

Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board
The Strategic & Legacy Management Committee Meeting
North Augusta Community Center, N. Augusta, SC
November 6, 2007

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Strategic and Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, 5.–7 p.m., at the North Augusta Community Center, in North Augusta, SC.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss:

1. SRS Annual Environmental Report;
2. SRS Public Health Assessment Report;
3. Performance Measures (Gold Chart Metrics) Update and Accomplishments;
4. Budget Status and CAB Participation in the Integrated Priority List Process for FY 2010; and
5. Opportunity for public comment on CAB related items.

Attendance was as follows:

CAB Members

Madeleine Marshall, Chair
Ranowul Jzar, Vice Chair
Wade Waters, Vice Chair
Robert Meisenheimer
Alex Williams
Manuel Bettencourt
Judy Greene-McLeod
Dalton Brennan

Stakeholders

Sam Booher
Murray Riley
Randy Clark
Bill Lawless
Liz Goodson
Jim Hussey
Nancy Bobbitt
Regulators
Beth Schlachter, SCDHEC
Carol Connell, ATSDR
Rob Pope, EPA
Hugh Hazen, EPA
J. Kyle Bryant, EPA

DOE/Contractors

Sheron Smith, DOE-SR
Pat McGuire, DOE-SR
Robert Edwards, DOE-SR
Helen Belencan, DOE-SR
Gail Whitney, DOE-SR
Pete Fledderman, WSRC
Jim Heffner, WSRC
H. J. Stafford, WSRC
Sarah Blanding, DOE-SR

Welcome, Introduction, and Committee Chair Update:

Ms. Madeleine Marshall, Chair, S&LM, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and welcomed all in attendance.

Ms. Marshall referred to the meeting ground rules and requested that everyone abide by them. Then, the attendees introduced themselves.

Ms. Marshall began the meeting by stating the 2007 Work Plan S&LM purpose and reviewing the topics considered by the committee this year. For those who are new and to refresh those of us who are not so new, the S&LM Committee are involved in strategic issues relevant to the future of SRS. This includes long-term policy, planning and other “cross-cutting” issues related to other CAB committees. The Committee’s work includes many programmatic topics. Specific areas of interest are the SRS budget decision-making process, future land use, legacy management/long term stewardship, historic preservation and relevant national environmental policy. Our committee encourages other CAB committees to integrate long-term stewardship. Topics considered by this Committee in 2007 include:

- Budget Development (*February / March / May /November*)
- Gold Metrics (*May /August / November*)
- End State Vision Document (*August*)
- Land Management Plan (*September*)
- Biomass Utilization (*June meeting and onsite tour*)

- Integrated Operable Units (*May*)
 - Historic Preservation (*August / September*)
- (Italicized text indicates when presentations and discussions occurred on the topic this year.)*

Discussions continued by reviewing the four open and pending S&LM Recommendations. Ms. Marshall requested that Mr. Wade Waters, Committee Vice Chair, review Recommendation #216 for closure at the upcoming full board meeting.

Meeting Summary:

The meeting presentations began with Pete Fledderman, Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC), providing an overview of the SRS Annual Environmental Report. He stated that the purpose of environmental monitoring is to characterize and quantify contaminants; demonstrate compliance with applicable standards; calculate radiation exposures to the public; and assess the effects, if any, on the local environment. The environmental program requirements include state and federal regulations, DOE Orders, and best practices management. The Savannah River Site's 2006 air and water releases, as well as all potential radiation doses from the site, were well below applicable regulatory standards. Tritium was the only nuclide regularly detected in air beyond the site boundary. Differences Between 2005 and 2006 Air Dose Observations were an increase (120%) observed in 2006 due to a greater number of contributing nuclides from remediation projects, such as, the General Separation Area Consolidated Unit Project which was completed in 2006. The Air Surveillance-Rain Ion Column Results indicated an increased in gross alpha activity at one on-site air sampling location near the burial ground due to extensive earth moving. There was no increase at most perimeter air sampling sites. Tritium was the only manmade nuclide regularly detected in water in the Savannah River. Tritium and Cs-137 were the manmade radionuclides regularly detected in Savannah River fish. In Mr. Fledderman's closing remarks, he stated that SRS has a comprehensive environmental monitoring program and that the site's airborne and liquid releases to the environment show a long-term decrease. For 2006, the radiation dose to the public living near SRS is well below DOE's 100-mrem/year standard downriver water consumer is well below EPA's 4-mrem/year standard.

Next, Ms. Carol Connell, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), provided a presentation on the mission of ATSDR; the ATSDR current activities at SRS; and the conclusions of their activities at SRS. ATSDR did not identify any site-related groundwater plumes that have impacted offsite private or public wells since the plumes have not migrated beyond the SRS boundary. The TCE plume in the northwest corner of the site has been detected within 2,000 feet of the boundary and could impact offsite groundwater resources in the future. However, remediation efforts are under way to both contain and treat this plume. Unless onsite processes change and begin releasing additional chemical or radioactive substances, offsite surface water exposures should remain the same or be lower as onsite remedial projects are completed. Currently, ATSDR is evaluating the biota pathway which includes some onsite potential exposures to the public as well as offsite exposures. In conclusion, Ms. Connell stated that future ATSDR activities at SRS are contingent upon funding. CAB members questions included if the ATSDR and DOE findings are combined and how far down the Savannah River is the testing completed.

Ms. Helen Belencan, DOE-SR, provided a presentation on the DOE Corporate Performance Measures and Accomplishments. She began by stating the performance measures are a result of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993. The performance measures are an indicator of how the Office of Environmental Management (EM) is accomplishing its cleanup mission. These performance measures are quantitative and focus on the accomplishment of risk-reducing actions that lead to completion of Site cleanup. EM has identified 16 performance measures that are used by all EM sites. Ms. Belencan reviewed the process for managing and reporting of the performance measures. In conclusion, she provided the 2007 Accomplishments by the Waste Disposition Project, the Nuclear Materials Project, and the Area Completion Project. Ms. Belencan stated the 2008 and 2009 Planned Accomplishments within the same areas. When providing the current life-cycle status of the performance measures, Rob Pope, EPA, expressed the EPA and SCDHEC concern of the delays in the closure of Tanks, which is a performance measures that has been delayed or not met based on the FFA Agreement.

The last presentation provided at the meeting was given by Ms. Sarah Blanding, DOE-SR Chief Financial

Officer, on the FY 2007-2012 Budget. The purpose of the briefing was to provide the planning process which includes the Integrated Priority List (IPL), the FY 2008 President's Budget and the continuing resolution impacts, and the Budget Flow process. Ms. Blanding stated that the *EM Five Year Plan* is the planning document that the SRS CAB should use when providing input to the FY 2010 IPL. Several attendees expressed significant concern of the lack of budget information being made available. For the SRS CAB to be able to provide useful review and advice, they need access to a detailed, validated baseline with a critical-path schedule at a level showing the status of major projects within each Project Baseline Summary. The SRS CAB S&LM committee plans to submit a draft motion expressing their concern for the lack of information.

Ms. Madeleine Marshall, Chair, S&LM, requested all of the presenters to provide presentations at the full Board meeting in November.

Public Comment(s):

- Bill Lawless asked if there is any new information on the status of the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. Judy Greene-McLeod provided an update.
- Sam Booher requested information on the amount of water being used out of the Savannah River by SRS and asked what the recycle amount back into the Savannah River is.
- Sam Booher requested the annual briefing on the Carolina Bays Restoration Project.

Adjourn:

Ms. Marshall adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.