

CONDUCTORLAB OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 16, 2024
MINUTES

Chairman Deuger called the virtual meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Members present: Mark Deuger, Robert Hanninen, Takashi Tada, Veronica O'Donnell, and Michelle Collette

Others present: JR Taormina, Jon Kitchen, and Bill Hoyerman of Civil and Environmental Consultants (CEC)

The Committee met to discuss the Proposed Permanent Solution Statement (PSS) for the Conductorlab site and the peer review by the CEC.

Chairman Deuger reported that he spoke with Eric Christodoulatos of Honeywell who said they would like to submit the report to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by the end of February.

Member O'Donnell asked why Honeywell is concerned about the submission date. Mr. Kitchen said they did not know why Honeywell is concerned, but there are proposed changes to the regulations that may impact closure of the site.

Member O'Donnell described the process that the Commonwealth follows including publishing a draft of the proposed changes to the regulations, holding a public hearing, and accepting written comments before the regulations are promulgated. She said it is a very long process.

Mr. Kitchen presented the Power Point slides that are available on the Town's website at:

https://portal.grotonma.gov/storage/Conductorlab_Oversight_Committee/Conductorlab_Peer_Review_Presentation_2024-01-16.pdf

Mr. Kitchen said they did not review all the historic documents because they must stay within the budget in the contract for the peer review. There are more than 130 reports and documents.

The "Preliminary Conductorlab Review Findings" focused on:

1. Emerging Contaminants
2. Vapor Intrusion
3. Delineation in Groundwater and Presentation of Geology/Hydrogeology
4. Delineation of soil impacts, especially shallow
5. DNAPL
6. Time since most recent sampling
7. Source evaluation and removal (soils and DNAPL considerations)

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Mr. Kitchen said vapor intrusion sampling was done by DEP and HMM, the original LSP, many years ago. The techniques and standards have changed. More data is needed now and the date of house construction is important.

Member Collette asked if any recent testing has been done for PFAS contaminants. She said there were many private, dug wells in the basements of homes in the 1980's and 1990's when the vapor intrusion testing was done.

Member O'Donnell stated, for the record, that she is employed by the DEP, and that she filed a statement with the Town Clerk so there is no conflict of interest.

Member O'Donnell said a map is needed to show where groundwater wells are located outside the study area. Additional information is needed on other potential receptors, noting that the public schools are located not far away. Chairman Deuger said the schools are located upgradient from the site. Mr. Kitchen said the school should be mentioned in the PSS.

Mr. Kitchen asked about the future disposition of the property. Chairman Deuger said Honeywell plans to sell it.

Member Hanninen asked about observation wells OSW-2B and OSW – 16B which have the greatest fluctuation of TCE. He said it would be nice to see soil data in the location of these wells.

Mr. Kitchen said the concentration levels in the soil and hot spots are shown on the map in Figure 8. Any delineations over the property line are included in the attachment to the Human Health Risk Assessment.

Mr. Kitchen asked for the Committee's input on next steps in the process, including Honeywell's response to the peer review report, comments from the public, and review of the Risk Assessments.

Member Hanninen said he would like to see Honeywell's response to the CEC review. He said the Committee should move forward as quickly as possible.

Chairman Deuger asked where we are in the budget. Mr. Kitchen said approximately \$6000 - \$7000 has been used to date.

Member O'Donnell said she shares CEC's concerns about the TCE contamination fluctuating across property lines.

Member Tada said the graphics in the peer review report are very helpful for the public to understand the site and what has happened.

Resident Adam Burnett, attending via Zoom, asked about the Town acquiring other properties around the site.

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Chairman Deuger asked if CEC had reviewed the Risk Assessments. Mr. Kitchen said they looked at it, but they have not done a peer review by a risk assessor at this time.

Chairman Deuger thanked CEC for the detailed presentation. He said the Committee should wait for Honeywell's response to the issues raised in the CEC report.

Member Tada agreed that Honeywell should be able to answer the concerns raised in the CEC report. All members agreed.

Chairman Deuger will contact Eric Christodoulatos at Honeywell and LSP Kim Henry at WSP USA to set up a meeting.

The motion was made by Collette, seconded by Hanninen, to authorize Chairman Deuger to work with the Honeywell and CEC. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Deuger – aye, Hanninen – aye, O'Donnell – aye, Tada – aye, and Collette – aye.

MINUTES

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Tada, to approve the September 19, 2023 minutes. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Deuger – aye, Hanninen – aye, O'Donnell – aye, Tada – aye, and Collette – aye.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Member