



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Nuclear Materials Committee

Meeting Summary

July 24, 2000
Sheraton Augusta Hotel
Augusta, GA

The SRS CAB Nuclear Materials Committee met on July 24 at 7 p.m. to review two final draft motions being presented to the full Board the following day. The following were in attendance:

CAB Members

Ken Goad
Brendolyn Jenkins
Jean Sulc
Bill Willoughby

DOE/Contractors

Gerri Flemming, DOE
Dawn Haygood, WSRC

Committee Members Tom Costikyan, Lane Parker and Charleen Townsend were absent.

Bill Willoughby led a review of Draft Recommendation, Working Draft #1, DOE Rev. 3 Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) 94-1/2000-1 (see attachment). This motion recommended that DOE take all necessary steps to assure that a Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) agreement to take SRS blended down uranium is completed by the end of August. Ken Goad asked if a cost benefit analyses had been conducted for TVA or Savannah River regarding this venture, noting this information would be helpful. Bill Willoughby said that if SRS continued to store the highly enriched uranium, it would not decrease its usability. In response to a question posed by Brendolyn Jenkins, Willoughby added that storing the material would also cause unnecessary safety risks.

Ken Goad commented that SRS should probably give the material to TVA at no cost to be rid of the material. Jean Sulc and Brendolyn Jenkins offered two minor modifications to the draft motion. CAB members agreed to delete "(an unusable natural concentration)" at the end of the third paragraph and insert "potential safety and economic risks" in place of "unnecessary risks" in the second paragraph of the Comment section. All CAB members agreed on the motion as amended.

Committee members next reviewed a draft motion regarding the DNFSB response to the DOE Implementation Plan Rev. 3. The motion requested that DOE give the strongest consideration of DNFSB's statements on Departmental funding and advise the CAB of its specific response to DNFSB's recommendation on interim plutonium packaging, including the cost and timing of steps that would be taken. Board members discussed plutonium packaging, the need for double containment and the need to meet DOE Standard 3013. The CAB members agreed that they supported the views of the DNFSB and that they should take a position that tries to ensure that safety considerations are not subject to economic considerations. All CAB members agreed to take the draft motion forward to the full Board for consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

To obtain copies of meeting handouts, please call 1-800-249-8155.