

STGWG Stewardship Committee

Mission:

The Long-Term Stewardship Committee will track DOE and other efforts to address issues associated with long-term stewardship and will contribute to the commentary and information associated with these issues on the behalf of STGWG and its members.

FFY 01 Activities:

Proposed tasks to initiate in FFY01:

- A. Monitor the topic area on behalf of the full STGWG
- B. Plan sessions on the topic for the full STGWG meetings
- C. Serve as a state/tribal contact for DOE on this topic area
 - 1. STGWG will sign a joint letter with the NGA, NAAG, and ECA to the DOE transition team supporting continued emphasis on and progress in stewardship.
 - 2. The Committee will establish a working relationship with staff responsible for Long-Term Stewardship in DOE HQ and stay current on national activities.
- D. Provide a forum for state and tribal members to exchange information on the topic
Proposed task (others may be defined):
 - 1. The Committee will identify and pursue issues related to disposal of classified waste and its impacts on long term stewardship. Discussion of this topic will be encouraged through email, and if sufficient interest is demonstrated, this may move to another category (meeting topic, research, member surveys, etc.)
- E. Solicit information from the STGWG members to identify problems, challenges and success stories
Proposed tasks (others may be defined):
 - 1. STGWG is concerned about ensuring effective implementation of long term stewardship when land is transferred from DOE to external parties. Information on this topic will be solicited by the Committee, and results compiled. If sufficient interest or questions are identified, additional steps will be taken through further discussion or research.
 - 2. Major questions exist regarding what long-term stewardship information will be required; how will it be preserved and made accessible; how it should be provided to state and tribal officials; and what the state and tribal role is in information management. Rather than await DOE's response to these questions, the Committee will solicit this information from each STGWG state and tribe and compile these results into a white paper.
- F. Survey STGWG members on the topic area to identify consensus positions to relay to DOE

G. Review and submit comments on DOE documents on the topic area

1. The Committee reviewed and commented on the Draft Long-Term Stewardship Study, October 2000, and will also review the comment responses and changes to the final document.
2. The Committee will review the DOE Draft Strategic Plan, and two new policies affecting stewardship and comment as appropriate.

H. Perform independent research on the topic area and issue a report on the findings

Proposed tasks (others may be defined):

1. The Committee will review the NDAA submittal and evaluate the information provided and identify other information or research needs, such as
 - a. Comparison of Costs Among Sites – The Committee will evaluate costs used in the NDAA submittal for similar activities among the sites to evaluate the appropriateness of the estimates. Where significant differences are identified, an attempt will be made to obtain further details on those specific estimates and reconcile the differences, possibly through changes in one or more site’s cost estimates.
 - b. Long-Term Cost Estimation - Current cost estimating techniques fail to provide a basis for the comparison of near-term costs with long-term costs. Even the NDAA Report to Congress truncated costs at 70 years in the future, clearly demonstrating the need for new methodology to properly account for costs lasting hundreds of years or more. The Committee will research the economics and cost estimating literature and interview experts in this field to identify potential methodology. Likely methods will be compiled into a white paper and submitted to STGWG and the DOE for further evaluation.
2. How will DOE meet trust responsibilities and treaty obligations with Tribal governments during cleanup and long-term stewardship? The Committee will work with the Tribal Issues Committee to compile treaty obligations and organize them into categories common to multiple tribes or sites. Possible generic solutions to resolving the obligations will be identified. The results will be compiled into a white paper.

Committee Co-chairs:

Steve Tarlton, Colorado
Neil Weber, Pueblo de San Ildefonso