

**Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
January 26 – 27, 2009
Hilton Head Island, SC**

Monday, January 26, 2009, Attendance

SRS CAB Members

Donna Antonucci
Manuel Bettencourt
Donald Bridges
Leon Chavous
Arthur Domby
Mary Drye
Judith Greene-McLeod
Lee Harley-Fitts
Stanley Howard
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman
Ranowul Jzar
Denise Long
Wendell Lyon
Joseph Ortaldo
Elizabeth Skyye Vereen
Sarah Watson

Agency Liaisons

Al Frazier, GADNR
Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Robert Pope, EPA
Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC

Regulators

Heather Cathcart, SCDHEC
Van Keisler, SCDHEC
David Williams, EPA
Anna Correlious, Techlaw/EPA

DOE

Helen Belencen, DOE
deLisa Bratcher, DOE
Cate Brennan, DOE
Gerri Flemming, DOE
Karen Guevara, DOE
Doug Hintze, DOE
Misty Reed, DOE
Lance Schlag, DOE
Sheron Smith, DOE
Terry Spears, DOE
Wade Whitaker, DOE

Stakeholders

Tom Clements
George Grady

Contractors

Chris Bergen, SRNS
Mary Flora, SRNS
Sonny Goldston, SRNS
Kevin Kostelnik, SRNS
Mike Lewczyk, SRNS
Larry Ling, SRNS
Paul Sauerborn, SRNS
Ken McLeod, UGA/SREL
Carl Bergmann, UGA/SREL
Ron Campbell, WSRC
Michael Lythcott, E2
Tiffany Reed, E2
Alan Eckmyre, V3
Mindy Mets, V3
Jenny Freeman, V3
Debbie Wisham, V3
Eddie Watson, V3

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Facilitator, Jenny Freeman opened the meeting by reviewing the agenda. She invited public participation and asked those wishing to make a Public Comment to sign up on a sheet located on the CAB documentation table at the meeting room entrance. She said there are designated times during the afternoon for public comment and during the Combined Committee meeting the public may participate at any time by stepping up to the microphone.

CAB Members not in attendance were Edward Burke, Mercredi Giles, Kathe Golden, Madeline Marshall, Beverly Skinner, John Roberson, and Alex Williams.

Ms. Freeman introduced Mr. Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR Assistant Manager for Nuclear Material Stabilization Project who led the discussion with the group and presented DOE's 2009 plans and activities for the CAB to consider for input into the development of their 2009 Work Plan and public involvement activities. He said the proposed plans include those identified by site program managers and those that the CAB expressed interest in having continuing involvement. He presented the plans by program area as follows:

Facility Disposition & Site Remediation

- Facility Disposition
 - _ Area Completion Project Technologies Update
 - _ Annual Area Completion Project Update
- Site Remediation
 - _ Annual Updates
 - Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Appendix E (FY09)
 - Integrator Operable Units Program
 - Remedial Actions – Four Mile Branch
 - A-, M-Areas Groundwater Remediation

- Operable Unit Project Updates
 - D-, M-, R-, P-Areas Operable Units
 - CMP Pits Remediation Status
 - D-, K-Area Powerhouse Biomass Replacement
 - Environmental and Regulatory Activities
 - U.S. Forest Service

Waste Management

- Solid Waste
 - Transuranic (TRU) Project
 - Treat and Dispose of all newly generated hazardous, mixed and low-level waste
- Liquid Waste
 - Liquid Waste Contract Transition
 - Radioactive Liquid Waste Disposition Planning
 - Defense Waste Processing Facility Operations
 - Interim Salt Waste Treatment and Disposition
 - Salt Waste Processing Facility Project
 - Tank 48 Treatment Project
 - Tank Cleaning and Closure
 - Support for Nuclear Material Disposition

Nuclear Materials

- K-Area Projects/Operations
- H-Area Projects/Operations
- L-Area Projects/Operations
- F-Area Projects/Operations
- Savannah River National Laboratory

Strategic & Legacy Management

- Planning Hierarchy
 - Strategic Planning
 - Program Management Plan
 - Ten-Year Site Plan
 - Budget Development/Integrated Priority List
 - Performance Measures
- Risk Management
- Other Topics
 - Liquid Waste Contract Transition
 - Ad Hoc Issues

Mr. McGuire gave detailed description of work planned under the summarized topics. He also described how DOE would handle emerging issues and topics. He asked that the CAB follow the topics selected for their 2009 work plan but also acknowledged that topics and issues may arise after the Work Plan has been approved. He requested that the CAB Chairperson reviews and approves any Committee Chairperson's requests for additions to the work plan and makes a detailed request during any full-Board meeting or via email to the CAB support team for work plan changes. He said the request will be evaluated and a response given in a timely manner and asked that the CAB not engage in activity regarding the requested topic until written approval has been received from DOE.

Mr. McGuire stated that the mission of SRS CAB members is to provide informed and timely recommendations to the Department of Energy concerning decisions that affect the Savannah River Site in areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities. He said the work completed by the board during 2008 was much appreciated and the board's recommendations are meaningful to the Site.

The CAB Members thanked the project managers at the Department of Energy for their hard work in the past year.

2008 Work In Review – Alan Eckmyre, CAB Technical Advisor

Mr. Eckmyre gave a detailed listing of the board's work during the past year. He began by saying the SRS CAB had a very busy year in 2008. He said the Strategic & Legacy Management Committee conducted 6 meetings; Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee conducted 4 meetings; Nuclear Materials Committee conducted 5 meetings; and the Waste Management Committee conducted 9 meetings. He noted the total being 24 committee meetings in 2008, in addition he said there were 3 onsite tours; 3 workshops; an educational retreat; and the 6 full board meetings with discussions based on the 2008 Work Plan topics.

Mr. Eckmyre continued by saying that by way of meetings along with presentations and discussions the SRS CAB adopted 6 meaningful recommendations in 2008. He said on November 19, 2008 Recommendation 259 was approved by the board entitled *General Accounting Office (GAO) Report Regarding Processing Additional Nuclear materials at the SRS H-Canyon*; on September 23, 2008 the board approved 2 recommendations which were #258 *TRU Waste Disposition Program Follow-up* and #257 *Facility Tour Recommendation*; on July 29, 2008 the board approved Recommendation 256 entitled *Infrastructure Investment in System Planning*; on May 20, 2008 recommendation 255 was approved entitled *Potential Waste Solidification Building (WSB) Cost Savings*; and on March 25, 2008 Recommendation 254 was approved entitled *FY 2010 Integrated Priority List and Budget Process Input*.

Mr. Eckmyre concluded by summarizing meeting topics and presentations by committee during 2008. He said that the CAB worked hard to ensure they provided advice in relation to clean-up standards and environmental restoration at the Savannah River Site.

Administrative Committee, Sarah Watson – Chair

Committee Chair Sarah Watson reported that the committee has submitted the applications of the candidates selected for membership at the November 2008 full board meeting to DOE Headquarters (DOE-HQ) for review and approval. She said that unfortunately DOE-HQ chose not to continue review of candidates in positions 6 and 7. She said that those candidates are on-site contractors and that currently there are several site contractors serving on the board. She informed the group that the candidates with the next highest votes in those positions (Ms. Marolyn Parson, Position 6; and Mr. Ric Castagna, Position 7) have been notified and their applications have been submitted to DOE for review.

Mr. Patrick McGuire interjected by stating DOE feels that the CAB should be represented by the community at large and no particular group should be overly represented on the board so the department made the decision based on the number of site contractors currently serving.

Ms. Watson stated that the committee is progressing on researching e-meeting for committee meeting and that Mr. Chris Woods will give an update to the group the following day. She informed the group that student participation is continuing to be researched by the committee members. She reminded the group that the annual committee chairpersons will be elected on the following day.

Ms. Watson said that with new members coming on the board there is a need for mentors to work directly with them. She requested a volunteer to serve as team leader for the mentors and assign them to the new member and follow-up on progress throughout their first year on the board.

2009 Work Plan Topic Development

Nuclear Materials Committee, Manuel Bettencourt - Chair

Judith Greene McLeod – Vice Chair (Pu Disposition)

Stanley Howard – Vice Chair (H-Canyon)

Committee Chair Manuel Bettencourt stated that Mr. McGuire's presentation covered most of the topics he was planning for the upcoming year. He stated that he had three additional topics that will be given to Alan Eckmyre for inclusion in the committees' plan.

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee, Mary Drye - Chair

K. Jayaraman – Vice Chair

Committee Chair Mary Drye and Vice Chair K. Jayaraman submitted their topics for the committees work plan. Ms. Drye stated that her committee submitted its plan with a date that they would like to work on each topic.

Mr. Art Dombay asked Mr. McGuire under what committee the “topic special” funding would fall considering the house and senate bills that are current under review for projects that are “funding ready”. Mr. McGuire stated that he would place that topic under the Strategic and Legacy Management committee. He stated that his outline listed that topic as adhoc issues.

Mr. Alan Eckmyre stated that the planning format of putting committee meeting dates by each Work Plan topic that is used by the Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation committee is a good format and he recommend all committees use the format.

Strategic and Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee, *Madeleine Marshall - Chair*
Beverly Skinner – Vice Chair

Judith Greene-McLeod stated that the committee had no other topics to add to Mr. McGuire’s list.

Waste Management Committee, *Joe Ortaldo – Chair*
Art Dombay – Vice Chair (Liquid Waste)
Alex Williams – Vice Chair (Solid Waste)

Committee Chair Joe Ortaldo stated that he submitted his topics to Mr. Eckmyre for incorporation. He stated he had additional bullets which were: 1) Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) infrastructure; 2) Pu Disposition; 3) Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) ARP/MCU performance potential impact on SWPF design; and 4) Complete DDA processing

Mr. Manuel Bettencourt stated that Mr. Eckmyre will take the topics that have been submitted and pull them together in a formal document that will be reviewed by the CAB committee chairperson and then submitted to DOE for final approval.

Mr. Rob Pope asked what committee the Environmental Justice program will fall and commented that the following day’s agenda shows the topic under the administrative committee. Mr. McGuire and Mr. Eckmyre state that the topic falls under the Strategic and Legacy Management currently and will continue under that committee in the future.

Committee Updates

Waste Management Committee

Mr. Ortaldo stated that the committee met on December 9th and heard a presentation from Pat Sykes on the ARP/MCU facility. He said Dr. David Moody, Carlsbad Field Manager for DOE gave an update on the Tru waste program and the transportation issues to WIPP with the tru pack 3 which is related to the committee’s open recommendation 258. He said that Sherry Ross, DOE-SR, gave an update on the sand mantis which is related to the committee’s recommendations 224 and 162. He stated that a joint meeting was held with Nuclear Materials committee on January 13th and fifteen CAB members were in attendance. He continued by saying that they heard presentation on Liquid Waste Disposition Risk Management given by Soni Blanco, DOE-SR, and Gavin Winship, WSRC. He continued by saying the updates were related to open Recommendations 245 and 231. He asked CAB members to forward any comments they have and the committee will evaluate closing the subject recommendations.

Nuclear Materials Committee

Mr. Bettencourt stated that the committee had a joint meeting with Waste Management on January 13th and the topics covered for his committee were Infrastructure Upgrades to H Canyon with a presentation given by Charles Nickell, SRNS and Waste Reduction Initiatives in H Canyon presentation by Charles Goergen, SRNS.

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee

Ms. Drye stated that the committee has one open recommendation 236 and will receive an update from DOE in April 2009. She stated that Mr. Bridges and Mr. Eckmyre are working on a recommendation.

Strategic and Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee

Ms. Marshall was absent but will brief the board on her committee the following day.

Presentation – The Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL) – Carl Bergmann, Director SREL

Mr. Bergmann gave an update to the group on the current status of the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. He summarized the history of the lab stating that in 1951 the Atomic Energy Commission had concerns about environmental impacts resulting from Savannah River Site construction and operations. He said that Dr. Eugene Odum began the lab and some of the historical research areas are: Aquatic and terrestrial ecology; Geology / Soil science; Environmental microbiology; Hydrology; Molecular biology; Environmental chemistry; Radiation ecology; Ecotoxicology and risk assessment; and Remediation.

Mr. Bergmann said the SREL Mission statement is very much what Dr. Odum emphasized which is “To enhance our understanding of the environment by acquiring and communicating knowledge that contributes to sound environmental stewardship”

Mr. Bergmann continued by giving the current status of the lab. He said that SREL currently requires \$3-3.5M per year to maintain minimum operations and the current FY09 revenue from all sources is ~\$2.4M (2.1 from site, 0.3 external sources). He said site-based funding sources include the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA), Savannah River Nuclear Laboratory (SRNL), and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) he also listed many possible external sources of future funding.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Public Comments

Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, Columbia, SC noted that there were no CAB members from Columbia but there are 5 members from Savannah, GA. He also thanked the staff for sending out public notice cards with the directions to the meetings. He also appreciates the role of the CAB and wanted to point out that the climate of the government is changing stating that President Obama promotes transparency in government. He said that his main concerns for attending the meeting are related to HLW management, Salt Waste Processing facility, operation of H-Canyon and the Plutonium disposition program and he wants to encourage the committees to continue to push DOE about answers related to plutonium disposition and operation of the H-Canyon. He stated that there is material coming to SRS for which there is no disposition path identified. He asked the board to ask DOE to define what the final paths are for the materials coming to the site.

George Grady, stakeholder, commented on interns and that there is a tremendous need for jobs and they would be a great asset for the site.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 27, 2009, Attendance

SRS CAB Members

Donna Antonucci
Manuel Bettencourt
Donald Bridges
Leon Chavous
Arthur Domby
Mary Drye
Judith Greene-McLeod
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Sheron Smith, DOE
Terry Spears, DOE
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Contractors

Chris Bergen, SRNS
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Kevin Kostelnik, SRNS
Mike Lewczyk, SRNS
Larry Ling, SRNS
Paul Sauerborn, SRNS
Ken McLeod, UGA/SREL
Carl Bergmann, UGA/SREL
Ron Campbell, WSRC
Michael Lythcott, E2
Tiffany Reed, E2
Alan Eckmyre, V3
Mindy Mets, V3
Jenny Freeman, V3
Debbie Wisham, V3
Eddie Watson, V3

Agency Liaisons

Al Frazier, GADNR
Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Robert Pope, EPA
Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC

Stakeholders

Tom Clements
Marolyn Parson

SRS CAB members Edward Burke, Mercredi Giles, Kathe Golden, Beverly Skinner, John Roberson, and Alex Williams were unable to attend. Leon Chavous led the Pledge of Allegiance for the group. Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR, served as the Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO); Jenny Freeman served as Meeting Facilitator; and Alan Eckmyre was present as the CAB's Technical Advisor. The meeting was open to the public and posted in the *Federal Register* in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Mr. McGuire, DOE-SR, shared Site safety tips with the group. A copy of the safety topic was also available to the public as a handout.

Donna Antonucci, CAB Chairperson spoke of the board's accomplishments during her 6-year tenure. She reflected on the transitions at the site and the board such as the legacy TRU waste almost gone, Saltwaste disposition path, and the Salt Waste Processing Facility funding. She mentioned the other members that joined the CAB the same year Mary Drye, Leon Chavous, and Wendell Lyon and asked them to stand with her.

Mr. Jeff Allison, DOE-SR, presented certificates and letters of appreciation to outgoing committee members Mary Drye, Leon Chavous, Wendell Lyon, John Roberson (absent from meeting), and Alan Eckmyre moved from board member to fill the Technical Advisory position earlier this year. Mr. Allison also recognized Donna Antonucci as the outgoing Chairperson and presented her with a special plaque for her contributions to the board. In addition he extended his sincere appreciation to all members for their dedication. He displayed the plaque that hangs in the SRS DOE offices that list all SRS CAB Chairpersons including Donna Antonucci and now the new Chairperson Manuel Bettencourt.

Agency Updates

Department of Energy

Mr. Allison introduced Ms. Cate Brennen who is the Deputy Federal Official (DFO) to the CAB. Ms. Brennen expressed her pleasure with attending the meeting and she expects to take back ideas to share with other CABs.

Mr. Allison continued and reported that the Liquid Waste Waste contract had been award to Savannah River Remediation but the award is being protested by Savannah River Tank Closure, LLC. He said information is being turned over to the Government Accountability office as they requested and decision should be completed around

April 2009. He updated the group on the voluntary reduction of force that recently took place at SRS and he is pleased that they were able to meet the desired level of downsizing with voluntary separations.

Mr. Allison stated that he has two new bosses who he is looking forward to working with, Dr. Steven Chu the new Secretary of Energy, who was the former laboratory director at University of California Berkeley and President Obama.

Mr. Allison closed by saying that the CAB is hosting the Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairperson meeting in April and he plans to attend.

Mr. Patrick McGuire greeted the CAB and continued with the DOE-SR Agency Update portion of the meeting. He reported that the DWPF has produced over 60 canisters during this fiscal year working toward the goal of 186 canisters. He stated that so far more than 2600 glass canisters have been poured during DWPF's lifetime and are safely stored awaiting shipment to a federal repository. He said that Tank Closure efforts are focused on F Tank Farm Tanks 5, 6, 18 & 19, and chemical cleaning operations in Tanks 5 and 6. He said that the Solid Waste program is working to remove the final 2000 drums of legacy Transuranic (TRU) waste drums during 2009, and are working very closely with DOE's Carlsbad Field Office to do that.

Mr. McGuire said that the Saltstone Actinide Removal Process / Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (ARP/MCU) has completed successful outages for maintenance and upgrades and has resumed processing of salt wastes from the High Level Waste Tanks, thus far in FY2009, Saltstone has solidified and permanently disposed of over 150,000 gallons of salt waste. This processing is reducing environmental risk and emptying tanks for cleaning and closure. Our plans are for these key interim processing facilities to continue to treat and dispose of liquid salt waste contained in SRS waste tanks until the startup of the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF). Information on operation of the ARP/MCU is being provided to the SWPF Project as lessons learned to enhance the operations of that key facility in the future.

He continued with the Nuclear Materials program and the Plutonium Preparation Project stating that in June 2008, the Under Secretary approved the revised preferred alternative to provide equipment and upgrades to the K-Area Complex to prepare approximately 12.8 MT of plutonium materials for disposition to send 7.8 metric tons through Mixed Oxide Fuel Facility (MOXF) and 5 metric tons through the H-Canyon Complex and DWPF. He said that Acting Assistant Secretary for Environment Management formed a joint EM-NNSA Integrated Project Team to evaluate and study options and alternatives to optimize the Plutonium Disposition Program and is expected to be completed in 4 to 6 months.

Mr. McGuire said in regard to Plutonium receipts, SRS continues to receive surplus, non-pit plutonium from various DOE sites and safely store the material in the Site's K-Area Complex. He said the plutonium receipt program is approximately 75% complete. He stated that SRS continue to receive excess Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) from various DOE sites across the country. He said the campaign serves to eliminate the need for costly safeguard and security upgrades and new storage facilities at other sites and that thus far, SRS has received 65% of the 7.5 metric tons of highly enriched uranium. He informed the group that the uranium receipt program is on schedule to complete receipts prior to September 2010.

Mr. McGuire said that approximately 9,400 drums of Depleted Uranium Oxide were shipped off site for disposal as low level waste (LLW). He said that approximately 4,000 drums were removed from the R Reactor allowing completion of reactor characterization and approximately 5,400 drums were removed from F-Area allowing the storage building to be turned over to the MOX Project for their use and that approximately 16,000 drums remain in safe storage on site.

Mr. McGuire stated that the U.S. Army representatives from Fort Gordon, Georgia and Fort Bragg, North Carolina visited SRS on 7 January to tour the R-Reactor. He said that Fort Gordon had requested the visit to introduce the facility to the Fort Bragg representatives to show the potential it has for serving military training needs and that the visit was not tied to any particular proposed exercise rather it was part of the global request for Army use of SRS land for training purposes to provide the U.S. Army with greater flexibility in developing training missions and strategies in response to rapidly changing world conditions. He said the Army considered the visit very successful and helpful to them in their ongoing effort to work with DOE-SR in defining potential training areas as the basis for an environmental assessment (EA), as well as developing proposed operating procedures that would define the detailed parameters for conducting training onsite. Mr. McGuire said that an Interagency Agreement (IAG) between the Department of Energy and the U.S. Army IAG is scheduled to be completed soon and based on the IAG schedule, the draft EA is scheduled to be available in the third quarter of 2009.

Questions from CAB Members after Mr. McGuire's report:

Art Dombay asked if DOE anticipates receiving any incremental funding from the economic stimulus package that the new administration is implementing? Mr. McGuire replied that the department is looking at projects that can be completed and are ready to complete to reduce the footprint of the site. He said that when and if the funding is available the department would have an action plan.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Mr. Rob Pope, EPA, stated that his Manager, David Williams, is attending the meeting and is available for comments. He stated that earlier in the year there was a dispute resolution issued for HLW Tanks and now with the issues with the tank crawler that dispute resolution due date has been extended until June. He updated the group on Appendix E status of the Federal Facilities Agreement. He informed the group about the presentation on the Superfund Job Training initiative he and deLisa Bratcher will give later in the day and also introduced the contractors that will assist in the process.

Mr. Pope stated that last week EPA signed the M Area ROD, P Area early action ROD, and the third five-year review.

Joe Ortaldo asked for clarification of the dispute resolution and if EPA and DOE feel that the Tanks will be empty and ready to close by June 2009? Mr. Pope said that what DOE agrees with the dispute resolution is that 75 percent of the remaining waste will be removed. Ms. Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC, stated that the regulatory decision will be given to the State and the public will have input in the process.

Mr. Terry Spears, DOE-SR, added that he agrees with the regulators but want to add that DOE is committed to the closure of the Tanks and fully intend to meet the 2012 date but are hoping to accelerate the closure to 2010. He said that with the delays in the mechanical cleaning technology the 2010 date may move back.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC)

Ms. Shelley Wilson, SCDHEC, stated that state budget and the SCDHEC budget as well is experiencing shortage and some services may be cut. She said that SCDHEC has had staff reductions and other employees are experiencing a five-day furlough due to the budget shortfall. She said the potential for stimulus funding for cleanup and footprint reduction is a great match for SRS.

She said that SCDHEC met with DOE recently to talk about what ideas and steps should be in the general closure plan.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Environmental Protection Division (GA DNR/EPD)

Mr. Al Frazier, GADNR, stated he was glad to see travel restrictions lifted enabling him to attend the SRS CAB meeting once again. He said his organization is processing Tier Two reports and typically prepares and processes 4500 reports. He stated that GADNR is currently evaluating using the E Plan process that is an Internet based database used by EPA. He informed the group that Georgia had a coal ash release at a facility in Bartow county. He said the release was not as large as the recent Tennessee event but nearby streams and residences were affected. He said the area was monitored by GADNR and EPA and enforcement actions were initiated because the facility failed to implement their industrial storm water permit.

Mr. Frazier stated that the GADNR was asked to submit a reduced budget plan and it resulted in a loss of four employees in his department.

Madeleine Marshall asked Mr. Frazier to give an update on the current GA water status. Mr. Frazier stated that he didn't have the current statistics with him but they are available on the GADNR website. He said that in his local area Lake Thurmond is very much below normal level.

Public Comments

No public comments

~End of Public Comments ~

Chair Update

Ms. Donna Antonucci, CAB Chair, stated that the DOE Headquarters is requesting comments on the revised EM Website and asked members to look at the site and give feedback online.

She reviewed a draft SSAB Chairs letter with members and asked for the groups concurrence and approval to sign the letter at the upcoming March SSAB meeting. Unanimous approval was given for the Chairperson to sign the letter representing the SRS CAB.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from the January 2008 Full Board meeting was approved by the CAB with no substantial changes.

Facilitator Update

Jenny Freeman, CAB Facilitator, discussed the status of SRS CAB recommendations as follows: 1 recommendation pending, 22 recommendations open, 233 recommendations closed and no recommendations are awaiting Agency response. The full recommendation report may be viewed at the CAB website.

Mr. Bettencourt asked that the pending recommendation under Nuclear Materials be moved from pending to open. Donald Bridges suggested that a date be added to the report in the future.

Nuclear Materials, Manuel Bettencourt – Chair

Stan Howard – Vice Chair

Judith Greene McLeod – Vice Chair

Mr. Manuel Bettencourt, Nuclear Materials (NM) Chair, stated recent activities of the NM Committee. He said the committee met on January 13th, which was partially in response to the GAO report, and the recommendation that was approved at the last board meeting. He said the committee heard presentations on the Infrastructure Upgrades to H Canyon and Waste Reduction Initiatives in H Canyon. Mr. Bettencourt announced that it was his last meeting as chairperson of the Nuclear Materials committee and that if elected Donald Bridges would be the new chair of the committee.

Waste Management Committee, Joe Ortaldo – Chair

Art Domby – Vice Chair (Liquid Waste)

Alex Williams – Vice Chair (Solid Waste)

Joe Ortaldo stated that the committee met on December 9th and heard a presentation by Pat Sykes on the ARP/MCU facility. He said that Dr. David Moody, Carlsbad Field Manager for DOE gave an update on the Tru waste program and the transportation issues to WIPP with the tru pack 3 which is related to the committee open recommendation 258. He said that Sherry Ross, DOE gave an update on the sand mantis which is related to the committees recommendations 224 and 162. He said that a joint meeting was held with the Nuclear Materials committee on January 13th and fifteen CAB members were in attendance. He spoke about the presentations heard on the Liquid Waste Disposition Risk Management given by Soni Blanco, DOE-SR, and Gavin Winship, WSRC. Mr. Ortaldo said the presentations were related to the committees open Recommendations 245 and 231. He said the recommendations will most likely be closed after input from all committee members is received.

Presentation – Salt Waste Processing Facility Project (SWPF) – Zack Smith, Federal Project Director, DOE-SR

Mr. Smith summarized for the group the overall project status of the SWPF including detailed visual images of the project. He related the reviews and oversight the Project receives.

He continued his presentation noting Actinide Removal Process/Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit's (ARP/MCU) many accomplishments. He completed his presentation by summarizing the current status of the Project.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Presentation – Powerhouse Replacement Projects at the Savannah River Site – Karen Guevara, Assistant Manager for Closure Project, DOE-SR

Ms. Guevara introduced herself to the members telling her experience with the program. She started with the overview of the Powerhouse replacement project. She said that SRS plans to use an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) for the Proposed D- Area Replacement Plant that include: two 120,000 pph biomass fluidized bed boilers system; a full capacity backup fuel oil burners and provisions for emergency backup boilers; the pollution abatement control systems; one 20 MW steam condensing turbine. She relayed that the proposed K- Area Replacement Plant includes: two biomass boilers 10,500 pph capacity each using biomass fuel from main plant; a full capacity backup fuel oil burners; the multi-cyclones for particulate matter reduction; and the automated plant operations.

Ms. Guevara informed the group that the ESPC Contractor would operate all plants for contract performance period. She said that ESPCs allow agencies to implement energy-savings projects without delay or uncertainty of Congressional appropriations. She stated that through ESPCs, Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) provide upfront funding and are repaid through energy savings in future years. She said they conduct a comprehensive energy audit to identify improvement project that will save energy.

Ms. Guevara summarized by saying that Biomass fuel provides a source of renewable energy and there are a certain amount of uncertainties. She said SRS has included numerous hedges and incentives in the ESPC Contract to mitigate risks.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Madeline Marshall asked about electrical generation and if there is excess electrical power made will the contractor be allowed to sell it back to South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G). Mr. Pat Burke answered the question by saying DOE could purchase it or the contractor could sell it to the facilities

Alan Eckmyre asked what the anticipated life of a biomass plant? Mr. Burke stated 30 years.

Wendell Lyon asked what would happen to the biomass ash created. Mr. Burke stated the ash would be deposited in the landfill.

Joe Ortaldo asked what would happen in the worst case scenerio if the ESCO fails and leaves, who owns the plant? Mr. Burke stated that the investment would be refinanced.

Public Comments

Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, stated he appreciates the CAB's role and his ability to make comments. He said his background is in Forestry and read in the Environmental Bulletin that DOE wanted to put more coal ash in the disposal facility on-site but a solid waste permit has not been approved by SCDHEC. He encouraged the CAB to follow and ask the question about increasing the amount of tritium rods produced in nuclear reactors which will have an impact on storage. He said the CAB should follow and ask DOE if there is any consideration being given to raise the amount of curies that will go into Saltstone.

~ End of Public Comments ~

Strategic & Legacy Management Committee, Madeleine Marshall - Chair

Ms. Madeleine Marshall, Chair for the Strategic and Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee stated that the committee has been given a chance to participate in the DOE Strategic Planning process. She said that on February 24th the committee will have a meeting and will hear a presentation on the integrated priority list.

Presentation – Savannah River Site Superfund Job Training Initiative (SJTI) – Rob Pope, EPA – Region 4 and de'Lisa Bratcher – DOE SR

Mr. Pope stated the objectives of the superfund job training initiative are to provide training and employment opportunities for underserved citizens living near SRS. He said the program provides participants with general employment and the specific job skills that meet all SRS employment requirements and then places the graduates in

on-site entry-level positions. He said the funding is through EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities Program (TASC) which is a new EPA program that provides unbiased educational and technical assistance to communities affected by hazardous waste sites all around the country and that the SRS SJTI is the first SJTI under TASC to start this program.

Mr. Pope stated that collaboration among EPA, DOE, SRS, local training providers, local community leaders and community based organizations has led to a flexible, innovative program tailored specifically for SRS, contractors/subs and community residents.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Presentation – SCDHEC Environmental Surveillance Oversight Program 2007 Data Summary – Kim Newell
SCDHEC, EQC Region 5, Aiken

Ms. Newell started her presentation with an informational video. She continued with the program goals which are to monitor pathways for human exposure; conduct sampling and analyses of primary contaminants compare results with SRS; summarize findings and make recommendations to SRS; and to provide reports to Public on findings. She continued by giving the summary of the SCDHEC 2007 data and trends.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Presentation – DOE Site Strategic Plan – Doug Hintze, DOE-SR

Mr. Hintze stated that the Environmental Management (EM) project vision is to accelerate risk reduction for the public and the environment and to pursue alternative approaches to finish tank waste, nuclear materials, and spent nuclear fuel during 2015-2035 timeframe. He said the goal is go help make nuclear power a viable option to meet our pressing energy needs and provide excellent return on investment.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee, Mary Drye - Chair
K. Jayaraman – Vice Chair

Presentation – F Canyon Outside Facilities 211-F Decommissioning Project – Ray Hannah, D&D Project Manager
Area Completion, DOE-SR

Mr. Hannah provided an update regarding the F-Canyon Outside Facilities 211-F Decommissioning Project. He said last update provided to the Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Committee was on November 6, 2008.

He said the 211-F Outside Facilities are located adjacent to the F Canyon and the facilities provide handling, processing and storage of raw materials and waste for F Canyon through a series of tanks, evaporators, pumps and piping. He said the project is divided into three sections: 1) Waste Handling Vault; 2) Outside Section; and 3) 805 and 820 Tanks. Mr. Hannah stated that the path forward for project completion is develop the removal action report and submit to regulators for review and concurrence.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Presentation – A/M Area Groundwater Cleanup Status Update – Chris Bergren, D&D Project Manager
Area Completion, DOE-SR

Mr. Bergren provided an update regarding the A/M-Area Groundwater remediation. He said the remediation history is 3.5 million pounds of solvents released to multiple sources that seeped into soils and groundwater (1950s to 1980s); large contaminated groundwater plume approximately 1500 acres; contained to SRS; no offsite contamination; cleanup is conducted under South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit (RCRA) - issued in 1987. He said multiple treatment technologies are in use such as airstripping, soil vapor extraction, recirculation wells, dynamic underground stripping, baroballs, and microblowers.

Mr. Bergren stated the path forward is to continue to explore application of new technologies and aggressively pursue remedial optimization. He stated that continued monitoring is necessary to ensure protectiveness of human health and environment is maintained.

The entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Administrative Committee, Sarah Watson - Chair

Committee Chair Sarah Watson reported that the committee has submitted the applications of the candidates selected for membership at the November 2008 full board meeting to DOE Headquarters (DOE-HQ) for review and approval. She said that unfortunately DOE-HQ chose not to continue review of candidates in position 6 and 7. She said that those candidates are on-site contractors and that currently there are several site contractors serving on the board. She informed the group that the candidates with the next highest votes in those positions (Ms. Marolyn Parson, Position 6; and Mr. Ric Castagna, Position 7) have been notified and their applications have been submitted to DOE for review. She continued by saying that the CAB Chairperson initiated a Team Leader position on the board to mentor new members and Mr. Stanley Howard has agreed to fill that position.

Ms. Watson introduced Chris Woods who gave a demonstration of WebEx program that is planned for future use with internet meeting (e-meeting) for committee meetings and spoke about the future of the CAB website.

Committee Chair Elections

Administrative Committee
Sarah Watson

Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Committee
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman

Nuclear Materials Committee
Don Bridges

Strategic and Legacy Management Committee
Madeleine Marshall & Judy Green-McLeod (co-chairs)

Waste Management Committee
Joe Ortaldo

Public Comments

No public comments.

~ End of Public Comments ~

Meeting adjourned 4:20 p.m.

Handouts

Handouts listed herein are available by contacting the SRS Citizens Advisory Board at 1-800-249-8155.

Agenda
Status of the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory
Salt Waste Processing Facility Update
How Energy Savings Performance Contracts Work as Related to the SRS Powerhouse Projects
Annual Environmental Monitoring Report from SCDHEC
SRS Strategic Plan Status

Update on 211F Decommissioning
A/M Area Groundwater Cleanup Status Update
Environmental Justice Superfund Training Opportunities