

Analysis (DOE/EIS-0277-SA-1), discussed below, DOE has decided to blend down the plutonium fluoride residues with inert material to less than 10 percent, apply a variance to the safeguards termination limits, and dispose of these residues at WIPP.

#### V. Basis for the Decision

The delay in obtaining the certification for the shipping container needed to transport the plutonium fluoride residues to SRS could prevent DOE from closing the Rocky Flats Site by 2006. DOE now has the ability to blend down this category of residues to less than 10 weight percent of plutonium and meet the variance requirements for safeguards termination limits. For the reasons described below in Section VI, DOE has concluded that blending the plutonium fluoride residues down to less than 10% plutonium by weight and shipping them to WIPP for disposal would have low impacts, well within those analyzed in the Residues EIS.

DOE's decision complies with Section 309 of the Fiscal Year 2001 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 106-377), which specifies that: "None of the funds in this Act may be used to dispose of transuranic waste in WIPP which contains concentrations of plutonium in excess of 20 percent by weight for the aggregate of any material category on the date of enactment of this Act, or is generated after such date. For the purposes of this section, the material categories of transuranic waste at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site include: (1) Ash residues, (2) salt residues, (3) wet residues, (4) direct repackaged residues, and (5) scrub alloy as referenced in the 'Final Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Certain Plutonium Residues and Scrub Alloy Stored at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site.'" (Plutonium fluoride residues are part of the "wet residues" category, which overall contains approximately 7 percent plutonium by weight.)

Furthermore, disposal of the plutonium fluoride residues at WIPP now provides the least technical risk and most cost-effective approach to the management of plutonium fluoride residues, and supports the Rocky Flats closure schedule of 2006. Therefore, there are no longer cost, waste management, or schedule advantages in shipping the plutonium fluoride residues to SRS for separation.

#### VI. Prior NEPA Analysis

DOE prepared a Supplement Analysis for the Final Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Certain

Plutonium Residues and Scrub Alloy Stored at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (DOE/EIS-0277-SA-1). This Supplement Analysis was developed to determine whether the activities and impacts associated with blending down the plutonium fluoride residues to less than 10 percent plutonium by weight with a matrix of inert material, applying a safeguard termination limit variance, and disposing of the resulting blend at WIPP were encompassed within previous NEPA reviews or would present any significant new information or circumstances relevant to environmental concerns.

The results of this Supplement Analysis indicated that the activities and potential environmental impacts associated with the new action are encompassed within the activities and impacts analyzed under Alternative 2 (blend down) of the Residues EIS. In addition, the overall impacts for the new action will be very small for both the public and workers and within the levels of impacts considered in the Residues EIS. Worker exposure during the new blend down activities would be reduced to 8 person-rem from 365 person-rem estimated in the Residues EIS. The number of Latent Cancer Fatalities (LCF) for the total worker population would be smaller for the new action (0.003) than for Alternative 2 (0.142). The difference in LCF for the total worker population between Alternative 2 and the new action is a result of two factors. The first is a reduced duration of the blend down operation as blending down to less than 10 weight percent plutonium rather than 0.2 weight percent plutonium will result in a shorter period in which the material is handled. Secondly, enhanced worker shielding will reduce worker exposure during the blend-down activities. Additionally, the new action has fewer drums for transportation reducing the potential for traffic accidents during transportation of plutonium fluoride residues to WIPP. Accordingly, DOE determined that carrying out the new action would not constitute a substantial change in actions previously analyzed and would not constitute significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the previously analyzed action or its impacts. Therefore, DOE did not need to undertake additional NEPA analysis before issuing this amendment to the 1998 Record of Decision.

#### VII. Conclusion

This Amended Record of Decision is effective upon being made public, in

accordance with DOE's NEPA implementation regulations (10 CFR 1021.315).

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 11th day of January 2001.

**Carolyn L. Huntoon,**

*Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.*

[FR Doc. 01-1478 Filed 1-17-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Rocky Flats

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Rocky Flats. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, February 1, 2001, 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard, Arvada, CO.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ken Korkia, Board/Staff Coordinator, Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 9035 North Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO, 80021; telephone (303) 420-7855; fax (303) 420-7579.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

#### *Tentative Agenda:*

1. Quarterly update by the Environmental Protection Agency.
2. Presentation and discussion on recent worker contamination and safety violations at the site.
3. Draft recommendations on Radionuclide Soil Action Level review process.
4. Other Board business may be conducted as necessary.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Ken Korkia at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received at least five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy

Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

**Minutes:** The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Public Reading Room located at the Office of the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 9035 North Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021; telephone (303)420-7855. Hours of operations for the Public Reading Room are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be made available by writing or calling Deb Thompson at the address or telephone number listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC on January 12, 2001.

**Rachel M. Samuel,**

*Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-1480 Filed 1-17-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Semi-Annual Chairs Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Semi-Annual Chairs Meeting. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, February 8, 2001, 6:45 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Friday, February 9, 2001, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 10, 2001 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** St. Tropez All Suite Hotel, 455 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, Phone: (702) 369-5400 or (800) 666-5400.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Martha Crosland, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-5793.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of future use, cleanup levels, waste disposition, and cleanup priorities.

### Tentative Agenda

*Thursday, February 8, 2001: EM SSAB Chairs Meeting (Day 1)*

6:45 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Joint tour of the Nevada Test Site and Yucca Mountain

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Opening reception at the St. Tropez Hotel

*Friday, February 9, 2001: EM SSAB Chairs Meeting (Day 2)*

6:30-8:00 a.m., Continental Breakfast buffet in Truffles Lounge

8:00-8:20 a.m., Opening/Welcoming Remarks/Overview of Agenda (Martha Crosland, DOE/HQ; Carl Gertz, DOE/NV AMEM; etc.)

8:20-8:25 a.m., Introduction of Facilitators and Review of Ground Rules (Ted McAdam, *et al.*)

8:25-9:30 a.m., Round Robin Ice Breaker. SSAB Chairs will introduce participants from their Boards and briefly list their Boards' Top Three Issues of Concern

9:30-9:40 a.m., Overview of Survey Results and Objectives of Topic-Specific Round Robins and Facilitated Discussions

9:40-10:30 a.m., Topic #1 Round Robin (five minutes for each SSAB). What is your Board's desired composition and how are new members recruited and selected? How effective is that process?

10:30-10:45 a.m., Morning break

10:45-11:25 a.m., Topic #1 Facilitated Discussion

11:25 a.m.-12:05 p.m., Topic #2 Round Robin (four minutes for each SSAB). How does your Board develop its annual work plan? How does your Board set its agenda?

12:05-12:40 p.m., Topic #2 Facilitated Discussion

12:40-1:45 p.m., Buffet lunch served in the hotel

1:45-2:25 p.m., Topic #3 Round Robin (four minutes for each SSAB). How are your Boards's committees structured? How do your Board's committees function? Do non-members participate in committee work?

2:25-3:00 p.m., Topic #3 Facilitated Discussion

3:00-3:15 p.m., Afternoon Break

3:15-3:55 p.m., Topic #4 Round Robin (four minutes for each SSAB). How does your Board develop its recommendations/advice? To whom are your recommendations addressed?

3:55-4:30 p.m., Topic #4 Facilitated Discussion

4:30-5:15 p.m., Review and Approval of Stewardship Core Value Statements

5:15-5:30 p.m., Public Comment

5:30-7:00 p.m., Free time

7:00 p.m. Dine Around Las Vegas.

Groups depart for area restaurants—transportation to be provided

*Saturday, February 10, 2001: EM SSAB Chairs Meeting (Day 3)*

6:30-8:00 a.m., Continental Breakfast Buffet in Truffles Lounge

8:00-8:10 a.m., Welcome and Recap of Previous Day's Work (Martha Crosland or Ted McAdam)

8:10-8:50 a.m., Topic #5 Round Robin (five minutes for each SSAB). How does your Board conduct public outreach and how effective is that effort?

8:50-9:25 a.m., Topic #5 Facilitated Discussion

9:35-10:15 a.m., Topic #6 Round Robin (five minutes for each SSAB). How does your Board conduct self-evaluations, who else evaluates the Board's performance, and how effective is/are that/those process(es)?

10:15-10:55 a.m., Topic #6 Facilitated Discussion

10:55-11:10 a.m., Morning break

11:10a.m.-12:10 p.m., Facilitated

Discussion of Issues of Concern to Each Site. Issues discussed will be based on those recorded during the Friday morning Ice Breaker Round Robin discussion.

12:10-12:30 p.m., Updates from DOE Headquarters

- Revised DOE Public Participation Policy Public Review & Comment
- Status Report Regarding Changes at DOE Under the New Administration (Betty Nolan)

12:30-12:45 p.m., Critique of the SSAB Chairs Meeting

12:45-1:00 p.m., Future SSAB Meetings and Workshops—Martha Crosland

1:00-1:15 p.m., Public comment

1:15-1:30 p.m., Closing remarks

1:30 p.m., Adjourn

(Agenda topics may change up to the day of the meetings: please contact Martha Crosland, Designated Federal Officer, (202) 586-5793 for the current agenda.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board facilitator either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact the Board Chair at their specific site, or Martha Crosland. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer, Martha Crosland, U.S. Department of Energy, is empowered to conduct the meeting in a