

Summary Notes – December 10, 2013
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Nuclear Materials Committee Meeting

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, from 4:00-5:50 p.m., at the DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC. It was also streamed online via Google Hangouts.

The purpose of this meeting was to receive an update on projected receipts of domestic and foreign research reactor fuels. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB Members:

Dr. Rose Hayes – NM Chair
Harold Simon – CAB Vice Chair
Ed Burke
Ed Sturcken
Bill Calhoun
Virginia Jones
Nina Spinelli – *Online*

DOE/ Contractors/ Others:

Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR
Tony Polk, DOE-SR
Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR
Jay Ray, DOE-SR
Mike Dunsmuir, SRNL
Ashley Whitaker, NOVA
James Tanner, NOVA

Stakeholders:

Tom Clements
Suzanne Rhodes
Dawn Gillas
Alan Hancock
Chuck Goergen
Connie Young
Joe Ortaldo
Clint Wolfe

Welcome and Introduction:

CAB member Rose Hayes welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated the meeting was being streamed online. She then asked everyone to introduce themselves before she listed the NM Committee members. She reviewed the committee's focus and provided a recommendation status update, stating recommendations 307, 313, and 314 were open. She introduced Ms. Maxcine Maxted, Department of Energy Savannah River (DOE-SR), to begin her presentation.

Presentation: Projected Receipts of Domestic and Foreign Research Reactor Fuels- Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR

Ms. Maxted said the purpose of her presentation was to fulfill a 2013 NM Work Plan topic by providing information on future fuel receipts. She explained her presentation would also address the Principles of Understanding between the state of South Carolina (SC) and DOE, which was an action within the DOE response for recommendation 300. She provided a copy of the "SRS Waste and Material Flow Path" to illustrate L-Basin's location at SRS. She provided a chart that compared the amount of ending inventory, new receipts, and removed inventory for L-Basin from fiscal year (FY) 2012 to FY 2013. Ms. Maxted pointed out on the chart that during FY 2012 and FY 2013, no foreign research reactor (FRR) or domestic research reactor (DRR) fuel was removed since the Amended Record of Decision (AROD) was not finalized until March 2013. She then discussed the projected FY 2014 inventory changes for L-Basin by discussing both the anticipated receipts of FRR and DRR from various locations around the world. She provided a chart to describe the type of used nuclear fuel (UNF), the foreign country the fuel was coming from, and the amount of projected receipts. She provided a draft chart titled, "Extended Basin Storage (EBS) Bundle Positions Filled by Base FRR/DRR plus Receipt Scenarios," which represented how the AROD affected the capacity of L-Basin along with projections for completing the processing of various FRR and DRR stored in L-Basin. She explained the how the Principles of Understanding, which apply to all shipments of radioactive waste by or for DOE, are the mechanism that notifies South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) of the wastes and UNF that comes into and out of SRS. Ms. Maxted said the overall inventory of L-Basin was reduced in FY 2013 to below the FY 2012 inventory total, while the AROD allowed the continued use of L-Basin without additional

costs for new storage racks. She said projections show that FY 2014 inventory will be reduced to below the FY 2013 inventory total. This presentation can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov.

Committee Discussion:

CAB member Hayes discussed the DOE response for recommendations 307, “Transferring Materials in L-Basin to Auxiliary Dry-Cask Storage.” CAB member Hayes stated she wanted to leave recommendation 307 “open” until the CAB received a report from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); however, Mr. Pat McGuire, DOE-SR, said DOE-SR did not have information about OMB providing the CAB a report. CAB member Hayes also discussed the DOE responses for recommendations 313 and 314.

This discussion can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comment:

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth (FOE), addressed Canadian and German NM fuel that could or could not be coming to SRS. He said a few of his colleagues met with the Atomic Energy of the Canada Limited, which confirmed that liquid High-Level waste, which contained United States origin Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) could be solidified in Canada; however, he did not understand why the Canadians were looking to remove the NM at a later date. Mr. Clements said he had a statement from a German activist about the German fuel. Mr. Clements stated there were 152 casks, each weighing approximately 25 tons, containing 290,000 highly radioactive “pebbles” that the Germans did not know what to do with. Mr. Clements encouraged the CAB to request an environmental impact statement in order to inform the public of unusual materials that could or could not come to SRS. A copy of his submission has been attached to this document.

Ms. Suzanne Rhodes, South Carolina League of Women Voters (SCLWV), said the SCLWV was against commercial SNF coming to SRS. She said SCLWV planned to release a report in January. She said that if different materials continued to be welcomed at SRS, those materials would most likely stay at SRS forever. A copy of her submission has been attached to this document.

Mr. Clint Wolfe, Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), said he thought the CAB was allowed to discuss any activity at SRS that was EM funded. Mr. Wolfe said he supported DOE’s effort to regain proliferal material because the facilities at SRS could deal with those materials. Mr. Wolfe also said there was a bigger purpose for SRS since it was a federal and national asset that needed to be used instead of giving up and worrying about what materials should or should not come to SRS.

Ms. Connie Young, public, said she thought of the CAB as a main source of information from DOE and she requested that DOE do their best to continue informing the public.

CAB member Hayes adjourned the NM Committee meeting.

The online recording of this meeting can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov