



MEETING MINUTES

Environmental Management (EM) Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee

July 2, 2008 – SNJV Conference Room

Members Present: Walter Wegst, Chair; Kathy Bienenstein, Bob Gatliff, Vernell McNeal, Herb Spiegel

Members Not Present: Stacy Standley

Department of Energy: Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)

CAB Facilitator: Rosemary Rehfeldt, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

EM Public Involvement Staff: James Stover, Dona Stevens

After review of the meeting agenda, Rosemary Rehfeldt explained that the Environmental Management (EM) children's display, *Operation Clean Desert*, had been assembled for the back-to-back Outreach and EMPIRE committee meetings, so the members from each committee can experience and comment on the display, activity book or CD if they chose to. Members also received copies of the accompanying *Operation Clean Desert* activity book and computer game CD.

Walt Wegst, Committee Chair, gave his opening remarks. He told the committee that after review of the six EM videos, the committee's mission will be accomplished and will disband. However, members can continue to serve on a community focused committee by simply becoming members of the Outreach Committee.

Ms. Rehfeldt reminded the committee of EM Assistance Secretary Rispoli's talk at the Hanford Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meeting in April 2008. Mr. Rispoli suggested that each SSAB work with their EM site office to recommend communication materials that focus on EM cleanup successes.

Members of the committee pointed out that, in trying to communicate EM's successes, they need to research what audiences to reach, what the content of the information should be, and what venues to use. Some suggestions were to set up video kiosks at libraries or at the university's engineering department. Additionally, education levels need to be researched to assess how to communicate the information, as well as researching how to disseminate information.

At this point, the committee began to watch the first of six EM videos that they will be reviewing. The video, entitled: "*Environmental Management: An Overview*," runs approximately 19 minutes. Before the video began, Ms. Snyder asked the committee to think about what the CAB would like to see. Getting the CAB's perspective is extremely helpful when putting together updated materials, including new videos. She asked them to keep the following question in mind, "What does the CAB want to know?"

After viewing the video, the committee made the following comments:

- ◆ The video is too long
- ◆ Because of changes in the EM program, Offsites and Technology Development must be eliminated
- ◆ Information regarding the CAB is outdated
- ◆ The Waste Management portion is too long
 - ◆ Some of the information in this portion should be included in the Waste Management video
- ◆ The monitoring network is important information that is not in any other videos, and should be kept and updated. The “stakeholders aspect” of the video should remain in a new video
- ◆ A separate video needs to be created for “EM Successes”
 - Create a new video
 - Include the existence of the CAB and the CAB’s successes
- ◆ The audio is good; clear and understandable
 - The committee will pay attention to the audio in other videos for understandability
 - Unusual terms, such as “transuranic,” should be explained within the audio recording
- ◆ Questions to ask when creating a new video:
 - Why are we viewing the video?
 - What is the purpose of the Environmental Restoration program?
 - What stands out in other videos that can be incorporated into the EM Overview?

The committee will review all six videos, learning how to review and assess them as they go along. Comments will be continually compiled and all of the recommendations will be drafted in a letter to DOE once all videos have been reviewed.

Ms. Snyder told the committee that DOE will review the videos with the CAB’s comments in mind. If there is funding allocated to update the videos, they will be updated with consideration for the CAB’s recommendations. Prior to production, audio scripts would be brought to the CAB for review and comment.

The committee decided that the two Underground Test Area (UGTA) videos would be reviewed for the next meeting. They are entitled: “*Groundwater Studies and the Underground Test Area Project*” and “*UGTA Well Drilling Steps.*”

The committee suggested that since the EMPIRE and Outreach Committee’s may become one, that Outreach Committee members be asked to join the next EMPIRE Committee meeting to review the videos. The committee will also work on their fiscal year 2009 Work Plan at the next meeting. The meeting date and time have been set for Wednesday, August 6th, at 4:30 p.m. The meeting location is to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.