

Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance  
FY 2018 Quarterly Report for the Period  
October 1 thru December 31, 2017

A number of activities in support of the ORRCA grant scope of work took place during this **second quarter** of the FY18 grant period.

**Q2 Activities in Support of the Scope of Services:**

**A.2. The Grantee shall support implementation of the Tennessee Oversight Interlocal Agreement (TOIA)**

ORRCA member jurisdictions continued to conduct outreach and educational activities to the public and potentially affected local governments. Newly elected local officials were provided briefings on ORRCA's purpose and scope of work.

**A. 3. The Grantee shall promote local government involvement and public awareness in the continued operations of the Oak Ridge Reservation facilities, including, but not limited to the environmental restoration process.**

ORRCA member jurisdictions reviewed the DOE/TEMA emergency response training calendar for FY18. In addition, follow up discussions and evaluations related to the September Safety Fest forum took place.

ORRCA members held their quarterly business meeting on December 4th at the TDEC office in Oak Ridge. Public notice of the meeting was provided to local media outlets, and the meeting was open to the public.

A majority of member jurisdictions attended the meeting, constituting a quorum for decision-making purposes. Staff from the member jurisdictions presented financial and administrative activity reports, which were approved by ORRCA members. DOE representatives gave updates on projects and recent activities, as did TDEC.

The Chairman provided an update regarding the DOE's annual Intergovernmental meeting, which included representation by ORRCA member jurisdictions and other local officials with membership to the Energy Communities Alliance. A breakout session at the meeting attended by federal, state, and local stakeholders from the Oak Ridge Site identified communication issues among the Science, Nuclear Security and Environmental Management functions of DOE. The breakout session focused on the ORRCA's role in communication among the functions and with the public. The ORRCA committee then discussed how the oversight role may be able to meet this communication need under the state's agreements with DOE.

The following action was approved at the meeting:

A motion passed unanimously to hold a Joint Environmental Management/Emergency Preparedness Summit to identify issues and objectives along with facilitating communication and solutions.

Meeting minutes, along with other information about ORRCA has been posted on the website <http://www.orrca.tn.com>.

**A.4. The Grantee shall disseminate accurate and factual information concerning present or proposed activities related to continued operations of the Oak Ridge Reservation facilities.**

Several member jurisdictions learned that DOE/NNSA was planning a campaign to clear cut trees and vegetation along the Pine Ridge line in Oak Ridge to construct new transmission lines. Upon further review, it was discovered that a Categorical Exclusion was issued by the NNSA NEPA Office in Amarillo, Texas regarding this activity. The City of Oak Ridge held a work session at which local DOE officials spoke, and also held a special meeting City Council meeting during this quarter to express concern regarding the lack of early communication by DOE on this matter. The City Council unanimously approved a request to DOE that the agency postpone any work until such time additional information was provided and a public meeting held.

**A.5. The Grantee shall identify local concerns and issues relevant to the operation of the Oak Ridge Reservation and environs and present concerns to the State of Tennessee and the Department of Energy during the selection of annual work and budget priorities.**

TDEC staff and ORRCA members continue to discuss the negotiations toward a full five-year renewal of the TOA. Negotiations will begin in January and a draft agreement is expected in June. Needs and concerns for ORRCA related to this new agreement include:

1. Enhancement of communication through expanded responsibilities and outreach for ORRCA
2. Lack of continuity among elected officials and loss of historical knowledge of DOE outfall and legacy agreements
3. Must ensure a consistent knowledge of oversight mission and a vision forward to protect the local community

ORRCA members continued to engage with the State and DOE to improve understanding of local government and community concerns. DOE, EPA Region 4 and TDEC representatives met with the City of Oak Ridge to discuss milestones for cleanup projects on the Oak Ridge Reservation. Projects of particular interest to ORRCA member jurisdictions include: construction of the Mercury Treatment Facility at Y-12, infrastructure and other activities related to the eventual transition of the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), Fish Advisories in member jurisdictions, ongoing operation of the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility (EMWMF), the proposed Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF), and recertification of DOE's volume of transuranic waste (TRU) stored in Oak Ridge, which is planned for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico.

Environmental Management activities related to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Manhattan Project National Historical Park include (1) meetings with DOE and contractor staff related to the K-25 History Center to be located in Oak Ridge Fire Station 4 at the East Tennessee Technology Park; (2) review and comment on the draft National Park Service “Foundation Document” for the national park; and (3) meeting among the three Manhattan Project communities to discuss issues related to balancing national park activities with ongoing environmental restoration work.

**A.6. The Grantee shall prepare special studies and reports, as needed, to educate local officials and further public information.**

During this quarter member jurisdictions awaited the resolution of the dispute among EPA, DOE and TDEC regarding the D5 Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the proposed EMDF. Staff from member jurisdictions continued to meet to discuss projects to improve communications and the public’s understanding of the natural and community assets in the Oak Ridge region, including the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.