



# *the* Board Beat

Savannah River Site  
Citizens Advisory Board  
Spring 2013 Newsletter



**The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board is a public board and its mission is to study the issues and provide informed, and timely recommendations, from the public's perspective, to the Department of Energy concerning Environmental Management work at SRS in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.**

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The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) extends a big “thank you” to everyone that helped make this newsletter possible. To all the CAB members who submitted ideas and articles for the newsletter, to all the presenters and managers who make Full Board and Committee meetings meaningful, to the Board’s agency liaisons, and to the Department of Energy (DOE) for continued support, as we, the members of the SRS CAB, serve this very important role for DOE and our communities.

The *Board Beat* is published semiannually, by the SRS CAB, and distributed in November and May, primarily by email. Content is provided by Board members and the CAB Support Team. To subscribe to the *Board Beat*, submit a request, with your name and email address, to [srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)

If you're interested in learning more about what we do, or think you would like to apply for membership, please check out our website at: <http://cab.srs.gov> or “like” us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/SavannahRiverCAB](https://www.facebook.com/SavannahRiverCAB)

Contact us at **803-952-7884 (800-249-8155)** or via email at [srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)

## Message from the Chair-Dr. Donald N. Bridges



**CAB chair Donald N. Bridges speaks with Dr. David Moody, Savannah River Site Manager, at a Full Board Meeting.**

With the addition of six new members we now have a great CAB make-up. I have been really impressed with the enthusiasm and interest displayed by these members. A listing of the new members is provided on page three of this issue of the *Board Beat*. The SRS CAB now has an excellent blend of new and experienced members. With such a talented group, I expect that we will be a fully engaged and effective group.

With that backdrop I want now to point out some challenges that we will need to address effectively to have a successful year.

- **Reflecting the views of the public in our deliberations :**

The Department Of Energy (DOE) established the CAB as a medium in which we as CAB members could provide input that represents the views of the citizens of South Carolina and

Georgia. To be effective we need to seek as much input as we can from the public on critical issues. I encourage each member to stay current on SRS issues, discuss them with your constituents, and above all, ask them to provide input to the Board on topics of real interest or concern. We are actively reaching out to the public by seeking input at each meeting from a diversity of organizations and views. Support us in that effort in seeking input from the people you deal with on a daily or periodic basis.

- **Dealing with the Site cleanup issues with severely reduced funding levels:** DOE is dealing with reduced funding that is impacting just about all aspects of cleanup. The cut-back of funding is a fact of life and is not likely to change in the near-term. SRS is doing the best it can to continue its cleanup mission. People are being furloughed, and in some cases, personnel reductions are taking place. We all need to be mindful of the economic climate and work to encourage the prioritization of work so that risk reduction is carried out to the maximum extent possible. We also need to be sensitive to Site personnel issues that may arise. It well may be that the Site is facing impacts on cleanup that have not occurred since the CAB was established in 1994.
- **Continuing to provide thoughtful and useful input:** While the CAB represents some considerable expense to the DOE, the CAB input has proven over the years to be “money well-spent.” As a Board this year we will have less money for travel, we will travel to fewer cities away from the Site, and, in general, have less capability. I encourage each of you, however, to keep up the “can-do” spirit and continue to carry the cleanup message to the public and to DOE. I know of no other more talented and capable group that offers such vital and timely input.

Membership on the Board is truly a unique and unusual opportunity- a real example of “Democracy In Action.” You are one of a group of 25 dedicated people spending considerable time and energy on strictly a volunteer basis with the single motive of trying to make things better for everyone. That is a noble venture.

Best wishes to all for a successful new year!

Plan to Attend a CAB Committee Meeting in 2013!

All meetings are held at the  
DOE Meeting Center  
230 Village Green Blvd. Suite 220,  
Aiken, SC 29803.

**June 11th:** Strategic & Legacy Management  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation  
6-7:50 p.m.

**June 25th:** Nuclear Materials  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Waste Management  
6-7:50 p.m.

**August 13th:** Strategic & Legacy Management  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation  
6-7:50 p.m.

**August 27th:** Nuclear Materials  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Waste Management  
6-7:50 p.m.

**October 8th:** Strategic & Legacy Management  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation  
6-7:50 p.m.

**October 22nd:** Nuclear Materials  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Waste Management  
6-7:50 p.m.

**December 3rd:** Strategic & Legacy Management  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation  
6-7:50 p.m.

**December 10th:** Nuclear Materials  
4-5:50 p.m.  
Waste Management  
6-7:50 p.m.

Spotlight on:

**Chief Louie Chavis,  
CAB Member**



At the October 2012 CAB Full Board meeting, member Chief Louie Chavis brought with him a rarely seen item at CAB meetings, an intricately carved rattlesnake cane. “Most people fear the serpent,” Chief Chavis said. “As a people we have to live with nature, and rattlesnakes are just another element we have to live with. We give them room and they give us room.” The cane was hand carved by Native American artisan Lynnwood Collins. A dedicated artist, Mr. Collins spent three years carving Chief Chavis’ one-of-a-kind cane. When Chief Chavis first saw the cane at a pow-wow two years ago, he admired it so much that Mr. Collins offered it to him as a gift.

Chief Chavis had such deep appreciation for the cane’s intricate details that he offered to trade a snapping turtle shell for the cane; Mr. Collins accepted the deal and later made a drum from the shell. When asked what it meant to him, Chief Chavis said the cane is one of his “most valued treasures.” Chief Chavis most recently had the chance to reconnect with Mr. Collins at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Catawba Pow-Wow, held April 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, at Winthrop University.

# The CAB Welcomes Six New Members in 2013!



**Bill Calhoun-Aiken, SC**



**Jessica Grainger-Aiken, SC**



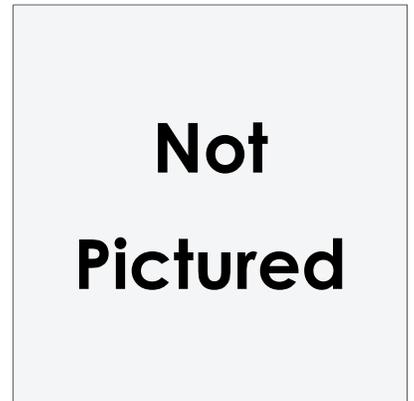
**Ginny Jones-Augusta, GA**



**Larry Powell-Hilton Head, SC**



**Christopher Timmers-  
Columbia, SC**



**Louis Walters-Augusta, GA**

## 2013 New Member Orientation



**David Sanders, DOE-SR, gives an interactive presentation on radiation to the CAB's new members.**



**Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, makes the Nuclear Materials 101 presentation more lively with props.**

## The CAB Works on Internal Board Processes at its Annual Education & Work Plan Session

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) holds administrative meetings each year to develop its Work Plan and Board internal processes. On Feb. 13, 2013, the CAB's chairs and vice chairs met at the DOE Meeting Center, in Aiken, to review with the Board's Deputy Designated Federal Officials (DDFOs), DOE points of contacts, and CAB Support Team, to cement its Work Plan and committee schedule for 2013. On Feb. 14, 2013, at the same location, the entire Board met for its "Education & Process Session" to review Board processes and procedures.



Soni Blanco, DOE-SR, who serves as a Point of Contact for the CAB's Waste Management Committee, works with Waste Management Chair, Ed Burke.



Rich Olsen, DOE-SR, works as the Strategic & Legacy Management (SLM) Committee's Point of contact. He assists with the development of the Work Plan with SLM co-Vice Chair, James Streeter.

### Work Plan Meeting



Rose Hayes, the Nuclear Materials Chair, discusses Work Plan items with Maxcine Maxted, the committee's DOE Point of Contact, and Louie Chavis, the Nuclear Materials Vice Chair



The Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Chair, Marolyn Parson, and Vice Chair, Tom Barnes, completes the committee's Work Plan with Avery Hammett, DOE-SR.

## Education & Process Session



Board members meet to discuss internal processes and procedures. During the Feb. 14 Education & Process Session, CAB members divided into three "break-out" groups to discuss administrative topics of interest to the CAB.



## The CAB Finalizes its Work Plan for 2013

Every year, the SRS CAB creates an annual Work Plan. The CAB's Work Plan, arranged by committee, outlines what the CAB intends to address each year. In January, the CAB hears presentations on different "topics of consideration" at its Full Board meeting, and then CAB committee chairs meet in February to iron out the year's Work Plan and committee schedule. Below is a sampling of topics from the 2013 CAB Work Plan. If you would like your own copy, check out the CAB's website at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov), or send us an email at [srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov).

### 2013 Work Plan topics\*:

- ◆ Facilities disposition
- ◆ Building 235-F
- ◆ Federal Facilities Agreement Appendix E
- ◆ Operable Units Project Updates
- ◆ SRS Annual Environmental Report
- ◆ Savannah River Ecology Update
- ◆ Performance Metrics FY2013 Targets
- ◆ Military Training Exercises at SRS
- ◆ Historic Preservation
- ◆ Enterprise SRS  
Nuclear Materials Reuse and Disposition
- ◆ Update on H-Canyon Missions
- ◆ Nuclear Material Receipt and Storage
- ◆ Solid Waste Program Status
- ◆ DOE's Response to the Blue Ribbon Commission's Report on America's Nuclear Future
- ◆ Liquid Waste System Plan Rev. 18
- ◆ Salt Waste Processing Facility Project Baseline
- ◆ CAB Outreach Efforts



**CAB Vice Chair Harold Simon shares a moment of laughter with co-DDFOs Pat McGuire, DOE-SR, and Terry Spears, DOE-SR, at the 2013 Work Plan Meeting.**

\* For more topics, check out the CAB's Work Plan in its entirety at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)

## The SRS CAB Gives Input to the Integrated Priority List

Per direction from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, all EM sites should provide an opportunity for stakeholders, such as the CAB, to provide input on the site's prioritized activities for FY2015 as part of budget development. This activity is referred to as the Integrated Priority List (IPL) process. The SRS CAB discussed the IPL at the March 2013 Full Board meeting, following a presentation by Rich Olsen, DOE-SR. The letter below, conveying the CAB's input, was sent to Dr. David Moody, Site Manager.

Dear Dr. Moody:

Please find listed below the Integrated Priorities List for FY 2015. We fully support the plans for the Radioactive Liquid Waste Program and recommend that that program be given top priority. We then offer up the H-Canyon Activities and Spent Nuclear Fuel Program as other high priority programs.

Thank you for allowing us to provide input on the SRS programs.

Priorities List:

- The Radioactive Liquid Waste Program should be given top priority, adequate funding, and management attention.
- The Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) Program should be funded to allow both SNF receipts and SNF disposition such that extended storage is not required at SRS.
- The H-Canyon should remain fully operational to support processing and disposition of SNF at SRS.

Best Regards,

*Dr. Donald N. Bridges*



Rich Olsen, DOE-SR, presents information on the Integrated Priority List to the CAB at the March Full Board meeting in Augusta, GA.

## The SRS CAB Sends a Letter to the Department of Energy, Asking for the Board's Charter to be Expanded

The SRS CAB routinely sends letters, or requests, to the Department of Energy, on areas of interest where a recommendation would not be appropriate. One such letter was sent to DOE on January 29, 2013, asking the Department to consider expanding the CAB's charter. The response from DOE-HQ will be posted on the CAB's website at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov). Please see below for the original letter sent by the SRS CAB.

Dear Dr. Moody,

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board has been pleased to fill a vital role in providing citizen input to DOE since 1994 when the Environmental Management (EM) Division of the Department of Energy created Site Specific Advisory Boards to review and provide input about the activities of the various DOE sites around the country.



The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), as a stakeholder board, has enthusiastically and effectively provided the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management and designees with advice, information, and recommendations on issues affecting the EM program at SRS. We also feel that the scope of the CAB role of clean-up standards and environmental restoration; waste management and disposition; stabilization and disposition of non-stockpile nuclear materials; excess facilities; future land use and long-term stewardship; risk assessment and management; and clean-up science and technology activities was proper and well-defined.

Among the benefits of the SRS CAB have been fostering transparency and encouraging community support for the site. The Blue Ribbon Committee, sponsored by the Department of Energy at President Obama's direction, had highlighted the value of transparency and consent-based decision-making for issues related to nuclear policy and actions.

As noted earlier, when the SRS CAB was originally organized by the DOE's Environmental Management Division, the scope of responsibilities was limited to the scope of the EM's responsibilities specifically addressing environmental issues and site cleanup. This was completely appropriate at the time because of the pressing issues related to environmental issues at the site. Over the 18 years since the CAB was organized, there has been tremendous progress made in site cleanup and mitigation of environmental issues. A plan exists and is being implemented for the completion of the site cleanup. That is not to imply that the cleanup mission is complete, but it is certainly making significant progress. The CAB believes that it has made a positive contribution to the progress over the years.

One issue that has presented itself recently is the fact that the scope of the SRS CAB is limited to Environmental Management issues. Recent projects such as the Mixed Oxide Processing Facility fall outside of the scope of the CAB. In addition, many of the activities related to the new site vision, called "Enterprise SRS," are outside the scope of the CAB. The Site management has kept the CAB informed about many of the new projects and changes; however, the CAB cannot formally provide input on these activities.

This limited scope of responsibility for the CAB confuses the public that is not aware of the Department of Energy's management structure. The assumption is that the transparency and mechanism for public input associated with the cleanup activities should exist for all site activities.

The CAB understands the complexity of DOE's management and the limited responsibilities of Environmental Management; however, the public does not. In addition, the mechanisms that exist for transparency and community consent for EM projects do not exist for the greater scope of work at the site. The CAB feels that in the future this transparency for some, but not all the site, will be an issue for the community. In addition, the CAB can provide valuable input into the planning and execution of additional site missions.

The CAB requests that you work with sister organizations within DOE such as the NNSA to determine if a solution to this problem can be developed and implemented. It may well be that certain other DOE programs or portions of DOE programs would be receptive to receiving citizen input much as EM had done with great success. Any expansion of the citizen input role at SRS would be well-received.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Best Regards,

*Dr. Donald N. Bridges*

## Environmental Justice Meeting in Beaufort was Successful

By: Earl Sheppard

CAB Member & Vice Chair of the Waste Management Committee



**Earl Sheppard,  
CAB Member**

On March 7, 2013, The Imani Group sponsored and hosted the very first Environmental Justice meeting in Beaufort, South Carolina, at the Technical College of the Low Country. In attendance there were more than 60 citizens of Beaufort, as well as representatives from Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer, The Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The Gullah kin folk and Aunt Pearlle Sue (local celebrities) opened the meeting with a song and history of the Beaufort area. The local community attendees asked questions ranging from what's going on at the Savannah River Site to how safe is the drinking water that comes from the Savannah River. An effort was made to answer all questions to

the best of our abilities, and the group seemed satisfied with the answers that were given. It was my pleasure to explain the water cycle, and the process of making potable water at the Chelsea water plant, and the operation of Port Royal Island Water Reclamation facility (sewer plant). Mr. Kyle Bryant, EPA, gave a presentation explaining that communities should stick together, and form bonds with one another, in order to be productive when applying for government grants and capturing the attention of the local government. In addition, the Rev. Jenkins-Boseman spoke about the power of networking and what it could do for the people of Beaufort. The meeting lasted more than two hours, with many email addresses and telephone numbers exchanged. I would say the meeting was a success, and the city of Beaufort welcomes the opportunity to have another workshop next year.

*Earl Sheppard has been a CAB member for over a year, and serves as the Vice Chair of the Waste Management Committee. He works as the Chief Waste Water Operator at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer, which helped him answer community concerns at the EJ Meeting. He resides in Burton, South Carolina.*

### The SRS CAB Has Gone Green!

Please help the Savannah Rive Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) "Go Green" by sending us your email address to add to our CAB database. By receiving email notifications, rather than paper notifications, you will be reducing the CAB's environmental footprint, and helping to save a tree!



Just send us your name, email address and the mailing address currently in our database to: **[srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)**

Not currently on the CAB's distribution? Send us your email address and we will add you to our list of community citizens that receive routine updates on the CAB that include newsletters, CAB Recommendations, DOE Responses, and more.

## The CAB Said Farewell to Six Members in January

Every year the CAB says “farewell” to CAB members who have met their six-year term limit, or who have chosen to leave the Board. In January 2013, after the CAB’s Combined Committees meeting, the Board held a small informal reception for members who were wrapping up their tenure that month. Among those ending their memberships were Stan Howard and Sarah Watson, who both left after completing six-year terms, Mary Davis and Travis Johnson, who chose to not reapply for a second term, Dr. Paul Shieh, who resigned due to health issues, and Dr. Gerald Wadley, who resigned from the Board due to personal reasons earlier in the year. Dr. David Moody, Site Manager, attended the Full Board meeting the next day to pass out certificates of appreciation to those who were in attendance.



CAB members listen as Sarah Watson, who was leaving the Board after serving a six-year term, said goodbye.



CAB members gather and laugh after the reception, with Pat McGuire, DOE-SR and co-DDFO, and Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR and Federal Coordinator of the CAB.



From left: Mary Davis, Sarah Watson, and Stan Howard accept certificates of appreciation from the Department of Energy for their work with the SRS CAB.



Stan Howard, who left the Board after serving a six-year term, addressed the Full Board at the January meeting, sharing his experience as a member of the CAB.

## SRS Facility Exceeds Midpoint of FY13 Milestone; Processes More Than 1 Million Gallons of Salt Waste

Originally published at [www.srs.gov](http://www.srs.gov)



Recent improvements to Saltstone's process room and transfer system has enabled the production and disposal facilities to process larger amounts of low-level salt waste at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

Since beginning operations on June 12, 1990, the Saltstone facility has safely received, treated and disposed of over 12 million gallons of low-level radioactive liquid salt wastes. Processing and disposing of the decontaminated salt solution is essential in SRR achieving its mission, according to Dave Olson, SRR President and Project Manager.

"Our employees are safely moving salt waste from storage to treatment and disposal in record amounts," Olson said. "Sending this material through Saltstone is instrumental in performing our mission to close waste tanks and reduce risk."

Recent improvements to the facility have provided a more reliable system capable of processing larger amounts of decontaminated salt solution. These improvements, combined with others scheduled in the near term, will ultimately support a 24/7 work schedule in the future when

needed, according to Steve Wilkerson, SRR Waste Treatment Manager.

"We expect Saltstone to be even more robust as we position the Site for continued success in closing waste tanks," Wilkerson said. "Recent improvements represent a significant portion of the modifications necessary to support a 24/7 work schedule when called upon." Terrel Spears, Assistant Manager for Waste Disposition Project, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)-Savannah River Operations Office, said DOE is counting on Saltstone for future operations.

"DOE's ultimate priority is to operationally close our tank farm system and reduce risk," Spears said. "The Saltstone operations are a critical component of DOE achieving that mission."

## SRNS Employees Surpass 15 Million Safe Hour Milestone

Originally published at [www.srs.gov](http://www.srs.gov)

SRNS surpassed a long-standing record of safe performance without a lost work day due to work-related injury or illness on Sunday, March 10.

"This is a tremendous safety performance milestone achieved by our employees, one that marks the longest-running operational safety performance record at SRS since 2008," said Alice Doswell, SRNS Senior Vice President, Environmental, Safety, Security and Health.

The company's current track record started in 2011 and has encompassed high hazard work associated with completion of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Project as well as ongoing H and F Canyon operations, Tritium operations and the Savannah River National Laboratory research and development missions.

"When compared to other companies performing similar work, this accomplishment is easily defined as industry-leading or 'world class' performance," said SRNS President and CEO, Dwayne Wilson. "Safety is a core value at SRNS where we strive to make our work environment the safest place our employees can be; and we are successful at achieving that goal thanks to our employees' overwhelming commitment to safe operations."

In 2012, SRNS launched a Sitewide safety and security communications campaign for all SRS employees. The program reinforces safe and secure performance of SRS missions through consistent marketing of safety, security, environmental and radiological topics.



SRNS Employees hang a banner displaying the SRS Safety and Security logo; the 80-foot banner signifies SRS employee commitment to safe and secure operations and serves as a SRS cultural symbol for all who enter and exit the Site.

## CAB Members Invite Community Groups to Present at Full Board Meetings



Dr. Jeffrey Patterson, Physicians for Social Responsibility, presented at the CAB's March Full Board meeting. His presentation can be found on the CAB's website at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov).

The SRS CAB introduced a new community outreach initiative at its March 2013 Full Board meeting that allows for organizations with an interest in the Savannah River Site and Environmental Management to present at CAB meetings. The first presenter to be introduced under this program was Dr. Jeffrey Patterson, director of Physicians for Social Responsibility. Mr. Patterson's presentation leads the way for other interested groups to speak to the CAB.

If your group would like to present at a CAB Full Board meeting, please contact the CAB Support Team at [srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov), or call us at 803-952-9219. Interested groups must be prepared to stay within the CAB's purview and follow the below guidelines, crafted by the CAB's Chair, Donald N. Bridges.

### *Ground rules for community presentations:*

- ◆ Time limit of 20-25 minutes.
- ◆ Stay on the subject of EM Site Cleanup.
- ◆ No discussion on MOX.
- ◆ Must give presentation to CAB Support Team **two weeks** prior to the meeting for review.

### *Presenters should:*

- ◆ Briefly introduce their organization and its primary mission; relate the organization's mission to SRS clean-up activities.
- ◆ Give insights on the priorities and progress of Site cleanup.
- ◆ Tell the CAB what they believe are major problems with clean-up at SRS, listing any proposed solutions.
- ◆ Discuss how SRS should use facilities that are freed up from Site cleanup, such as the Canyon facilities, Reactor basins, etc.
- ◆ Describe what they feel are viable future missions for the Site.
- ◆ Provide the CAB any insights that would be helpful in carrying out the SRS citizen input role.
- ◆ State the community impact from SRS activities

## Site Manager's Thoughts on Budget Crises at Savannah River Site



**Dr. David Moody,**  
**SRS Manager**

I would like to share some information on the Savannah River Site's budget picture with you, our valued members of the Citizens Advisory Board and other stakeholders, as several budget-driven events have come to the forefront of our daily operations.

Currently, the Site is operating under the terms of Sequestration and a Continuing Resolution for the Fiscal Year 2013 budget, with an approximate \$100 million reduction in our operating funds, based on the Fiscal Year 2012 budget. Despite several site-wide efforts to mitigate the effects of these budget reductions, we have had to slow many of our site operations and also reduce many of our support employees. About 2,500 contractor employees are working a reduced 32-hour week that began April 1. If the present funding scenario remains, we anticipate additional employee impacts starting in early June.

Within current Site operations, we have reduced H-Canyon activities. These reductions currently limit our ability to process vulnerable used nuclear fuel (Sodium Reactor Experiment fuel); receive highly-enriched uranium materials from off-site entities; process plutonium for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Process (MOX); receive used nuclear fuel from domestic research reactors; and continue Building 235-F's risk reduction project at a steady pace.

There has been no flexibility for the Site to manage the impacts to the workforce or the work scope. The Department of Energy made a request to Congress for reprogramming of funds (to prioritize and move funds to best manage the cuts). We are looking to shift approximately \$80 million from the Salt Waste Processing Facility project to a variety of other cleanup activities. The reprogramming request remains in Congress for approval. If granted, it will allow us to substantially lessen the severe budget impacts.

***I can assure you we are not "throwing in the towel." -Dr. David Moody, SRS Manager***

As we await final approval of the reprogramming, we continue to plan for the projected shutdown of operations in several areas of the Site and the Savannah River National Laboratory, to a minimum-safe condition.

While the challenges remain daunting, I am continually amazed by our employees' sense of mission and determination to make do with what we face, as a whole. I can assure you we are not "throwing in the towel." It is my intent to capitalize on this crisis with opportunities.

As we prepare for Fiscal Year 2014, we continue to look at Enterprise-SRS as our strategic vision. We still have important work to do – and successes to build on.

We will continue to seek opportunities to partner with other agencies and industry to achieve our vision for the future. The Savannah River Site remains focused on putting revitalized assets and re-purposed liabilities to work and converting liabilities into assets for our future.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of the Savannah River Site and for your patience as we work through these budget crises, together.

## DOE-HQ Hosts a Webinar in Place of the Spring 2013 EM SSAB Chairs' Meeting

Due to cost-cutting measures enacted as a result of the sequestration, the Spring 2013 Environmental Management (EM) Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs' Meeting was held via webinar. The meeting, held on April 25, from 1 p.m.– 5:30 p.m., Eastern time, was webcast live.

Although the meeting was not held in person, there was plenty of discussion, presentations, and an active public comment period. The meeting began with a welcome and opening remarks from Cate Alexander, the EM SSAB Designated Federal Officer, and then a EM Program Update & Discussion with David Huizenga, EM Senior Advisor. After Mr. Huizenga completed his presentation, there was an EM Budget Update from Terry Tyborowski, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Program Planning & Budget. After a quick break, there was a presentation from Frank Marcinowski, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management, on Waste Disposition Strategies. Following each presentation, there was a brief time allotted for questions from the Board chairs.

Towards the end of the day, there was a public comment period time, where many attendees chose to make comments. After public comments, the meeting was wrapped up with discussion on a proposed Nevada SSAB recommendation. Due to the group needing additional information in order to complete the recommendation, a determination was made discuss it further at the next Chairs' teleconference in June.



## The SRS CAB is always looking for new members to join the Board!

Do you live in an area affected by cleanup activities at SRS? Would you be interested in learning about SRS and working as a team to help inform local communities? If the answer is “yes”, you would be perfect for the SRS Citizens Advisory Board. We are currently recruiting new members to the CAB for the 2013-2015 term.

Please fill out an application at

<http://cab.srs.gov>

You can email us at:

[srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)

Or you can give us a call at :

803-952-7884 or (800-249-8155)



As a CAB member, one of these seats could be yours at CAB Full Board Meetings. Join us and have a seat!



Like the CAB  
on Facebook!

[facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/SavannahRiverSiteCAB)

**SavannahRiverSiteCAB**

## *CAB Recommendations-Since October 2012*

### **Recommendation 299:**

“The Savannah River Site CAB’s Concerns Regarding Interim Storage of Commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel & Other Nuclear Wastes & Materials at SRS”

**Adopted:** October 30, 2012 by the Waste Management Committee

**Status:** Open (as of May 2013)

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommends that DOE:

1. DOE-SR present the concept of separating the Defense Programs program high level waste program from the commercial nuclear power waste program to HQ, and heartily endorse such an approach.
2. DOE-SR develop a “white paper” on this topic presenting more in-depth support and data for the concept and forward the “white paper” in support of this concept.

***See the entire recommendation, and DOE’S response, at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)!***

### **Recommendation 300:**

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**Status:** Open (as of May 2013)

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommends that DOE:

1. Inform the CAB of any plans or discussions for bringing any new nuclear wastes or commercial spent nuclear fuel to SRS (within the bounds of national security requirements).
2. Advise the CAB of those existing or potentially generated wastes that are under consideration to be stored at SRS in an interim storage status.
3. Keep the CAB informed about the status and plans for the creation of a permanent repository for nuclear wastes that is capable of receiving legacy or other wastes or nuclear materials stored at SRS
4. Not transfer any commercial spent nuclear fuel to SRS for any purpose until after the SRSCRO study is completed, and stakeholders have reached a conclusion on the appropriateness of such an activity
5. Make no decision regarding the use of SRS as an interim storage site for commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel until establishing and using a consent-based decision process.
6. Ensure that any nuclear materials or wastes brought to the site a) be processed in a manner that prepares for them for disposition, b) after processing have a defined, scheduled, and viable path to disposition, c) be the subject of a formal and enforceable agreement with the State of South Carolina.

***See the entire recommendation, and DOE’S response, at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)!***

**Recommendation 301:**

“Demonstration Storage at Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Program for SRS High Level Waste Canisters”

**Adopted:** October 30, 2012 by the Waste Management Committee

**Status:** Open (as of May 2013)

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommends that DOE:

1. DOE-SR work with WIPP personnel in New Mexico to develop a plan for such a Demonstration Storage Program at WIPP for SRS High Level Waste Canisters.
2. Forward the Plan to HQ with the recommendation that DOE present this concept to other national leaders for consideration in national BRC implementation plans.

**See the entire recommendation, and DOE’S response, at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)!**

**Recommendation 302:**

“Contingency Budget Planning Input for Severe Budget Cases”

**Adopted:** October 30, 2012 by the Nuclear Materials & Strategic & Legacy Management Committees

**Status:** Open (as of May 2013)

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommends that DOE:

1. Assess the contingency budget input provided herein and commit to dealing with the cleanup consistent with emphasis on production extending from used nuclear fuel processing through production of high level waste canisters.

**See the entire recommendation, and DOE’S response, at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)!**

**Recommendation 303:**

“Disposition of Spent/Used Nuclear Fuel from L-Basin through H-Canyon Considering the Plutonium Processing Impacts Likely to be Encountered”

**Adopted:** October 30, 2012 by the Nuclear Materials Committee

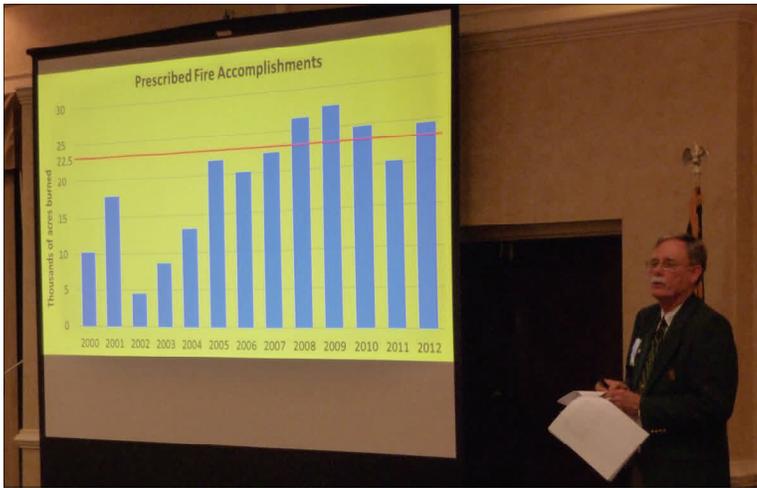
**Status:** Closed with exception on March 26, 2013

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommends that DOE:

1. Authorize and fund the processing of L-Basin SNF/UNF in H-Canyon as a matter of urgency considering the considerable length of the SNF/UNF campaign and the possible limited life of H-Canyon.
2. Reassess the SNF/UNF processing time and capacities for H-Canyon considering that plutonium will likely be processed in H-Canyon (as a result of a related plutonium disposition program) and may possibly extend the end point for H-Canyon operations.
3. Establish the length of the processing campaign of the SNF/UNF in H-Canyon considering the parallel processing needs of the plutonium being processed for the Mixed Oxide Program.
4. Develop a System Plan to document the revised H-Canyon schedule and the impact on the DWPF schedule.
5. Continue processing the L-Basin SNF/UNF through H-Canyon after the vulnerable fuels have been processed.

**See the entire recommendation, and DOE’S response, at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)!**

## Take a Look: SRS CAB Full Board Meetings



Keith Lawrence, USDA Forest Service, presents the Natural Resource Management Plan at the January Full Board Meeting in Augusta, GA. This topic can be found on the CAB's 2013 Work Plan, and will be presented again in January 2014.



Jeff Allison, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), gives a presentation titled, "Fissile Materials Disposition Program Overview" as part of an annual presentation the NNSA gives to the CAB, per the CAB's request.



Donald N. Bridges, CAB Chair, speaks to the media at a local CAB Full Board Meeting. As chair, Mr. Bridges serves as the official spokesperson for the CAB. The CAB serves as a conduit between the community and the Savannah River Site.



Doug Hintze, AM for Mission Support at SRS, updates the CAB on the DOE budget, at a recent Full Board meeting.

## Take a Look: SRS CAB Full Board Meetings



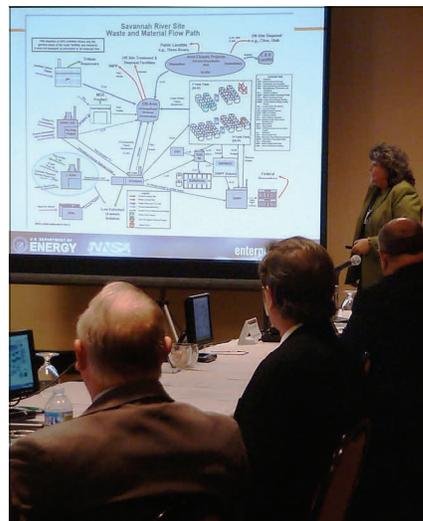
Sherri Ross, DOE-SR, gives a presentation on the H-Canyon Performance Assessment at the recent March Full Board meeting. This topic can be found on the CAB's 2013 Work Plan.



Clinton Nangle, Chair of the Strategic & Legacy Management Committee, gives his committee's report at a recent Full Board meeting, with co-Vice Chair James Streeter at his side.



Kathe Golden, CAB member, makes a comment at a Full Board meeting, while Artisha Bolding, CAB member, listens on.



CAB members listen to a presentation, being given by Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, using a CAB-created graph that has been used in many presentations. The graph is always prominently displayed at CAB meetings as a reference for CAB members and attendees.



Pat McGuire, DOE-SR, and Doug Hintze, DOE-SR, standing ready to answer questions and concerns at a CAB meeting.

**All CAB meetings are open to the public. We hope you can make it to a CAB meeting in the future! Find more information on meetings at [cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov).**

## Stay Informed With Live Meetings!

*With live meetings, we can reach a larger audience.*

Live meetings are a viable option for you when coming in person to a meeting is not possible. Just go to the CAB's website, click on "Meeting Recordings," find the appropriate meeting date and join us.

CAB members: Encourage your friends and neighbors to view you and your committee in action!

**[cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)**

Call us at 803-952-7884 (800-249-8155) for more information.



## Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board

Key criteria for Board membership includes a time commitment and the willingness to study the issues and work toward clear, implementable recommendations.

To apply for membership to the Citizens Advisory Board, please call 1-800-249-8155, or visit the CAB website and complete an application at:

**[cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)**

Please call, mail, fax, or email your comments and suggestions to:

**Gerri Flemming**  
**Lead Federal Coordinator**  
SRS Citizens Advisory Board  
P.O. Box A  
Building 730-B, Room 1184  
Aiken, SC 29802  
Phone: 1-800-249-8155  
Local: 803-952-7884  
Fax: 803-952-9228  
Email:  
[srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)



We would love for you to visit the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) website for updates, meeting schedules and summaries, presentations, recommendations, Board information, and more. Now, you can access the same great information, but with our shorter web address!

The new, shorter CAB website address is :

**[cab.srs.gov](http://cab.srs.gov)**



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