

Comments at the DOE Environmental Management Budget Workshop
Ron Woody, Chairman of ORRCA and Roane County Executive
April 29, 2015

Hello, I'm Ron Woody, Roane County Executive and Chairman of the Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance (ORRCA). ORRCA was formerly the Local Oversight Committee and ORRCA was chartered in 2011 with participants/members of Anderson, Morgan, Knox and Roane County Mayors/Executives and the Mayor of the City of Oak Ridge.

ORRCA approves an annual work plan which, in summary, includes:

1. Promoting local government involvement and public awareness in operations at the Oak Ridge Reservation facilities.
2. Disseminating accurate and factual information concerning present and proposed activities related to continued operations of the Oak Ridge facilities.
3. Identifying local concerns and issues relevant to the Oak Ridge Reservation.
4. Preparing special studies and reports, as needed, to educate local officials and citizens.

As one can see from our scheduled work plan, we at ORRCA shall be involved in, not only understanding, but participating in the planning of activities at the Oak Ridge Reservation facilities. Furthermore, our work plan specifically addresses and emphasizes certain projects from environmental management to reindustrialization.

We thank you for this opportunity to share the Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance's position and areas of focus. As Oak Ridge DOE continues working within the fiscal 2015 budget, the approved fiscal 2016 budget and the proposed fiscal 2017 budget, please consider the following items and issues:

Approved by ORRCA

1. Maintaining compliance with cleanup agreements and involvement of affected local governments;
2. Continuing focus on mercury cleanup and reduction of off-site releases;
3. Continuing comprehensive evaluation of on-site waste disposal versus disposition off-site;
4. Expanding focus on off-site groundwater characterization and actions necessary to reduce impacts on nearby populations;
5. Facilitating brownfield reuse and excess land transfers.

Discussed but not formally voted on

- Historical preservation

We recognize that with the Manhattan Project National Historical Park's approval, a window of opportunity exists where we must invest in historical preservation.

We have also reviewed both the DOE and SSAB's prioritization lists, and recognize the importance of these priorities which also align with ORRCA's priorities.

As Roane County Executive I am also in support of the DOE, SSAB, and ORRCA priorities.

