RETURN TO 1998 ROD AR INDEX

13.4.45

Superfund Records Center
SITE: NEW BEDFORD
BREAK: 13.04
OTHER: 47605

New Bedford Superfund Forum
Meeting Minutes
July 30, 1997
6:00 P.M.
New Bedford Regional Vocational High School

In attendance at this session were:

Name:	Organization:	Telephone:
George Rogers	New Bedford City Council	(508) 997-2202 (Fax)
John Haaland	Fairhaven Selectman	(508) 999-2528
Rep. Bill Straus	State Elected Official	(617) 722-2210
Claudia Kirk	Concerned Parents of Fairhaven	(508) 997-7727
Carol Sanz	Downwind Coalition	(508) 748-0610
Molly Fontaine	City of New Bedford	(508) 979-1485
Joe Forns	New Bedford Businesses	(508) 540-4544
Jim Simmons	HARC	(508)979-5910
Paul Koczera	New Bedford City Council	(508)992-7224
Harley Laing	EPA	(617) 573-5710
Larry Brill	EPA	(617) 573-5721
James Brown	EPA	(617) 565-4881
David Dickerson	EPA	(617) 573-5735
Cindy Catri	EPA	(617) 565-1156
David Peterson	EPA	(617) 565-3433
Paul Craffey	DEP	(617) 292-5591
Jay Naparstek	DEP	(617) 292-5697
Jane Wells	MODR/Facilitator	(617)727-2224

The primary focus of this forum meeting was to prepare for review of Foster-Wheeler's Feasibility Study Addendum / Treatability Study report.

As context, members were invited to review the agreements they had reached regarding choosing an alternative to incineration - namely, "The Forum will seek to develop a consensus on the primary and back-up technologies in advance of EPA's revisions to the existing record of decision (ROD) regarding the choice of treatment technologies." The Forum was reminded that choosing a vendor to perform the remediation activities would occur through normal RFP and competitive processes.

Foster-Wheeler reviewed the material that will be included in the upcoming report. It included site characterization, identification of ARARs, hot spot sediment treatability studies, development of remedial alternatives, and detailed analysis of remedial alternatives.

SDMS DocID 47605

Jim Brown , project manager, reviewed the process and criteria for evaluating remedial alternatives. These included Threshold, Balancing, and Modifying criteria. A tentative timetable was also introduced which scheduled the review and ROD amendments project to be completed by April 1999. (See attached Criteria and Schedule)

Members discussed the scheduling of the Sea Change Panel to hear from expert reviewers concerning their perspectives on the results of technology treatability studies. In order to move the process as expeditiously as possible, it was agreed to schedule the Sea Change Panel on October 30th. Time and place will be announced.

Copies of letters from several Forum members regarding the process of selecting a vendor for Phase I - Hot Spot remediation were distributed to all members.

Members expressed a desire to maintain the integrity of the technology selection process while at the same time trying to maintain momentum toward completing the cleanup process.

The next Forum meeting to review the Foster-Wheeler Report was scheduled for October 20th at 6:00 P.M. at the New Bedford Regional Vocational High School.

The Nine Criteria for Choosing a Cleanup

Threshold

1. **Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment:** Will the remedy protect me now and later when I am walking along or wading in the Harbor, or enjoying a water dependent use of the Harbor? Will the remedy allow aquatic life in and near the Harbor to flourish in a well balanced and functional ecosystem?

2. **Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs):** Is the cleanup legal? Does it meet all federal and state environmental regulations? Are any regulations being waived? Why?

Balancing

3. **Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence:** Is there any risk to human health and the environment left at the Site after the remedial action is completed? If so, are there adequate and reliable measures or controls in place to manage that risk?

4. **Reduction of Contaminant Toxicity, Mobility or Volume Through Treatment:** Does the alternative use treatment reduce the harmful effects of PCBs and other contaminants in the sediments, their ability to spread, or the amount of contaminated sediments?

5. **Short-Term Effectiveness:** How quickly are the Site risks reduced? Will workers, residents or aquatic life face short-term risks if contaminants are released to the air or water during remedial activities?

6. **Implementability:** What are the technical difficulties and uncertainties associated with each remedial alternative? Are they reliable and easily monitored? Is all the necessary equipment and personnel available? Is there enough space at the Site to locate a treatment process?

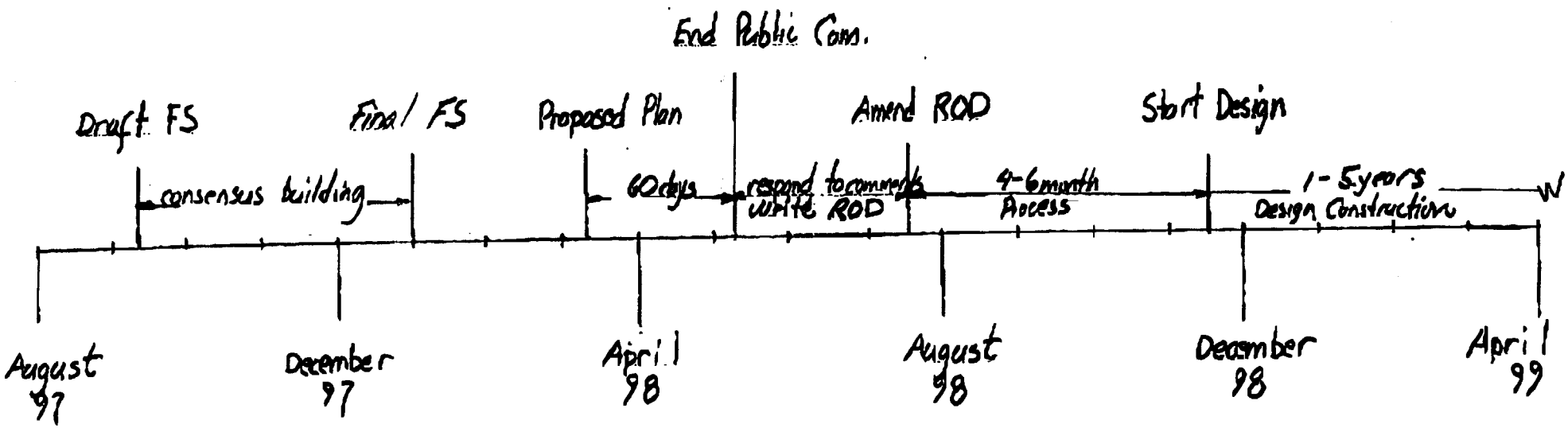
7. **Cost:** What are the total costs of an alternative over time in today's dollars? EPA is required to select a plan that affords protection and is cost effective. Does a more expensive remedy mean more protection for human health and the environment?

Modifying

8. **State Acceptance:** Does the Commonwealth of Massachusetts agree with EPA's recommendation for the preferred alternative?

9. **Community Acceptance**: What reservations, objections, suggestions, or modifications do interested parties offer during the public comment period?

Tentative Timetable



The Next New Bedford Superfund Forum is Scheduled for:
6 p.m. October 20, 1997
at the
New Bedford Regional Vocational High School

The Sea Change Panel to Evaluate the Treatability Studies Performed on the Dredged Sediments will be:
7 p.m. October 30, 1997
at the
New Bedford Whaling Museum

* Please submit questions for the Sea Change panel by October 20, 1997.

Members of the Treatability Sub-Committee have received the first draft of the Foster-Wheeler Report on the New Bedford Harbor Hot Spot Feasibility Study Addendum. The draft report is also at the Information Repository.