

Summary Notes – December 10, 2013
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Waste Management Committee Meeting

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Waste Management (WM) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, from 6:00-7:50 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 about the progress of tank closures at SRS. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB Members:

Ed Burke – WM Chair
Earl Sheppard – WM Vice Chair
Harold Simon – CAB Vice Chair
Dr. Rose Hayes
Virginia Jones

DOE/ Contractors/ Others:

Jean Ridley, DOE-SR
Sherri Ross, DOE-SR
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR
Larry Ling, SRR
Steve Thomas, SRR
Ron Burkhart, SRR
Ashley Whitaker, NOVA
James Tanner, NOVA

Stakeholders:

Tom Clements
Alan Hancock
Suzanne Rhodes
Joe Ortaldo

Welcome and Introduction:

CAB member Ed Burke opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He asked everyone to introduce themselves, including online attendees. He reviewed the committee's focus and provided a recommendation status update. He stated recommendations 304 and 311 were open and recommendations 310 and 313 were pending. He introduced Ms. Sherri Ross, Department of Energy- Savannah River (DOE-SR) to begin her presentation.

Presentation: Tank Closure Progress- Sherri Ross, DOE-SR

Ms. Ross said the purpose of her presentation was to satisfy a WM Committee 2013 Work Plan topic by providing a progress update of tank closures at SRS. She provided a diagram to show the status of tanks five and six; however, she said as of December 5, 2013, tanks five and six were 99 percent full. She provided pictures of the "primary tank grouting" and "tank annulus duct grouting" for tanks five and six. She stated operational risk, and the risk of leaks to the environment, was reducing at SRS from the closing of High-Level tanks. Ms. Ross said during the year 1995 there were approximately 550 million curies stored in tanks at SRS; however, she said as of June 2013, there were approximately 295 million curies remaining. She listed the progress for the 24 old style tanks before she stated that 25 percent of old style tanks were grouted. Ms. Ross provided diagrams for H-Tank Farm and the types of tanks located in H-Tank Farm before she showed the regulatory drivers for closure. She provided a flow chart that represented the review process for the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Section 3116. She said in February, DOE issued the draft basis and performance assessment documents for closure of H-Tank Farm at SRS. She said DOE received the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Request for Additional Information (RAI) on July 31, 2013 and DOE responded on November 1, 2013. Ms. Ross said DOE expected to receive the Technical Evaluation Report (TER) around the end of March 2014, which could possibly result in a Secretarial Waste Determination for H-Tank Farm by June 2014. She outlined the tank closure progression for the old style tanks before discussing tank 12. She said tank 12 did not have any primary leaks and solid amounts were reduced from approximately 4,400 to 1,400 gallons of waste. She said in April 2013, DOE, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) agreed to enter a sampling and analysis phase for tank 16. Ms. Ross stated the primary and annulus sampling were complete; however, she said Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) was performing the sample analysis. She

said tanks five and six were scheduled for closure during FY 2014. She explained that DOE, SCDHEC, and EPA were scheduled to begin discussing a “preliminary cease waste removal agreement.” She said DOE would continue consultation with the NRC to support a Secretarial Waste Determination for H-Tank Farm; however, she said DOE, SCDHEC, and EPA would have discussions related to waste removal and tank closure regulatory commitments.

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

Committee Discussion:

CAB member Burke discussed DOE responses for recommendation 304 and 311 stating he was pleased with the overall response. He introduced and read a draft recommendation titled, “Process for Considering New Missions for SRS and Keeping the Citizens Advisory Board Informed.” CAB member Hayes said she was not against new missions for SRS; however, she stated the CAB should remember its main focus was for cleanup to be completed. CAB member Burke said he would like to discuss the draft recommendation at the January Full Board meeting.

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

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

CAB member Burke adjourned the WM Committee meeting.

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