

## Monday, September 28, 2009 Attendance

### SRS CAB Members

Emile Bernard  
Manuel Bettencourt  
Don Bridges  
Ric Castagna  
Art Domby  
Mercredi Giles  
Kathe Golden  
Judith Greene-McLeod  
Rose Hayes  
Stanley Howard  
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman  
Ranowul Jzar  
Cleveland Latimore  
Denise Long  
Madeleine Marshall  
Joseph Ortaldo  
Marolyn Parson  
John Snedeker  
E. Skyye Vereen  
Gerald Wadley  
Sarah Watson  
Alex Williams

### Agency Liaisons

Karen Guevara DOE-SR

### DOE/Other

Dr. Vince Adams-DOE-HQ  
Dr. Ines Triay-DOE-HQ  
Gerri Flemming-DOE  
Sheron Smith -DOE  
Brian Hennessey -DOE  
Carl Lanigan -DOE  
Allen Gunter -DOE-HQ  
de'Lisa Bratcher-DOE-SR  
Jim Folk-DOE-SR  
Doug, Hintze-DOE-SR  
Patrick McGuire-DOE-SR  
Wade Whitaker-DOE-SR  
David Hoel-DOE

### Stakeholders

Anna Cornelius-Techlaw  
Tiffany Reed-E2 Inc  
Tiajuna Cochanauer-USFS-SR  
Roy J. Schepens-Parsons  
Michael Lythcott-E2 Inc  
Mitch Morgan-V3  
Tom Clements-FOE  
Sy Murray  
Kristi Redmond

### Regulators

Robert Pope, EPA  
Van Keisler, SCDHEC  
Kim Newell, SCDHEC  
Heather Cathcart-SCDHEC  
Carolyn Haugabook-EPA  
Tom Rolka-SCDHEC  
Katrina Ward-SCDHEC  
Kyle Bryant-EPA

### Contractors

Karthik Subramanian-SRR  
Ginger Dicker-SRR  
Sonny Goldston-SRNS  
Larry Ling-SRNS  
Paul Sauerborn-SRNS  
J'nette Hyatt-SRNS  
Jenny Freeman-V3  
Scott Doss-AAVS  
Clay Miller-AAVS  
Mindy Mets-V3  
Erica Williams-V3  
Aaron Stevens-V3  
Jennifer Stevenson-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 sign up on a sheet located on the CAB documentation table at the meeting room entrance. She informed the audience that there were designated times during the afternoon for public comments and stated that during this Combined Committee meeting, the public may participate at any time. She announced that a survey would be passed around to the Board members to fill out.

CAB members not in attendance were Edward Burke, Lee Harley-Fitts, and Beverly Skinner.

Manuel Bettencourt passed out a letter to the Board members, and asked them to review it in order to vote on signing the letter at the Full Board Meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the letter is being reviewed by other Site Specific Advisory Boards, and that a vote of "No" would not prevent the letter from being sent to DOE.

### **Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee** – Kuppuswamy Jayaraman – Chair Mercredi Giles – Vice Chair

Mr. Bernard stated that a committee meeting was held on August 18<sup>th</sup> and topics included three presentations by Ray Hannah and Brian Hennessey.

Presentation – Integrated Operator Unit (IOU) Program Overview – Brian Hennessey – DOE-SR

Mr. Hennessey presented an update on the IOU Program. He defined each river, creek, and stream on site as an IOU with maps and locations. Together, they form the program. The IOU program involves a number of groups on site, including the Area Completion project. He defined the purpose of the program as to monitor the bodies of water on site, their immediate surrounding areas, and downstream areas for contaminants. The program is currently in Phase Two, collecting and analyzing data from each of the IOUs, and if necessary, requests a clean-up action by DOE. The program involves many outside organizations, research facilities, and environmental groups in its actions.

Mr. Hennessey's presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Questions from the Board

*How many people are involved in Phase 1 and Phase 2?*

There are ten people in the Management and Operations (M&O) contractor, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), which are a part of the IOU. There is myself and Wade (in the DOE), and there are lots of people outside the site who provide data that we use.

*So you are more of a coordinator, and that your job is to coordinate the efforts, the people on the site, and our contractors?*

Yes.

*So the final decisions for doing something in Phase 1 or Phase 2 are based here or with the contractors?*

The decisions are done by the Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The SRNS project team enables us to make decisions by informing us, gathering information, and compiling it for us.

*Can you give us a sense of what kind of variables they are looking at or how they are prioritized?*

We analyze the flood plane sediment for lots of different metals and radionuclides. We also sample some of the plants and animals to determine how much they are undertaking in this environment. The things we prioritize are the things that are present in the highest quantity.

*Would you prioritize that which is the most hazardous to the public health? What is the philosophy of the design plan?*

To know what the risk is for the people who could be exposed to the stream and to the organisms that live in it. When I mean exposed to the stream, if they were along the stream which is obviously onsite, so that's kind of a hypothetical future exposure, but also how could the chemicals in the quantities in which they exist impact down river receptors? Those are primary radionuclides. It's Tritium in the water and a couple radionuclides that are present in very trace quantities.

*Brian, do you have criteria that say you have to do something if compact x is higher than this number or are you still trying to do that?*

Yes, we have a threshold of radionuclides or chemicals being present at a level that would equate to a risk that would cause us to take a look at whether early action would be appropriate. We have a bench mark that would trigger an evaluation of an early action.

*Who are the Natural Resource Trustees?*

These are State and Federal organizations given a responsibility under the National Contingency Plan, which is the regulation that implements the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). The natural resources are entrusted to different organizations. There is a National Fish and Wildlife Service that is the trustee for certain natural resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is the trustee for species that live in the ocean but come up from the river. Each of the natural resources has a trustee and each of those trustees knows what their trust responsibilities are. So we are accountable to them as well.

*What is your sampling schedule for these IOU's? How is that set up?*

Our sampling is driven by the seasons and when our next periodical report is due. There is another organization on site that does periodic monitoring that is reported out on the annual site environmental report. The site environmental safety and health group does regular periodic

monitoring for compliance, among other things, with DOE orders so the sampling that we do is more of a response to our schedule for delivering reports.

*Will that report of decision be finalized whether you are going to do anything to par pond?*

Par pond is included in the IOU, so I assume, yes it will.

*For streams in South Carolina, there are water quality criteria that would have to be met, and like in Georgia, you have not mentioned any criteria that these streams are not subject to water quality criteria.*

They are subject to the ambient water quality criteria.

*So with that information that is available you should be able to tell us which of these streams are not meeting water quality criteria. You should be able to tell us right?*

The periodical reports will have that information out about any of the water quality criteria and also any incidences of our risk benchmark that would cause us to evaluate early action.

*Could you give us a list of streams that would be impaired and are not meeting water criteria?*

It would be on South Carolina's Preview. The Savannah River is probably under both states.

*Are the approved periodical reports available online?*

It's part of the administrative record and I think that it is available online. And that's all of our deliverables, so let me check that for you.

*Do the industrial areas affect the streams, because the upper three runs is such a unique stream with such high biodiversity? Is it given any special treatment, is it sampled more?*

Over time it has been sampled more than any other stream anywhere. To answer your question, I believe 'F' area is on a ground water divide between upper three runs and four mile branch, and I think that contaminant plumes would move partly in each direction. Four mile branch gets the lion's share, though, of any contamination emanating from the general separation area, which all of those make up. I think that our plume map does acknowledge that there is a potential for contamination to also go north in ground water in the upper three runs.

*Is the IOU concept unique to Savannah River? Do other sites do it like that?*

It is not unique to Savannah River. It's something that has been used at Oak Ridge where they have a watershed.

***~End of Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee~***

### **Strategic & Legacy Management Committee**

*Madeleine Marshall – Co-Chair*

*Judith Greene-McLeod – Co-Chair*

Ms. Marshall stated that the committee meeting was on August 25th. She reported that they took a tour of the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL). Ms. Marshall stated that they had presentations by Chuck Borup and Dennis Ryan. She stated that Doug Hintze and Lance Schlag gave a report on budget processes involving the CAB. Ms. Marshall reviewed the recent actions of the committee. She reported that they have three open recommendations. She announced that the next committee meeting will be on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Draft Recommendation– Speed-up Budget “Burn Rate”**

Madeleine Marshall reviewed the specifics of the draft Recommendation for the members and invited comments. The group discussed the recommendation and decided on minor changes. The document will be presented to the full board on the following day.

***~End of Strategic & Legacy Management Committee~***

Jenny Freeman, CAB Facilitator, passed out surveys for the Board members to fill out and return before adjourning. She announced that the Board members could retrieve the information books on member selection candidates to be voted on at the Full Board Meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Nuclear Materials Committee** – Donald Bridges, Chair  
Stan Howard – Vice Chair  
Ed Burke – Vice Chair

Mr. Bridges announced that there are three open recommendations; 250, 259, and 263. There are no changes in the recommendations. Recommendation 263 is a joint recommendation. The committee met on September 15 and was briefed by Carl Lanigan, Dawn Gillas, and given an update by Allen Gunter. Mr. Bridges commented on SRS nearing completion of the Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) processing program. He also commented on the dropped materials incident mentioned in the news.

**Presentation - The Nuclear Materials Processing Plans for FY2010** – Carl Lanigan, DOE-SR

**Presentation – Status of Nuclear Materials Studies** – Pat McGuire, DOE-SR

**~End of Nuclear Materials Committee~**

**Waste Management Committee** – Joe Ortaldo  
Art Dombay – Vice Chair  
Alex Williams – Vice Chair

Mr. Ortaldo announced that they had two joint recommendations move from pending to open, 263 and 264. They have eight additional open recommendations.

Zack Smith, DOE-SR, gave a status report on the salt waste processing facility; the facility is on schedule and it is a billion dollars in capital investment. It is scheduled for ‘hot’ start up in July 2013.

Terry Spears, DOE-SR, explained the transfer of the 200 million dollars of ARRA money to the liquid waste portion of the plant.

**~End of Waste Management Committee~**

### **Public Comments**

Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, commented on a lawsuit that was brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council concerning waste coming out of the tanks, cleaning of the tanks, and how many curies would go into Saltstone. As part of that settlement, there was an opportunity to review certain records the DOE had pertaining to tank waste. The result was a tour by Tom Cochran for National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) for Washington and Bob Guile, an environmental lawyer for South Carolina (SC). He read a comment about the dropping of the fuel issue. He is unclear about the risk, because on August 14<sup>th</sup> the Defense Nuclear Waste safety report stated that the event had potential safety risk implications. Concerning the energy park issue, the concern of the future of Savannah River Site, the main environmental groups of South Carolina have come out to go against reprocessing the spent nuclear fuel. He would ask the CAB to request an update on the MOX program.

Rob Hartley introduces himself as a candidate for the CAB. He wanted to tell the CAB that he admires the workings of the CAB and will be attending the next CAB meeting. He talks about his background and his interest for the CAB and states that he would be a valued asset for the CAB

Jenny Freeman read a letter by Ms. Tabitha Miller that states: “I would like to thank you for considering me to move further in the candidacy process, I became aware of the CAB services by an ad posting. After visiting the CAB website, I completed my application to become a CAB member. One of the high points through my process in the attendance of the committee meeting she attended on August 18<sup>th</sup> where I saw how the members interacted with the public and presenters.

Sarah Watson announced how the new member selection process will work and that the Board's selections for new member candidates will be voted on and announced tomorrow.

*~End of Public Comments~*

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm**

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Kyle Bryant-EPA

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J'nette Hyatt-SRNS  
Jenny Freeman-V3  
Scott Doss-AAVS  
Clay Miller-AAVS  
Mindy Mets-V3  
Erica Williams-V3  
Aaron Stevens-V3  
Jennifer Stevenson-V3

SRS CAB members Emile Bernard, Edward Burke, Lee Harley-Fitts and Skyye Vereen were unable to attend. Alex Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance for the group. Alex made a request to sing the National Anthem at future meetings. Karen Guevara, DOE-SR, served as the Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO); Jenny Freeman served as Meeting Facilitator; and Bill Lawless 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.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Meeting Chairperson Manuel Bettencourt opened the floor for comments and approval of the July full board meeting minutes. It is noted that the July full board meeting minutes are verbatim. It was requested that the minutes be provided verbatim in the future. Gerri Flemming responded that it was being looked into. The CAB approved the March 2009 full board meeting minutes.

*~End of Approval of Minutes~*

### Announcements

Mindy Mets, SRS CAB Support Team, addressed the CAB with announcements of the new V3 Technical Services employees: Erica Williams, Aaron Stevens, and Jennifer Stevenson. She also introduced the President of V3 Technical Services, Mr. Mitch Morgan. She stated that working with the CAB has been terrific; however she is going to be moving into a different position later.

Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR, also added that Mindy has been very valuable working alongside her. The job offer Mindy was given is one that she is eager to take; however, Mindy decided to stay and help until the end of the month so that this meeting would be successful.

Jenny Freeman introduced Karen Guevara as the new DDFO for the morning meeting for the agency updates.

Ms. Guevara, DOE-SR, shared Site safety tips with the group. Copies of the safety topics were also available to the public as a handout.

*~End of Announcements~*

### Agency Updates

Presentation – Update on the Office of Environmental Management– Dr. Inés Triay, Assistant Secretary of Environmental Management

Dr. Triay reviewed the mission and emphasis on immediate and long-term safety by the DOE. She discussed the allocation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds within the DOE and the Savannah River Site, with an emphasis on creating jobs and funding the clean-up projects to increase their production rate. Dr. Triay spoke repeatedly about the DOE's commitment to be transparent and open in all matters. She announced that she requested the SRS field manager, Jeff Allison, to oversee multiple, smaller sites along with her deputy, and announced that Vince Adams had been asked to be the acting field manager of SRS.

Dr. Triay's entire presentation is available on the SRS CAB's website.

### Questions from the Board

*Have you considered having satellite offices out of Washington, D.C. at locations around the complex?*

As a matter of fact, we are exploring that with smaller sites.

*Are the jobs you are creating being filled with retirees?*

It is a concern, and we asked that question of the site, and I am sure one of our colleagues at the site level can get you that answer at the end of the day.

*If the by-laws could change, could the CAB keep some of the members that have that knowledge on board for a lengthy time period to keep institutional memory?*

It is something that needs to be worked at in the future.

*The cost expenditure is larger than Hanford's. What is being done about this?*

Throughout the complex we are installing treatment ground water systems, such as at Hanford. We have demolished 10 facilities, decontaminated many wings of waste, and accelerated the disposition. SRS has been a large contributor to the disposition projects and waste shipments.

*I would encourage you to go to the highest levels to insure that at the back side of this process there is money for the human resources impact, because we see 9,000 jobs, but those 9,000 jobs are going to go away or they're going to be transferred to something else, and that's going to be a big human resources effort.*

The Under Secretary has stood up a group to look into exactly that. What is the transition? We want this to be open and transparent. We have no particular agenda whatsoever in the Environmental Management program, other than that we believe that you have resources, and that

now we have trained those resources in terms of individuals. Vast tracks of cleaned-up land are resources that the community can use. We are very committed to doing exactly as you described. We understand the responsibility to work with you addressing that particular issue.

#### Environmental Protection Agency

Rob Pope announced that the EPA is now performing Site oversight inspections daily per ARRA requirements. The EPA had a conference with Vince Adams to discuss the planned usage of \$200 million of ARRA funds. With liquid waste tanks 18 and 19, a milestone was reached. He commented that the heel removal project is going well.

#### South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Van Keisler thanked DOE for providing funds to improve infrastructure work, especially with the priority of tank-farm cleanup. He announced that DHEC filled six out of seven ARRA funded positions on site in addition to five other ARRA positions. Mr. Keisler noted that the engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) for D-area operable unit bubble tower and moderator processing sub-units is currently on public notice, and the D-area coal power run-off sub-unit basin is soon to go on public notice.

*~End of Agency Updates~*

#### Public Comments

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, commented on maintaining institutional memory for the CAB. He mentioned that a former member of the CAB, Francis Close, now serves with the Friends of the Earth Advisory Board.

*~End of Public Comments~*

#### Chair Update, Manuel Bettencourt – SRS CAB Chair

Mr. Bettencourt reviewed his trip to Idaho National Labs and the Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meeting. He presented a letter dealing with contract options drafted at the SSAB meeting and presented it to the board to vote on submission.

#### Questions from the Board

*Is there anybody here from DOE that could comment? Would that letter have any negative impacts on anything involved with Savannah River Site?*

Mr. Bettencourt commented; What Mark and I-forget-his-name, the science and technology guy, said at the chair's meeting was there are some people in DOE that need to hear this because, they've sort of lost the balance what is competition and what is good for the community and the future.

*Why do we have to have a blanket option period for all contracts? Why can't it be on a contract-by-contract basis?*

It is on a contract-by-contract basis. What I think this letter is saying is; please consider options, because there have been contracts that have affected communities in terms of job stability and that kind of thing. And, there are some sites where they're saying DOE or the government has not included options, and they should be included.

In terms of schedule slippage, if the contractor is not fulfilling the terms of the contract, then the option should not be exercised.



*What determines the duration of the base period of performance for the initial contract. Here it says that typically it is five years, but is there a legal term?*

No, there are contracts that last different length of time. They are on an individual work scope basis, determined by the site, the legal people at the site, the Headquarters management, and the legal people at Headquarters.

The motion was voted and carried.

*~End of Chair Update~*

**Facilitator Update, Jenny Freeman – Facilitator**

Ms. Freeman announced the availability of the recommendation database for viewing, emphasizing a total of 265 recommendations since October 1994.

*~End of Facilitator Update~*

**Strategic & Legacy Management Committee**

*Madeleine Marshall – Co-Chair*

*Judith Greene-McLeod – Co-Chair*

Ms. Marshall stated that there are three open recommendations. She said that the committee meeting was on August 25<sup>th</sup> and topics included a presentation on using small unit military operations for military operation on Fort Gordon, and an overview of the National Environmental Research Park. She announced that the next committee meeting will be on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Recommendation – Speed-up Stimulus Budget “Burn Rate”**

Ms. Marshall reviewed the recommendation.

The SRS CAB recommends that DOE:

1. Explain and justify deviations from the DOE-SRS ARRA spending plan; in addition to written explanations, please display this information graphically. Present this information at every future full CAB meeting through the end of FY2011.
2. Compare the percentage of stimulus funds obligated to the percentage of ARRA period of performance elapsed. Present this information at every future full CAB meeting through the end of FY2011.
3. Provide the “lessons learned” from operational problems that have affected the ARRA “burn rate” along with the plans to bring ARRA back on track at SRS.
4. At each future CAB meeting, report on operational efficiencies achieved by SRR and any dollars saved to date.
5. Devise and report by January 2010 on a strategy to address the possible shortfall in the budget to keep the Tank 48 project fully funded.
6. Keep the CAB informed about the results of the ARRA investigation by U.S. Department of Energy-Inspector General (DOE-IG) consistent with DOE regulations.

The Recommendation was voted and carried.

The full recommendation can be viewed at the SRS CAB website.

*~End of Strategic & Legacy Management Committee~*

Presentation – Superfund Job Training Initiative – Anna-Louise Cornelious and Tiffany Reed, EPA

Mr. Robe Pope, EPA, and Ms. de’Lisa Bratcher, DOE, introduced the speakers. Ms. Cornelious and Ms. Reed reviewed the purpose, procedures, and results of the Superfund Job Training Initiative sponsored by the EPA. The funding for the initiative came from the EPA’s Technical Assistance Services to Communities (TASC) program. The program was designed to locate and train underserved (unemployed, low income/minimum wage employees, and people suffering from economic hardships) in technical, personal, and professional skills, and eventually place them in full-time positions with Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNL). The program and training lasted one year, culminating in 19 candidates out of more than 450 applicants being placed with SRNL as material handlers and operators. The final number of employed candidates was limited by available positions within SRNL.

Other sponsors include the Imani Group, Rev. Brandolyn Jenkins, DOE, and EPA.

Ms. Cornelious and Ms. Reed’s presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Questions from the Board

*Is the program over, or are you going to try for more people in another cycle?*

We just submitted some paperwork today to have discussions about doing another Superfund Joint Technology Initiative (JTI) at Savannah River Site, a site in Jacksonville, and also in Region 9, out in Monterey

*I was looking at your breakdown on your candidate orientation and then the city of residents where you noted those individuals who made the cut. I’m looking at Barnwell County, Graniteville, and Allendale as where the most people come from, but when you look at your city of resident and the numbers that you had chosen for that 21, it looked like they ended up in the smaller part of the cut. I’m just wondering is there something we need to put out in those communities?*

When we did the recruitment and had them come together for the tryouts, we didn’t consider where they came from necessarily. We were looking for the best of the best. It happens that they come from those individual places.

*If you look at 300 people coming from Allendale, 1.3% ended up getting hired. That tells me that even though we had all the cheerleading we could have down in Allendale with Lee Harley-Fitts, there is something seriously, quote/un-quote wrong, that’s preventing these folks down in Allendale from getting on the site and getting job training, whether it’s in this program or with the ARRA funding or anything in general. Is there anything we can do as a board, or as a community, to help these folks get going? Because, I know Allendale has a horrific unemployment rate. So, in helping the least and the lost, that might be a place where we need to continue our focus.*

If we had more jobs committed, we could have had more people.

*You said that you had 21 slots available at SRNL, but only 19 were placed. What happened to the other two people?*

We started out with 21 people. There was one individual that we had to let go during the training program, because of various reasons. And, there was one individual who was unable to pass the background check.

*Do you have any idea what the cost is per person to bring somebody through this program and get them employed?*

We’re just now starting to go through the numbers to look at the per person cost, but on average, it costs about \$200,000 to do one of these projects, and if we come back to Savannah River Site to do a second phase our costs would definitely be cheaper, because we have a lot of these processes in place. We know who our partners are, we know who to go do the outreach with. A lot of employers want to make sure that people have General Equivalency Diplomas (GEDs), and making sure that you have a valid driver’s license. Some of that is administrative cost. That’s not all related to the specific job hiring.

*I wanted to ask if there were two that for whatever reasons that weren't able to follow through with the plan or in the program, were there alternates?*

At that point, unfortunately there were not. Once they began the technical training, as many of you know, something like HAZWOPER is 40 hours certified. If you miss one hour, you cannot be certified.

*Is there a way that you can adjust your processes to show, or to evaluate the people prior to getting into the technical training, so if they were not able to continue you would at least have a full class?*

We discussed that in terms of the driver's license and the background checks. We didn't have hiring commitment from any entity until fairly late. We didn't know those what the requirements were going to be. And that was one of the things that should be beat out earlier on. So we have some lessons learned from that for next time, definitely.

***~End of Superfund Job Training Initiative Presentation~***

### **Public Comments**

There are no public comments

***~End of Public Comments~***

### **Agenda Review**

Jenny Freeman changed the agenda by interjecting a public comment period after the waste management committee report.

***~End of Agenda Review~***

**Waste Management Committee**, Joe Ortaldo – Chair

Alex Williams – Vice Chair

Art Domby – Vice Chair

Mr. Ortaldo updated the group on the committee activities. He said that joint recommendations 263 and 264 had been moved from pending to open. He said there are currently eight open recommendations in addition to 263 and 264 which are being reviewed by the committee. He said there was a Waste Management Committee (WMC) meeting on September 1st and the next committee meeting will be held October 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Presentation - Structural Integrity Program - Karthik Subramanian**

Mr. Subramanian gave a review of the Structural Integrity Program to the Board. He introduced the new liquid waste operations contractor, Savannah River Remediation (SRR), and announced SRR's strong emphasis on safety and security. He reviewed the inspection processes including visual, remote device, conductivity alarms, and analytic processes. He reviewed the types of tanks used to store liquid waste including their history, material make-up, corrosion and stress vulnerabilities, construction, and inspection methods. He said that every two years each tank is thoroughly photographed, videoed, and documented for inspection. Conductivity probes are used to inspect areas that can't be visually inspected. The Structural Integrity Program has been successful for 50 years, aggressively addressing emerging issues. He said they pre-test new programs, such as salt-waste, to prevent future problems.

Annual Radioactive Waste Tank Inspection Program results

Identified 2 leaks – Tank 5 and Tank 12

The leaks are expected for 50 year old tanks. Material exists below the leak, but may rise and leak into the outer tank during clean-up. Procedures are in place in the event that they become active leaks. Tank 5 is virtually empty. Tank 12 has sludge waste.

Identified very shallow pitting in tank 49

This pitting is within acceptable range.

There is a high-stress region just above the bottom weld in tank 50.

Tank 15, a type 2 tank, has an interesting crack that isn't straight. It is curved along a repair weld.

Mr. Subramanian's presentation is available on the SRS CAB website.

Questions from the Board

*What are the materials of Type 3 and Type 4 tanks?*

Type 4s are A285 Steel, and Type 3s are A537 and A516. These are American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) designations for the type of steel used.

*Is the concrete surrounding the tanks inspected?*

Yes, it is very important. The concrete and embedded rebar is inspected for corrosion and degradation.

*How is Tank 16 cleaned?*

There are dry and wet methods, a jet in the annular tank, and chemical reaction methods.

*How do you monitor sections that you can't get a visual on?*

Conductivity probes are used to monitor the tanks.

*Have you ever had a leak that couldn't be seen visually?*

Yes. For example, Tanks 5 and 6. Remote devices were used to detect and inspect the leak sites.

*What is the difference between active and inactive leak sites?*

Liquid waste above a crack that could actually leak out is active. If material cannot actually leak out it is an inactive leak site.

*Has the transducer [remote inspection device] ever fallen off?*

Yes, it has happened, but cables keep it from falling into the tank.

*How are the inspection sites in the tank chosen?*

From top to bottom, the bottom weld, one vertical weld, and one horizontal weld about half way up.

*Is the entire tank inspected or a percentage?*

Approximately 1-2% of the tank surface. If only one strip is inspected, between 0.25% and 0.5% of the surface is inspected. The technology is not capable of inspecting fast enough to do more in one inspection. The statistically most likely areas for corrosion are inspected.

*Are there more through-wall cracks in the top of the tank where it is thinner?*

No. The tank design and creation is more important than wall thickness.

*What exactly are the pits? Are they like the pores on the skin of an orange?*

Yes. They are very small indentations in the steel. Some pitting is normal and expected.

*As a proactive program, what actions are used to control corrosion other than inspections?*

Corrosion is prevented with chemical processes refined by inspections over the history of the program.

*Are you the ones that confirm the experimental corrosion work?*

Yes. We use SRNL, the Hanford lab, and the technology wing of EM working together.

*How much have you done in weld repair as a contingency response to repair tanks?*

Many methods have been performed over the years as technology and experimentation proceeds.

Currently a magnetic weld repair process is used.

*Is it true that there has never been an active leak in Type 3 tanks?*

Yes.

~End of Waste Management Committee~

### **Introduction of Vince Adams**

Karen Guevara introduced Vince Adams to the SRS CAB as the potential new site manager for Savannah River Site.

### **~End of Introduction of Vince Adams~**

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, congratulated Dr. Vince Adams on his potential appointment. He asked what has happened with the spent fuel standard for disposing plutonium if WIPP is being used at SRS, since it was the justification for MOX program and vitrifying waste. He also thanked the CAB and EM for interactions with the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability blanket organization of environmental organizations. He then asked the CAB and EM to communicate more information on ARRA funds to the public. He expressed concern of the possibility of converting the Savannah River Site into an Energy Park in the future as unviable option.

Marolyn Parson, of Bluffton, SC, congratulated Rob Pope and EPA on the Superfund JTI program. She asked the Board to view a video called “The Corridor of Shame” about the poor quality of schools along the I-95 corridor. She called for more public and official support for school systems.

Karen Guevara, SRS-DDFO, announced that 59 retirees were hired as part of the ARRA hiring process. She said that they were placed in subcontractor positions to bridge the gap between new hires and existing employees.

### **~End of Public Comments~**

### **Nuclear Materials Committee – Don Bridges, Chair**

*Stan Howard – Vice Chair*

*Ed Burke – Vice Chair*

Mr. Bridges stated that there are three open Recommendations 250, 259, and 263. He concluded by saying that the committee meeting was on September 15<sup>th</sup> and topics were nuclear materials process plans for 2010 and the spent nuclear fuel program. He announced that the Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) Processing Program is slated to end in 2010. H-Canyon will shift to processing spent nuclear fuel at that time.

### **Recommendation – Enriched Uranium Disposition**

Mr. Bridges reviewed the recommendation.

SRS CAB recommends to DOE that:

1. Provide a schedule of activities necessary to complete processing HEU by 2019 to include:
  - a. Yearly cost
  - b. Critical paths
  - c. Project schedules and possible delays
  - d. Sub-schedules for processing fuel at SRS from Idaho, sending materials to Idaho, receipt of materials from domestic and foreign reactors, potential dependency on plutonium processing, and any potential Research and Development (R&D) required.

The Recommendation was voted and carried.

The full recommendation can be viewed at the SRS CAB website.

**~End of Nuclear Materials Committee~**

**Administrative Committee** – Sarah Watson, Chair

Ms. Watson thanked the committee for preparing ballots for the New Member Candidate Selection. Board members cast their ballots for candidate selection. She announced that the CAB Education Process Retreat will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Isle of Palms, SC. Ms. Watson announced that the new Chair and Vice Chair positions of the CAB will be elected at the November Full Board meeting on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Augusta, GA.

Rose Hayes proposed the creation of an Emeritus position, or some other means of extending the institutional memory of the CAB, in light of the upcoming end of term of Board members. She also expressed a concern that a large number of site employees were on the ballot to join the CAB.

*It was decided that discussion of extended service be discussed at the CAB retreat. It was noted that in previous discussions that a former member can still participate as an advisor, but not sit on the board. Also, only two members of the CAB may be site employees to avoid conflict of interest. It was noted that if a situation that created conflict of interest occurred, the board member should excuse themselves from the situation.*

**~End of Administrative Committee~**

**Facilities and Site Remediation Committee** – Kuppuswamy Jayaraman – Chair  
Mercredi Giles – Vice Chair

Mr. Jayaraman introduced the members of the committee. He said at the August 18<sup>th</sup> committee meeting they had presentations by Ray Hannah and Brian Hennessey. He stated that there are two open recommendations.

**~End of Facilities and Site Remediation Committee~**

**Voting Results**

Gerri Flemming announced two ties in the voting. She asked for a re-vote for positions 9, between Denise Long and Chris Noah. Position 11 had a tie between Mary Robinson and Beverly Skinner. The votes were tallied.

Gerri Flemming announced the voting results for candidates for member selection to be sent to DOE for approval. The selected member candidates are:

Tabitha Miller, Don Bridges, Alex Williams  
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman, Skyye Vereen, Kathe Golden  
Judith Greene-McLeod, Ed Burke, Denise Long  
Madeleine Marshall, Mary Robinson

Mercredi Giles announced her withdrawal from the Board due to personal reasons.

**~End of Voting Results~**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm**

**Documents listed herein are available at the SRS Citizens Advisory Board Website:**

**[www.srs.gov](http://www.srs.gov), then click on Outreach**