



Public Involvement News

U.S. Department of Energy • Oak Ridge Office

July 2010

Announcements

Y-12 Wetlands Assessment to be Issued

As part of the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA's) plans for the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) Project site preparation, NNSA proposes to develop and construct support facilities located on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), specifically, extension of an existing Haul Road, development of a Wet Soils Spoil Area, and excess soil placement at the West Borrow Area. The Haul Road would only be extended if one of the UPF Alternatives in the Y-12 Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement is selected in the Record of Decision. The proposed Haul Road extension is necessary to link UPF site construction/excavation activities with supporting infrastructure (i.e., a concrete batch plant, construction storage area, and two soils spoil areas) located to the west of the proposed UPF site. Avoidance of wetland impacts has been optimized by routing the roadbed design around wetland areas within the corridor; however, impacts to wetlands are unavoidable. Mitigation of this loss is proposed through expansion and/or creation of wetland acreage at six locations within the Bear Creek watershed. In all, 3.02 acres of wetlands would be constructed to compensate for the removal of 1.0 acre. In addition, 300 feet of stream mitigation and invasive species removal would compensate for the 288 feet of stream segments placed in culvert by the Haul Road construction.

NNSA, in accordance with 10 CFR 1022, seeks to identify, evaluate, and as appropriate, implement alternative actions that may avoid or mitigate adverse wetlands impact, and provide early and adequate opportunities for public review of plans or proposals for actions that may affect wetlands. The Wetlands Assessment will be available electronically through the DOE Information Center Web site at www.oakridge.doe.gov/info_cnr. Additionally, hard copies are available at the DOE Information Center.

Public comments will be accepted through **July 9** and may be submitted to Pam Gorman, U. S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration, Y-12 Site Office, P. O. Box 2050, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, e-mail GormanPL@yso.doe.gov.

Contact: Steven Wyatt, YSO, (865) 576-9918

DOE Issues RFP for Nickel Disposition

DOE has issued a solicitation for proposals to buy approximately 15,300 tons of radiologically-contaminated nickel scrap recovered from uranium enrichment process equipment at the Department's Paducah, Kentucky, and Oak Ridge, Tennessee, facilities.

The potential buyer will be required to declassify and decontaminate the nickel scrap prior to gaining title. The nickel will be recycled into products that will be used in radiologically-controlled applications. This material is not intended for unrestricted release for recycling into commerce, and no nickel disposition activities will be performed outside of the United States.

All proposals to this solicitation must be received by the Department no later than **July 28**. The document is available online at the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at: <http://e-center.doe.gov/iips/busopor.nsf/UNID/391032F76FCB0B7785257713006E1F34?OpenDocument>.

For additional information, please contact the DOE Public Affairs Office at (865) 576-0885.

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Public Meetings

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) will meet at 6 p.m., Wednesday, **July 14**, at the DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike. The meeting will feature a presentation on long-term stewardship of contaminated areas on the ORR.

Contact: Pat Halsey, (865) 576-4025

ORSSAB Support Office: (865) 241-4583 or 241-4584

Internet: www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/



CERCLA Administrative Record

New CERCLA Documents Available at the DOE Information Center — May/June 2010

Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan for the Bethel Valley Burial Grounds at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee - 100% Design (DOE/OR/01-2427&D2)

Covenant Deferral Request for the Proposed Transfer of Parcel ED-10 at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee - Final - May 2010 (DOE/OR/01-2420)

Attachment A - Environmental Baseline Survey Report for the Title Transfer of Parcel ED-10 at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee - Final (DOE/OR/01-2421)

Waste Handling Plan for Facilities 3550, 3504, 3508, 3541, and 3592 at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2451&D2)

Waste Handling Plan for Facilities 3012, 3085, 3085A and B, 3098, 3103, 3119, 3102 and 3629 at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2450&D2)

Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan for the Bethel Valley (Corehole 8) Extraction System at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2469&D1)

Public Involvement Plan for CERCLA Activities at the U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Reservation - 2010 Update (DOE/OR-2331&D1)

Phased Construction Completion Report for the Bethel Valley Mercury Sumps Groundwater Action Completion, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2472&D1)

Covenant Deferral Request for the Proposed Transfer of Land Parcel ED-9 at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee - Final - Concurred Copy - May 2010 (DOE/OR/01-2380)

Attachment A - Environmental Baseline Survey Report for the Title Transfer of Parcel ED-9 at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/OR/01-2379)



If you have any comments or questions about this publication, please contact Ben Williams of DOE Public Affairs at (865) 574-4912.

If you are moving, receiving duplicate mailings, or would like to be removed from this mailing list, please call 1-800-382-6938, option 2 (or 576-4006 in Oak Ridge).

NEPA Actions

Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Transfer of Land and Facilities Within the East Tennessee Technology Park and Surrounding Areas, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/EA-1640): An EA Determination was made for the proposed transfer of land and facilities located in the northwestern portion of the ORR for mixed (recreational, retail, and industrial) land use. Based on the analysis in the EA, DOE will either prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact and proceed with the action or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement if the EA reveals the potential for significant environmental impacts. The EA was released for a 30-day public review and comment period on December 28, 2009. In response to stakeholder requests, the comment period for the EA was extended to February 15, 2010. Comments are being reviewed and will be incorporated into the final EA.

Environmental Assessment for the Spruce and Peatland Responses Under Climatic and Environmental Change (SPRUCE) Experiment at the Marcell Experimental Forest, Itasca County, Minnesota (DOE/EA-1764): An EA Determination was signed on March 10, 2010, to study the effects of altered atmospheric and climate conditions and to obtain information on the response to elevated temperature and elevated atmospheric carbon dioxide of a black spruce-Sphagnum ecosystem. The selected ecosystem is located at the southern extent of the spatially expansive boreal peatland forests and is considered to be especially vulnerable to climate changes.

Research would involve climate change manipulation activities, focusing on the response of multiple levels of warming combined with elevated carbon dioxide levels (i.e., 800 to 900 ppm), the collection of field data, and the evaluation of the response of existing biological communities (plants and animals) to a range of warming levels. These experiments would be conducted in the S1 bog [an ombrotrophic *Picea mariana* (black spruce) – *Sphagnum* spp. forest community] of the Marcell Experimental Forest. The proposed action would take place at the Marcell Experimental Forest, Itasca County, Minnesota, in the Chippewa National Forest. The lands are managed by the USDA Forest Service. Requests for additional information should be addressed to William M. Belvin, NEPA Document Manager, at (865) 576-7321.

NPS Special Resource Study on the Preservation and Interpretation of Historic Sites Associated with the Manhattan Project: The Draft Special Resources Study/Environmental Assessment was posted at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> on December 10, and public comments on the study were solicited through March 1, 2010. Meetings were held in January and February in Hanford, Washington; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Dayton, Ohio; and Los Alamos, New Mexico, to seek input from members of the public. Two sessions were held in Oak Ridge on January 26, and a large number of attendees from the Oak Ridge community were present and voiced their comments on the study. Requests for further information should be directed to Carla McConnell, (303) 969-2287.

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Two Student Reps Added to ORSSAB

The ORSSAB welcomed two new student representatives to the board during its May monthly meeting. Both students are seniors at local high schools.

Brianna Goodlin attends Hardin Valley Academy. Goodlin is active in many school activities including dance team, Earth Club, Debate Club, and the Scholar's Bowl. Goodlin also supports her community by serving as treasurer of two service organizations, the Leo Club and Y-teens. In addition, Goodlin volunteers weekly at her church's youth ministry.

Josh Monroe attends Oak Ridge High School. Monroe is a member of the Engineering Club and he participates

in Tennessee's annual Envirothon competition. During the summer, Monroe works for the Clinch River Environmental Studies Organization. After graduating from high school Monroe plans on studying marine science at college, eventually becoming a marine biologist.

Contact: Pat Halsey, (865) 576-4025

ORR Facilities Bus Tours Continue

The 2010 DOE ORR Facilities Bus Tour will continue through September 3. The summer season tour begins at the American Museum of Science and Energy (AMSE), 300 S. Tulane Ave., Oak Ridge, and includes brief off-the-bus

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stops at the Y-12 National Security Complex Visitor Center and ORNL's Spallation Neutron Source lobby and Historic Graphite Reactor.

The tours are a shared effort by the DOE Oak Ridge Office, Bechtel Jacobs Company, UT-Battelle, B&W Technologies Y-12, and AMSE. U.S. citizens 10 and older may sign up at AMSE between the hours of 9 and 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday (excluding government holidays).

The tour runs from noon to 3 p.m. Costs for the tour are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$3 for students ages 10-17. The cost includes admission to AMSE, where the tour begins.

If you require special accommodations (wheelchair, etc.) for the tour, please call AMSE and advise one or two days ahead. For more information, please contact Lissa Clarke at AMSE, (865) 576-3200.

Deepwater Horizon Response

As part of the Obama Administration's ongoing commitment to transparency surrounding the response to the BP oil spill, DOE is providing online access to schematics, pressure tests, diagnostic results, and other data about the malfunctioning blowout preventer. Secretary Chu insisted on making the data widely available to ensure the public is as informed as possible, and to ensure that outside experts making recommendations have access to the same information that BP and the government have. This site is updated regularly with new data and additional documentation.

"Transparency is not only in the public interest, it is part of the scientific process. We want to make sure that independent scientists, engineers and other experts have every opportunity to review this information and make their own conclusions," said Secretary Chu.

Information can be obtained from DOE on the Web at www.energy.gov/open/oilspilldata.htm.

U.S. Department of Energy
c/o Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC
P.O. Box 4699
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-7294