



**SRS Citizens Advisory Board**

**Strategic Initiatives Committee  
Meeting Summaries**

**North Augusta Community Center, N. Augusta, SC  
July 15, 2003**

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Strategic Initiatives (SI) Committee met on July 15, 5:00 p.m., at the North Augusta Community Center, N. Augusta, SC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the business management process, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 and 2004 budget status, and hear public comment. Those in attendance were:

**CAB Members**

Bill Vogeles\*  
Jean Sulc\*  
Wendell Lyon  
DeAnne Smoak  
Murray Riley  
Jerry Devitt

**Stakeholders**

Sam Booher  
William Hooker  
Rick McLeod  
Lee Poe  
Mike French  
Keith Collinsworth, DHEC  
Adrienne Wright, DHEC

**DOE/Contractors**

Jim Buice, DOE  
Steve Baker, DOE  
de'Lisa Bratcher, DOE  
Fran Williams, WSRC  
Teresa Haas, WSRC  
Clay Jones, WSRC  
Tricia Allen, WSRC  
Bill Payne, WSRC  
Ron Campbell, WSRC  
Jim Moore, WSRC

\*Members of the SI Committee

\*\* Mel Galin and Harold Rahn, members of the SI Committee, were unable to attend.

Bill Vogeles, Vice Chair, stated that Mel Galin, Chair, was unable to attend the meeting but is doing well and intends to be at the full CAB meeting next week. Mr. Vogeles stated that he appreciated the amount of time and work required by the Savannah River Site (SRS) in preparing and making presentations to the CAB.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES):**

Bill Payne, WSRC, made it clear that the site and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) are working very well together in trying to solve the problem and he was very complimentary of the effort that DHEC was making in trying to obtain a workable solution. He said his objective was to introduce the CAB to issues concerning the SRS NPDES permit and why it could result in large monetary expenditures over the next few years. He reported that the new permit is expected around November 2003 and it has very low discharge limits for copper, lead and zinc. This will result in low limits in ephemeral streams. The limits cannot be greater than the natural background concentrations of constituents in the

stream. Also, the Total Suspended Solids (TSS) value used in the limit calculation is now the long-term average rather than the TSS limit as used in the past.

The copper and lead limits will be in the range of parts per billion. Technology may not be available to reach these low limits. The potential cost to meet the limits could be in the millions.

Both DHEC and the site are working to identify innovative solutions that will help meet the new permit limits. Some of the options are to apply for variances to the permit limits, perform receiving stream Use Attainability Analysis, consider monitoring and reporting requirements in the permit instead of limits and/or come into compliance with the new limits. To come into compliance could mean making operational changes, relocate discharges, re-pipe outfalls to larger receiving streams, install wastewater treatment. Of the current 31 outfalls, it appears that only 13 may need possible solutions to meet the limits.

The site has three years to come into compliance unless DHEC allows five years. Five years is possible if the site has proper justification.

A draft CAB recommendation that had been developed by Rick McLeod was reviewed. It was decided that the recommendation would go on hold.

A member of the public stated his thoughts on the truthfulness of the speaker's statements. His comments appeared to be his own, and without any substantive basis.

#### **The Business Management Process:**

Clay Jones, WSRC, stated that the top-to-bottom review resulted in an effort for accelerated cleanup via the Performance Management Plan, impacting how the site does business. The new WSRC contract modification significantly impacts work planning. The business decision process will be driven by schedule optimization.

While there is no change to the National Nuclear Security Administration scope of work, there were significant changes to the Environmental Management (EM) scope of work. The new contract term runs through September 30 with an option to extend up to two months. There is a well-defined statement of work with target and maximum site conditions.

The safety and security performance will remain the same. The management challenge will be to achieve the accelerated performance commitments with limited, fixed funding with a multi-year performance baseline. Realized savings will be used to fund increased scope. The workforce will be aligned to projects in real time with a focus on "end-states."

The tools previously used to determine and allocate the budget are no longer required. These are tools such as the EM budget categories, the Integrated Priority List and the Peer Review Project List.

The CAB and public input will still be required in the process. Areas of opportunities for input are the Program Execution Approach including tactical options, pathway for material disposition,

"End State" definition and long term stewardship. Other areas are the project development in the design option analysis and the remedial action selection.

**FY 2003 and 2004 Budget Status:**

Jim Buice, DOE, reviewed the FY2003 and 2004 budget status. The current 2004 budget is now in Congress and the 2005 budget was just submitted to DOE-Headquarters (HQ). There is an increase in the budget from 2003 through 2005 with the emphasis on EM cleanup. The scope of work is set with the new contract and the funding is commensurate with that scope of work. The budget for FY2003, 04 and 05 is \$1,638 million, \$1,786 million, and \$1,911 million, respectively. The presentation continued with a breakdown of the funding into the various projects. There are currently ten or so projects instead of the previous 80 or so. Mr. Buice also reviewed the scope of work budgeted for six of the largest projects.

A listing of the performance measures was reviewed. This is referred to as the Gold Metrics. The Gold Metrics are reviewed by the site management and measure the performance of the new contract.

**Public Comment:**

Rick McLeod referred to the two public meetings held for input into the SRS historic preservation Programmatic Agreement. Mr. McLeod introduced a recommendation that requested that public involvement be included in the Programmatic Agreement being developed by DOE and the State Historic Preservation Office. The recommendation was laid aside until the next meeting.

Lee Poe said he had two issues that he thought the SI Committee should be involved in. He felt they were both strategic issues. One was the need to look into the end state conditions proposed in the Deactivation and Decommissioning (D&D) Plan for buildings. The proposed end states were either level the building or entomb the building. He felt this needed to be looked into at a strategic level. The other issue was the risk based end state document that is in process. Mr. Poe felt that the SI Committee should continue to review the drafts and to submit comments rather than wait until the document is complete. (Note: These issues will be forwarded to Mel Galin, Chair of the SI Committee for his consideration.)

With no other public comments, the meeting was adjourned.