

ORR COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN FOCUS GROUP MEETING NOTES

August 9, 2002

A working meeting of the Focus Group was held in the City of Oak Ridge's Public Works Building on Woodbury Lane at 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on August 9, 2002.

Attendees

The following members of the Focus Group were in attendance Scott Davis, Steve Alexander, Paul Boyer, Ray Evans, Parker Hardy, Lorene Sigal, Dev Joslin, Ralph Lillard, Bill Pardue, Lloyd Stokes, Marshall Whisnant, Beth Phillips, Eric Rauch, Marty Marina, and Robert Kennedy. Joe Valentino, Pete Craven, Lawrence Young, Dave Mosby and Dave McKinney could not attend.

Members of the Facilitation team in attendance were Barry Lawson, Pat Parr, Marianne Heiskell, Wayne Tolbert, Mike Deacon and Sharon Bell. Three members of the public were in attendance.

New Action Items

- Barry Lawson to revise the Focus Group Report
- Focus Group members to respond with any comments on the revised Focus Group Report by August 30
- Wayne Tolbert to provide to Focus Group a list of comments for which SAIC would not revise the Technical Report (disagreed with comments) -- an explanation would be provided in the email

Welcome/Introductions/Agenda

The proposed meeting agenda was briefly discussed, agreed upon, and followed. Three corrections to the July meeting notes were discussed.

Announcements

Barry Lawson's new email address is lawson384@charter.net. Pat Parr announced that an update of the Focus Group and Facilitation Team members addresses has been prepared. She indicated that several people had made comments on the Technical Report and the comments received since the last Focus Group meeting were in the folders. She announced that Marianne Heiskell had briefed the East Tennessee Economic Council and both she and Marianne had met with the Environmental Quality Advisory Board. They were scheduling briefings/programs for both the Clinton and Oak Ridge noon Rotary clubs.

Marianne Heiskell announced that Jennifer Fowler of DOE-ORO is heading a DOE Project Team to address the conservation of lands question. This team to meet next Monday.

Public Comments

There were none.

Draft Technical Report

Wayne Tolbert discussed a new appendix to be added to the Technical Report. This appendix will summarize various comments by categories and provide an explanation of generally how the comments were dispositioned. This will not be a one-to-one correspondence. It will include all comments from the beginning of the project. He then discussed how the various specific comments on the Draft Technical Report were being handled.

Since there were numerous comments on the socioeconomics part of the report, Sharon Bell addressed some of the most common ones. Specifically she talked about changes in the report, which address the economic valuation of ecological/natural resources. She indicated that the Final Technical Report would have a discussion of four valuation techniques and their strengths and weaknesses. She said that we would continue to use in-kind measures in the report. The Focus Group process did not attempt to reach a consensus on the aforementioned techniques. Considerable time was spent on the assumptions used for the cost-benefit analysis and more standard economic evaluations. Wayne Tolbert pointed that the Focus Group in essence used in-kind measures- members recognized the importance of ecological resources without putting a price tag on them. These resources were valued in the process resulting in considerable agreement as reflected in the feedback map exercises.

SAIC agreed to a best effort to provide the FG with major comments with which SAIC disagreed before the Final Technical Report is provided.

Focus Group Report

Barry Lawson briefed the status of the Focus Group Report; a copy of the revised report was provided to each Focus Group member present. Numerous changes have been made since July. Barry is in the process of adding a couple of paragraphs in the introduction discussing the process of preparation. He discussed the appendices and it was agreed that footnotes were probably better than a Glossary. The FG discussed various agreements they have reached during the planning process and this could be included in the Focus Group Report. These include the socioeconomic assumptions, expansion of the values list, and the need to expand the future scope to address the whole ORR.

It was suggested that the Focus Group mission statement (abbreviated version) be added. The report should also acknowledge that the starting assumption of many of the members was the whole ORR was going to within the scope of the Focus Group effort. This fact should be documented. Barry should add the major conclusions up front ("executive summary").

There was a discussion with many points raised. Some are noted below. Some planning assumptions have changed (e.g. the amount of land once thought available at the CRBR site now reduced to 10% of that acreage; the lease versus sale of ED-1 lands to CROET; and the accelerated closure plan for ETTP).

- Suggestion that a paragraph be added on the Common Ground process
- Suggestion that a paragraph be added on fiduciary responsibility
- Correct the statement on page 3 about ETTP cleanup

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- State the expectation of the State of Tennessee for ETPP cleanup
- Address the Historic Preservation Act
- Suggestion that the 90% agreement on the 5,000 acres+ is a major point and should be given proper emphasis
- List areas of agreement and areas where agreement not reached

During the afternoon session the FG members considered a resolution to be added to the FG report regarding the perpetual preservation of certain land areas designated on the Preliminary Feedback Map as greenspace/conservation and research. After the discussion, the group members agreed to the following:

"The Focus Group recommends that the Department find means for the perpetual preservation of the land areas designated by the Focus Group for greenspace/conservation and/or research purposes on the Preliminary Feedback Map (Figure xx of this report). This recommendation holds regardless of the (combination of) land use scenario(s) the Department of Energy decides to adopt for the western portion of the Oak Ridge Reservation as part of its Comprehensive Land Use Plan."

Future Planning Activities

Barry Lawson and the Focus Group worked out a schedule for the Focus Group Report. Barry will prepare a revised Focus Group Report in 7 to 10 days; the Report will be express mailed. The Focus Group has 7 to 10 days to comment (by August 30). A copy of this report which may be signed by Focus Group members to be available at the September 13 meeting along with the Technical Report.

A public meeting is to be held September 9 in Club Room* of OR Mall. The visual survey results, major conclusion of the Technical Report, a summary of the Focus Group Report and an evaluation of the process (via filling out a form) will be done. Barry described the content of the evaluation form and who was to use it (public, Focus Group and Facilitation Team). Pat Parr then briefly discussed the newsletter and its intended contents.

The next meeting will be September 13. This meeting will wrap up the reports.

*SAIC was later informed that Club Room was not available; the meeting will be in the Cumberland Room.