

**Summary Notes, April 28, 2009  
SRS Citizens Advisory Board  
Nuclear Materials Committee Meeting**

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee met on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Aiken Municipal Conference Center, in Aiken SC.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the following:

- 1) Plutonium (Pu) Surveillance Program;
- 2) Surplus, Non-Pit Pu Consolidation; and
- 3) An opportunity for public comments on CAB related issues.

**ATTENDEES:**

**CAB Members**

- Don Bridges, NM Chair  
Alex Williams  
Joe Ortaldo  
Marolyn Parsons  
Kathe Golden  
Rose Hayes  
Stan Howard  
Judith Greene-McLeod  
Mecredi Giles  
Ed Burke  
Bill Lawless, Technical  
Advisor

**Stakeholders**

Lee Poe, Public  
Jeff Allender, Public  
Bob Adams, SCDHEC  
Karen Patterson, Public  
Mike May, SCDHEC  
Martha Berry, EPA  
Liz Goodson, Public  
Lizabeth Goergen, Public

**DOE/Contractors/Others**

Sheron Smith, DOE-SR  
Debbie Wisham, V3  
Pat McGuire, DOE-SR  
Allen Gunter, DOE-SR  
Chuck Goergen, SRNS  
Bill Swift, SRNS  
Dawn Gillas, DOE-SR

**Welcome and Introduction:**

Don Bridges, Chair, NM Committee, opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone and thanked them for attending. He reviewed the ground rules, and asked for attendees introductions.

**Committee Update:**

Don Bridges, Chair, NM Committee, provided a summary of the NM committee purpose and issues that the NM committee will review in the upcoming year, a status of the two open NM recommendations; and requested the review and comments on a draft recommendation that will be presented at the upcoming full board meeting for approval. He stated that the NM Committee and the WM Committee are sponsoring the draft motion. The subject of the draft motion is *Final Disposition for Spent Nuclear Fuel, Surplus Plutonium and Vitrified High-Level Waste*. A copy of the draft motion was provided. Comments may be provided to Joe Ortaldo, Bill Lawless, or Don Bridges. Joe Ortaldo expressed concerns relative to the disposition of Plutonium and Nuclear Waste from SRS – the Yucca Mountain Repository efforts have failed and the disposition of much of the Plutonium in the MOX Program is clouded since there is no contract for use of the MOX fuel.. Mr. Ortaldo referenced the recent letter to Mr. Allison, DOE-SR, Manager, which stated the same concerns.

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**Meeting Summary:**

The SRS CAB Nuclear Materials Committee conducted a meeting on April 28, 2009, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.; at the Aiken Municipal Conference Center, in Aiken, SC. DOE-SR hosted the meeting. The agenda topics were an update on Plutonium Storage and Consolidation to include storage update, surveillance program, and facility upgrades in K Area and Plutonium processing. An opportunity for the public to comment on CAB related issues was provided. Ten members of the CAB attended. Don Bridges, Chair, NM Committee, provided a summary of the NM committee purpose and issues that the NM committee will review in the upcoming year, a status of the two open NM recommendations; and requested the review and comments on a draft recommendation that will be presented at the upcoming full board meeting for approval. The new draft motion is being co-sponsored by the Nuclear Materials Committee and the Waste Management Committee. The title of the draft motion is the *Final Disposition for Spent Nuclear Fuel, Surplus Plutonium, and Vitrified High Level Waste*.

Then, Allen Gunter, DOE-SR, provided two presentations. One on the Surplus, Non-Pit Plutonium Consolidation Program at the Savannah River Site, and a second presentation on the Plutonium Surveillance Program that ensures material and packaging are performing as predicted in the DOE-STD-3013. Discussions and questions focused on the main concern of the CAB members, which is the delay of a designated federal repository to remove Plutonium from the State of South Carolina, and their understanding that there is no contract currently in place to accept the MOX fuel.

Other questions from the CAB members were of clarification nature, such as, if any new surplus Plutonium has been identified. Mr. Gunter stated that one zipper fuel has been identified at Idaho. The SRS CAB stated that they want DOE to keep the public informed on all decisions, risks, and plans relating to the removal or long-term storage of surplus plutonium and nuclear waste at SRS. The SRS CAB stated that in view of continuing political and legal action involving the designation and opening of Yucca Mountain as a federal repository, the CAB members would like DOE to continue to support a “good faith” effort to remove all nuclear waste from SRS as soon as reasonably practicable. The CAB members are interested in the Plutonium Disposition alternative studies being conducted and when the results of these studies will be available. MR. Gunter stated that the results of the studies would be provided when they are complete.

Mr. Gunter stated that the Pu Surveillance Program at SRS is conducted by the DOE-STD-3013 Standard and does provide for safe, stable storage of Pu metal and oxide for up to 50 years. The surveillance and monitoring program was approved in 2003 by DOE EM-1.

In closing, Mr. Gunter stated that the Site will continue to validate and maintain safe storage with on-going surveillance programs of the Pu Storage and Consolidation Project. Mr. Bridges, Chair, NM Committee, has requested that Mr. Gunter provide the briefing to the full Board on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

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**Public Comment:**

- Lee Poe stated that the public should be involved in the discussions of draft motions and have the opportunity to comment prior to being adopted. The draft motions should be distributed to a wider distribution for comment. He stated that the CAB and public should be briefed on hazards to the public.
- Karen Patterson stated that the members of the public have, in the past, had the opportunity to review and comment on draft motions.
- Joe Ortaldo recommended the issue be discussed with the SRS CAB Executive Board at their next meeting.

**Adjourn:**

Mr. Bridges adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**Follow-Up Actions:**

Allen Gunter, DOE-SR, present the information at the full Board meeting on May 18, 2009.

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**PRESENTATIONS: .**

Presentations will be posted as supporting documentation on the SRS CAB Webpage.