

START

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MEETING MINUTES

Subject: North Slope ERA Safety Meeting

TO: Distribution

BUILDING: 740 Stevens Center

FROM: F. W. Gustafson

CHAIRMAN: R. K. Stewart

Dept-Operation-Component	Area	Shift	Meeting Date	Number Attending
ERE	RCHN	Day	12/17/92	17

DISTRIBUTION

U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office

D. D. Green	A5-55
C. R. Pasternak	A7-27
C. D. Sanders	A5-55
R. K. Stewart	A5-19

Westinghouse Hanford Company

H. D. Downey	H6-27
F. W. Gustafson	H6-04
G. C. Henckel	H6-04 <i>web 4/2/93</i>
B. J. Hobbs	N3-06
W. L. Johnson	H6-04 <i>WJ 1/5/93</i>
C. L. Manley	H6-04
R. L. Nelson	T3-25
E. W. Papin	H6-04
R. C. Roos	H6-04
D. B. Tullis	L6-57
B. G. Tuttle	N3-06
M. A. Tredway	R3-54
T. M. Wintczak	H6-27
EDMC	H4-22 <i>H6-08</i>
FWG File/LB	



BACKGROUND

This meeting was called to discuss the physical hazards present on the Wahluke (North) Slope of the Hanford site. This area, approximately 190 square miles, was used for the military defense of the Hanford site. Prior to being taken over by the U.S. Department of Energy, the area was homesteaded as evident by old foundations, cisterns and other pre-Hanford relics. The potential for environmental hazards resulting from the military and homesteading activities exists. The potential for environmental hazards combined with the accessibility of the area to the public has resulted in the North Slope being recommended for an expedited response action (ERA). The scope of the expedited action is to investigate and remediate environmental hazards as appropriate. In addition, the ERA would address the physical hazards remaining from the demolition of the military installations as well as the homestead sites.

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During the characterization phase of the ERA, Westinghouse Hanford Company's (WHC) Restoration and Remediation Safety group took a site tour prior to approving of the Hazardous Waste Operations Plan (HWOP). During this tour they became concerned about the numerous physical hazards. This area, being publicly accessible, could be a liability issue for the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office (RL) and WHC if someone was injured. The physical hazards they identified included a washed out road, protruding rebar, several underground military bunkers, homesteading cisterns and water wells. RL Safety later went on a tour with WHC safety and also raised concern. RL Safety also had several questions concerning the HWOP by which WHC was performing the investigation work. As a result of these concerns a meeting was called between WHC Safety, RL Safety, RL Site Management and WHC Environmental Restoration Engineering (ERE).

Meeting Discussions:

The following discussions and resolutions resulted from this meeting.

1) The parties discussed, in generality, the extent and types of physical hazards present. WHC safety also indicated what they felt were appropriate measures for protecting the public and WHC personnel from the hazards until they are ultimately remediated via the ERA. WHC ERE expressed concern that they had no direction or funds identified by RL for performing such actions and would require such direction prior to proceeding with the action necessary for performing the actions requested by WHC Safety. It was also stated that many of the hazards identified were the responsibility of the area landlord (i.e. The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife). RL Site Management indicated that cultural clearances would also have to be obtained prior to proceeding with the activities.

As a result of these discussions, WHC ERE and Safety functions will send a letter to the RL asking for direction in dealing with these hazards. WHC Safety and ERE will evaluate the types of hazards and determine the most appropriate, cost effective actions for dealing with each type of hazard. Cost estimates for these actions will also be prepared. WHC will await for direction from RL before proceeding with the actions.

2) RL safety expressed concern on the adequacy of the emergency response teams identified for responding to accidents associated with WHC's field activities on the North Slope. The original HWOP listed the Mattawa Fire Department as the closest responder to the area. RL was concerned that the Mattawa Fire Department was not aware of the location of WHC personnel as well as the activities they were performing. As a result of DOE Safety's concerns the WHC site safety officer met with Mattawa Fire Department Personnel providing them with a map of the field locations of WHC personnel and a description of the activities being conducted. Field changes to the HWOP were made as a result. DOE and WHC Safety organization verified and approved the changes that were made.