

authority to clean up the two sites without costsharing by the State, and the existence of alternative authority to regulate the sites following revocation of the designations. Following revocation, these two sites will no longer be eligible for cleanup under the provisions of UMTRCA.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on this proposed action. Comments should be submitted by April 16, 1998. If the Department does not receive any comments on this proposed action that would cause it to reconsider its proposal, the revocations shall be effective on May 18, 1998; and the Belfield and Bowman, North Dakota, processing sites and associated vicinity properties will no longer be eligible for remedial action by the Department of Energy under the provisions of UMTRCA.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to: Loretta B. Fahy, Office of Environmental Restoration, EM-45, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Loretta B. Fahy, Office of Environmental Restoration, (301) 903-3895.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 is to provide, in cooperation with interested States, Indian tribes, and persons who own or control inactive uranium milling sites, a program of assessment and remedial action at certain designated sites to stabilize and control the tailings in a safe and environmentally sound manner and to minimize or eliminate radiation health hazards. Section 102(a)(1) of UMTRCA, 42 U.S.C. 7912(a)(1), required DOE to designate twenty-two sites specified in the Act and gave the Secretary discretionary authority to designate other sites. The Belfield and Bowman sites were designated under this discretionary authority of the Secretary (44 FR 74982, December 18, 1979).

Under the provisions of section 107(a) of UMTRCA, 42 U.S.C. 7917(a), the Secretary is authorized to pay only 90 percent of the cost of remedial action at designated sites not on Indian lands, and the State is required to provide the remaining 10 percent. If the State does not provide its share of the remedial action costs, the Secretary lacks the necessary authority to perform remedial action at the sites in that State.

The State of North Dakota, by letter dated March 14, 1995, requested that the Department of Energy take whatever action is necessary to revoke the designations of the Belfield and

Bowman sites under UMTRCA and terminate the Cooperative Agreement between the State and the Department. The State's request expressed the view that there would be minimal risk to the public and environment if the sites were not cleaned up and noted that the North Dakota legislature was not likely to appropriate funds for the State's 10 percent share of the cleanup costs.

Under section 102(a)(1) of UMTRCA, 42 U.S.C. 7912(a)(1), the Department has the implicit authority to revoke the designations of the two sites. There are three reasons why the Department is taking this action. First, the risk to the public and environment is low, and the public will be protected through State regulation of the radioactive material at the sites. In arriving at this conclusion, the Department prepared an Environmental Assessment and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact for this proposed action. Second, since the State of North Dakota has declined to appropriate the State's cost share, the Department lacks the authority under UMTRCA to conduct the cleanup.

Third, neither the Nuclear Regulatory Commission nor the Environmental Protection Agency has expressed any objection to the Department's proposed action. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has advised the State and the Department that the State of North Dakota can regulate the sites under separate existing State authority. The Environmental Protection Agency has advised the Department that it will not object to the Department's action, provided that the State assumes regulatory responsibility for the sites. The State has notified the Department of its willingness to assume this responsibility.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on this 10th of March, 1998.

James J. Fiore,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

[FR Doc. 98-6865 Filed 3-16-98; 8:45 am]

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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: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-

Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Rocky Flats.

DATES: Thursday, April 2, 1998, 6:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Westminster City Hall, Lower-level Multi-purpose Room, 4800 West 92nd Avenue, Westminster, CO.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Korkia, Board/Staff Coordinator, EM SSAB-Rocky Flats, 9035 North Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021, phone: (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. The Board will consider approving a recommendation concerning economic reuse at the Rocky Flats Technology Site.

2. The Board will discuss a survey of area residents regarding outreach preferences, community involvement, and knowledge of the Board and issues surrounding Rocky Flats.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee 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 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Official 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 5 minutes to present their comments at the beginning of the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585 between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available at the Public Reading Room located at the Board's office at 9035 North Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021; telephone (303) 420-7855. Hours of

operation for the Public Reading Room are 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Monday through Friday. Minutes will also be made available by writing or calling Deb Thompson at the Board's office address or telephone number listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 12, 1998.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-6867 Filed 3-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation.

DATES: Wednesday, April 1, 1998, 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Ramada Inn, 420 South Illinois Avenue, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marianne Heiskell, Ex-Officio Officer, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, 105 Broadway, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, (423) 576-0314.

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

A business meeting will be conducted with no technical presentation provided.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Marianne Heiskell at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Official 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 5 minutes to present their comments near the beginning of the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available at the Department of Energy's Information Resource Center at 105 Broadway, Oak Ridge, TN between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 8:30 am and 7:00 pm on Tuesday and Thursday; and 9:00 am and 1:00 pm on Saturday, or by writing to Marianne Heiskell, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, 105 Broadway, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, or by calling her at (423) 576-0314.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 12, 1998.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-6868 Filed 3-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; Notice of Open Teleconference Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

SUMMARY: Consistent with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following advisory committee teleconference:

Name: Secretary of Energy Advisory Board.

The purpose of the teleconference is to discuss the report of the Tennessee Valley Electric System Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of the Board.

DATES AND TIME: Tuesday, March 31, 1998, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, EST.

ADDRESSES: Participants may call toll free by dialing 1-800-239-5258 and then providing the switchboard operator with participant code number 38271. Public participation is welcomed. However, the number of teleconference lines are limited and available on a first come basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard C. Burrow, Secretary of Energy

Advisory Board (AB-1), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-1709 or (202) 586-6279 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board

The Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (Board) reports directly to the Secretary of Energy and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Board provides the Secretary of Energy with essential independent advice and recommendations on issues of national importance. On March 31, the Board will conduct a teleconference to discuss the report of the Tennessee Valley Electric System Advisory Council, a subcommittee of the Board.

Purpose of the Tennessee Valley Electric System Advisory Committee (TVC)

In late 1997, the Secretary of Energy directed the Board to form a subcommittee to provide advise, information, and recommendations to the Board on a legislative proposal to define the role of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in a restructured competitive electric industry. The Tennessee Valley Electric System Advisory Committee (TVC) was subsequently formed by the Board and Chaired by Butler Derrick, a member of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board.

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

11:00 AM-11:10 AM

Welcome and Opening Remarks—SEAB Chairman Walter Massey

11:10 AM-11:30 AM

Overview of TVC Findings and Recommendations—TVC Chairman, Butler Derrick

11:30 PM-12:00 PM

Public Comment Period

12:00 AM-12:30 PM

SEAB Review and Comment and Action—SEAB Chairman Walter Massey

12:30 PM

Adjourn

This tentative agenda is subject to change.

Public Participation

The Chairman of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board is empowered to conduct the teleconference in a way that will, in the Chairman's judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its teleconference, the Board welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard during the public comment period. The