

# MOAB TAILINGS PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

## Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 3:00PM

Grand County Commission Chambers

125 East Center Street, Moab, UT 84532

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### MTPSC MINUTES

#### A. CALL TO ORDER (3:00PM)

The July 26, 2022 quarterly meeting of the Moab Tailings Project Steering Committee was called to order at 3:04pm. The following committee members were in attendance:

Mary McGann (Grand County Commission), Kelly Thornton (Department of Workforce Services), Joette Langianese (Grand County Representative), Dana van Horn (Grand Water & Sewer Service Agency), Kelly Thornton, Amy Tendick (National Park Service), Hailey Gardner (Southeast Utah Health Department), Rachel Bartlett (Grand County Community and Economic Development), Nicole Gaddis (Bureau of Land Management), Jason Johnson (National Forest Service), and Jennifer Swenson (Grand County Emergency Management).

The following non-committee members were in attendance:

Russell McCallister (Federal Cleanup Director – Department of Energy), Christopher Pulskamp (Project Engineer – Department of Energy), Stephanie Lein (Pro2Serve, Environmental Scientist/Manager, Technical Assistance Contract), Barbara Michel (Pro2Serve, Administrative Assistant, Technical Assistance Contract), Liz Moran (Pro2Serve, Groundwater Manager, Technical Assistance Contract), Mike Price (Citizen), Kael Weston (Citizen), Justin Higginbottom (Citizen), Michael Adkinson (Citizen), Russ von Koch (Site Futures Committee), and Jessica Thacker (Grand County UMTRA Liaison/Technical Inspector).

#### B. INTRODUCTIONS

#### C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Dana van Horn motioned to approve the draft minutes for the July 26, 2022 Quarterly Meeting. Joette Langianese seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### D. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No comments were provided.

#### E. MOAB UMTRA PROJECT UPDATE

Russell McCallister stated that many things have been accomplished since the previous quarterly meeting including a total of 12.7 million tons of material had been moved over the life of the project with one million tons of that materials having been moved within the fiscal year. He stated that extreme weather was having a detrimental effect on equipment operations. Despite the equipment setbacks, Russell McCallister stated that the “Cowboy” silhouette had been approved and installed, the ET cover design at the Crescent Junction disposal site was at 90%, and that the Project was working with Union Pacific to find alternatives on heavy duty railcars. He also thanked the Grand County staff for their lobbying efforts that allowed the Project to continue to receive funding.

## **F. MOAB UMTRA PROJECT GROUNDWATER COMPLIANCE ACTION PLAN**

Christopher Pulskamp stated he had been working since last August on the development of the groundwater corrective action plan to remedy contaminants of concerns onsite. He stated this plan will need to be submitted to the NRC and is based on the ET cover model with a 30-60-90 percent design that allows for more input. Christopher Pulskamp stated that the 30% design is currently being developed with Liz Moran and Geosyntenc consultant. He stated that between August and September a rough internal document will be drafted with the 60-percent design becoming more robust then submitted to the NRC for review. He stated they would respond and then a 90-percent design will be generated from there.

Christopher Pulskamp stated that the design was considering natural attenuation but acknowledged that additional sampling is need for better data on natural attenuation on uranium and that other methods would be considered if natural attenuation was not viable. He stated that September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> was the kick-off date for the development of the groundwater compliance action plan and that Tony Mancuso and Jessica Thacker had been invited to provide outside review and support. Christopher Pulskamp stated a potential new method of uranium groundwater extraction, a naturally occurring mineral known as hydroxyapatite, would be tested at the UMTRA site in the fall.

## **G. PRESENTATION OF THE DOE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CONTINUED COMPLIANCE WITH GRAND COUNTY'S CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR THE MOAB UMTRA PROJECT**

Russell McCallister provided a detailed breakdown of the items contained within the Annual Statement of Continued Compliance to the Committee.

## **H. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CONTINUED COMPLIANCE**

**MOTION:** Joette Langanese motioned to approve the Annual Statement of Continued Compliance. Kelly Thornton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **I. AIR MONITORING AND LIAISON ACTIVITIES STATUS UPDATE**

Jessica Thacker provided a detailed presentation regarding activities observed at the Project along with a summary of air monitoring data for both sites (Moab and Crescent Junction). Following the end of her presentation, Jessica Thacker inquired if the Committee members would prefer any additional graphs or charts to better refine the data. Both Mary McGann and Joette Langanese indicated that a chart providing an overall yearly summary of the air monitoring network results would be very helpful. The entire presentation can be viewed on the Grand County UMTRA Project website or upon request from Jessica Thacker at [jthacker@grandcountyutah.net](mailto:jthacker@grandcountyutah.net)

## **J. UPDATE ON LOBBYING EFFORTS**

Mary McGann priorities have shifted in regards to lobbying efforts with the focus on transferring the Project land to the City of Moab and Grand County with funding to assist in the development of the Site Futures Plan. She stated that she has been working with Grand County's lobbyist and that they have offered to assist with scheduling meetings and that designated representatives will go back to Washington DC in February. Joette stated that prior to the February trip, designated committee members would work closely with the DOE and the UMTRA team to make sure all needs are addressed. Russell McCallister

suggested that Mary McGann, Rani Derasery, and Joette Langianese setup a meeting between himself and the Legacy Management contact to discuss objectives prior to the Washington DC trip.

#### **K. FUTURE SITE PLAN COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Russell von Koch stated that the Site Futures Plan, originally scheduled to begin development in 2023, was starting in October at the request of MTPSC Committee members and indicated he would like Committee members to participate so they can familiarize themselves with the purpose, process, time schedules, and so on. He stated he'd like to schedule a Project tour from Highway 279 then schedule a public meeting to re-familiarize the public with the Project and received input to include on the 2023 update to the Site Futures Plan. Mary McGann suggested potentially having a DOE representative on the Site Futures Committee as to have DOE input on the development of the Site Futures Plan. She also stated that plenty of time should be allotted for the development of the plan to allow for the public to participate through the whole process. August Granath stated that the Economic Development office is looking at the diversification of the economy and tourism in Moab and the future of the UMTRA Project would be a part of that consideration. Russell von Koch suggested scheduling a discussion between himself and the Economic Development to review the 2018 Site Futures Plan and see how that could be incorporated into the diversification efforts. Joette Langianese inquired if any of the original Site Futures Committee members would be returning and Russell von Koch stated some had indicated interest in returning while still waiting on responses from others. Joette Langianese indicated that representatives from the DOE and National Park Service would be meeting to develop an official letterhead regarding the future interest and ownership of the Project land. Amy Tendick indicated that the National Park Service would be a part of Site Futures discussions. Joette Langianese expressed gratitude to Russell von Koch for his efforts in regards to moving Site Futures activities. Dana van Horn suggested utilizing a similar outreach system that the Grand County's Planning Department uses to engage with the public opinion.

Joette Langianese motion to direct Russell von Koch to begin the Future Site update for 2023, Kelly Thornton 2nds. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

#### **L. FUTURE MEETING FORMAT DISCUSSION**

No discussion was held on this agenda item.

#### **M. STAKEHOLDERS UPDATES**

Tony Mancuso expressed appreciation for the interagency collaboration and provided a brief update regarding his field reduction team efforts. He stated that they had cleared approximately an acre and a half of tamarisk along the riverfront and hoped that these efforts might encourage better soil chemistry for future native plants. Kelly Thornton suggested that committee members consider preparing for the Project's 134 employees attempting to find new employment at the completion of the Project.

#### **N. FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **O. ADJOURNMENT**

The MTPSC Quarterly Meeting was adjourned at 4:24 pm.

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Mary McGann, MTPSC Chairperson