



MEETING MINUTES

Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee

2:00 p.m. February 9, 2010

Sahara West Library
9600 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV

Members Present:	Bob Gatliff (Chair), Jim Weeks
Members Absent:	Bob Gamble (Nye County), Phil Klevorick (Clark County), Genne Nelson (National Park Service), Hal Sullivan
Public Present:	Rob Cromwell, Las Vegas, NV
U.S. Dept. of Energy:	Rob Boehlecke, Bill Wilborn
Staff:	Helen Neill (UNLV), Denise Rupp (Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.), Kelly Snyder (DDFO)

Bill Wilborn updated the Committee on 2010 drilling operations, the Frenchman Flat Peer Review, and improvements to the Underground Test Area (UGTA) strategy.

2010 Drilling Operations

- ER-EC-12 drilling operations scheduled for June-July
- ER-EC-13 replaced ER-EC-16 as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funded well with drilling operations scheduled for July – September
- ER-20-4 drilling operations scheduled for September-November
- Updated stratigraphic cross sections will be provided the Committee upon approval for public release

Frenchman Flat Peer Review

- Characterization and investigation work for Phase II of the French Flat Corrective Action Unit is complete
- Specific questions were developed for the Peer Review to determine if there is sufficient confidence in modeling results to proceed to monitoring studies
- Assembled review team members with required technical backgrounds
- Peer Review schedule runs from March to September 2010
 - overview, objectives, and background materials
 - week-long workshop including briefings and site tour
 - status meetings
 - draft report
 - close-out meeting and discussion (CAB may have opportunity to observe)
 - final report
- Upon completion of Peer Review, a Corrective Action Decision document/Corrective Action Plan will be prepared

UGTA Strategy

- Old UGTA Strategy
 - lacked flexibility and refinement to address characterization uncertainties

- only included limited incorporation of long-term monitoring and institutional controls
- **New UGTA Strategy**
 - Revisions to the UGTA strategy require revision to the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) to update modeling criteria and incorporate latest guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency
 - Increases emphasis on evaluation and possible refinement of the
 - Provides more opportunity for Department of Energy (DOE) and State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to review and modify throughout the process
 - Public and environmental protection along with modeling, institutional controls, and monitoring combine to make improved UGTA strategy
 - Allows incorporation of knowledge gained in last 10-15 years back into the strategy

The DOE would like feedback on the new strategy including support or non-support as well as opportunities for more improvement. This recommendation is requested by September 30, 2010. The Committee will be provided with copies of the initial version of the FFACO dealing with the UGTA strategy as well as the revised version of the FFACO. Helen Neill will prepare a comparison of the old and new strategy to be distributed to the Committee prior to the next meeting.

Work Plan Revisions

Kelly Snyder reported there are changes to the FY 2010 Work Plan due to changes in UGTA scheduling.

- Recommendation for Item #5 regarding the UGTA strategy is September 30, 2010. Item #6 regarding off-site wells does not fit with the new UGTA strategy. It will be removed from this year's Work Plan with ongoing updates in FY 2011.
- Item #9 regarding groundwater model flow paths will be removed from this year's Work Plan with ongoing updates in FY 2011.
- Recommendation for Item #11 groundwater well completion reports is September 30, 2010.

Ms. Snyder also announced there a Groundwater open house is scheduled for April 21 in Beatty.

The next Committee meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. April 20, 2010 at a location to be determined.