE/ORO
P.O. Box 2001, EM 90
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

FY 2002 Presidential Budget for the Department of Energy Environmental Management Program

Dear Mr. Nelson:

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) has recently become aware of a general outline of the Fiscal Year 2002 Presidential Budget for the Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management (EM) Program. Details of this submission to Congress are not sufficiently available to permit an understanding of the impact on the Oak Ridge Reservation program. While the total Oak Ridge Operations EM budget does not appear to sustain a significant decrease compared to FY 2001, the amounts proposed for the Oak Ridge Reservation seem to represent a significant reduction; and therefore, are a major concern to stakeholders.

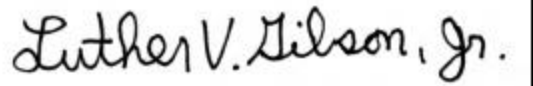
In order to allow the ORSSAB and other members of the public to understand the situation and react intelligently, we request an early public presentation on the details of the budget. This presentation should be in sufficient detail to permit a full understanding of this budget. This would include actual proposed budget information on the Oak Ridge Reservation, separate from budgets for Portsmouth, Paducah, and Weldon Spring. For example, it would appear that a significant increase in Portsmouth costs could lead to a large decrement in Oak Ridge funding.

We are interested in detailed information including, but not limited to, impact on major program milestones, waste disposal schedules, regulatory driven commitments, consent decrees, and impact on all cleanup activities.

Mr. Rod Nelson
May 15, 2001
Page 2

In short, we believe stakeholders should be able to understand the full implications of the currently proposed EM budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Luther V. Gibson, Jr." followed by a vertical line.

Luther V. Gibson, Jr.
Chair

Cc: Connie Jones, EPA Region 4
Norman Mulvenon, LOC/CAP
John Owsley, TDEC
Jenny Miller, ETEBA
Zach Wamp, U.S. Congressman