



*Many Voices Working for the Community*

# Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

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December 20, 2007

Mr. Steve McCracken  
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management  
DOE-Oak Ridge Office  
P.O. Box 2001, EM-90  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. McCracken:

**Recommendation 161: Recommendation on Developing a Stewardship Map Showing Remediated Areas with Radioactive/Hazardous Waste or Residual Contamination Left in Place**

At our December 12, 2007 meeting, the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board approved the enclosed recommendation.

The Board believes the development of a Long-term Stewardship Map showing waste left in place on the Oak Ridge Reservation would be a great convenience for interested members of the public to determine quickly and easily where such remediated sites are.

We thank you for considering our recommendation, and we look forward to receiving your written response by March 12, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance J. Mezga".

Lance J. Mezga, Chair

Enclosure

cc/enc:

Dave Adler, DOE-ORO  
Mike Farmer, Roane County Mayor  
Doug Frost, DOE-HQ  
Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO  
Connie Jones, EPA Region 4

Rex Lynch, Anderson County Mayor  
James O'Connor, Oak Ridge City Manager  
Melissa Nielson, DOE-HQ  
Ralph Skinner, DOE-ORO  
John Owsley, TDEC



## **Recommendation 161**

### **Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board**

### **Recommendation on Developing a Stewardship Map**

### **Showing Remediated Areas with**

### **Radioactive/Hazardous Waste or Residual**

### **Contamination Left in Place**

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#### **Background**

The basic elements of a long-term stewardship program are: stewards, operations, information systems, research, public participation, and public education. Each of these elements must work together to make long-term stewardship effective. First, stewards must be identified and their individual roles and responsibilities defined. Second, the tools of long-term stewardship, including operations, information systems, and research must be designed and implemented. Finally, the public must be involved and educated in long-term stewardship activities. The elements of information systems and public education are of particular significance with regard to identification of location and amounts of contaminants left in place. The information system has the purpose: a) to retain information, b) to distribute information to users or to make information available to the public.

It is important that redundancy of information systems is implemented within and beyond Department of Energy (DOE) control. DOE has documented the location of contaminants left in place after completion of remediation with the local county registrar of deeds through property record notices as well as property record restrictions. These notices and restrictions shall be monitored and maintained until the concentrations of contaminants in the environmental media (e.g. soils and groundwater) are at such levels to allow for unrestricted land use or as long as needed. The DOE realty officer has also further documented the locations where contaminants remain after completion of site remediation through transmittal of plat maps. The plat maps, property record notices, and property record restrictions are subsequently forwarded to the tax assessor's geographic information system. The property record information should be publicly available within and beyond DOE control.

#### **Discussion**

DOE has submitted notices of contamination/property record notices to both the Anderson County and Roane County tax assessors from several sites where Resource Conservation and Recovery Act closures and Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act remediation have resulted in contaminants remaining in place. There is no single map available for public information that identifies all the sites where contaminants have been left. The main purpose of the proposed map, located at the DOE Information Center, would be to allow the public to understand what cleanup work was undertaken on the Oak Ridge Reservation and assist in accessing the appropriate administrative record information and remediation effectiveness report records. The map could also be included in the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board Stewardship Education Kit, as well as on display at the American Museum of Science and Energy to support public education.

#### **Recommendation**

DOE should develop and become caretaker of a long-term stewardship map showing the locations where radioactive/hazardous waste or residual contaminants have been left in place on the Oak Ridge Reservation. The map should be developed based on the cleanup work completed to date, displayed at the DOE Information Center, and updated as cleanup is completed as documented by approved remedial action reports. DOE should seek to make this information available as a large hard copy map on display at the DOE Information Center as well as seek ways to make this information available as an electronic

mapping application. This map could be developed as an adjunct to the Oak Ridge Environmental Information System, which contains most or all of the data required thus reducing its initial cost and maintenance.

As this map should be developed with the intent of furthering public information DOE should seek input from The City of Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Roane County, and the public on development of the map.