

Summary Notes, October 20, 2009
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Waste Management Committee Meeting

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Waste Management Committee conducted a committee meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Aiken Municipal Conference Center, in Aiken, SC.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive presentations on the Liquid Waste ARRA Scope of Work; the Savannah River Remediation Project Execution Plan for FY2010; and as a CAB outreach effort – SRS Community Reuse Organization's, What's Next for Nuclear Waste? Building a Consensus in the CSRA. An opportunity for the public to comment on CAB related issues was provided.

ATTENDEES:

CAB Members

Joe Ortaldo, Chair
Art Domby, Vice Chair
Ranowul Jzar
Kathe Golden
Alex Williams, Vice Chair
Judy Greene-McLeod
Stan Howard

Stakeholders

Karen Patterson
Suzanne Rhodes
Michael Norton, Parsons
Murray Riley
Kent Sullivan
Martha Berry, EPA
Rick McLeod, SRS CRO
Heather Cathcart, SCDHEC
Mary Varga, SCDHEC
Liz Goodson
Mindy Mets

DOE/Contractors/Others

Sheron Smith, DOE-SR
Jim Folk, DOE-SR
Jean Ridley, DOE-SR
Jennifer Stevenson, V3
John Lindsay, SRR
Pete Hill, SRR
Jim French, SRR
Dave Olson, SRR
Francis Close, SRNS
Fran Copeland, SRR
Mark Schmitz, SRR

Bill Lawless, Technical
Advisor

Suzanne Rose

Mike Borders, SRR

Welcome and Introduction:

Joe Ortaldo, Chair, WMC, opened the meeting with a welcome and thank you to all attendees.

The attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Ortaldo then referenced the meeting ground rules and encouraged adhering to them. To facilitate meeting timeliness, he encouraged all questions to be held until the end of the presentations. He reminded all attendees that the meeting is being webcast.

Committee Update:

Mr. Ortaldo began by providing the status of the WMC open recommendations. He stated that the WMC has ten open recommendations. The first presentation from Ms. Ridley, will address two of the open recommendations: the ARRA funding to liquid waste; and the project execution plan, what are the long-range plans (gear chart)?

Mr. Ortaldo continued by stating the last presentation this evening will be from Mr. Rick McLeod who is Director of the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization.

Meeting Summary:

Members of the Waste Management Committee (WMC) conducted a meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Aiken Municipal Conference Center, in Aiken.

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The SRS Waste Management Committee meeting topics for discussion were the Liquid Waste ARRA Scope of Work, presented by Jean Ridley, DOE-SR; and the SRR Project Execution Plan for FY2010, presented by Dave Olson and Pete Hill, SRR; and as an outreach effort, Rick McLeod, Executive Director, SRS Community Reuse Organization, provided a presentation on CAB Outreach Initiative --- “SRS Community Reuse Organization’s what’s next for Nuclear Waste? Building a Consensus in the CSRA”. An opportunity for the public to comment on CAB related issues was provided.

The meeting was moderately attended. Discussions did not indicate any new recommendations would be created.

Jean Ridley, DOE-SR provided the Liquid Waste American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) scope of work schedule highlights, funding levels, and number and types of jobs created. She stated that the funding is being used for infrastructure upgrades and replacement equipment to ensure continued and enhanced operations for efficiencies. These infrastructure upgrades would support the Salt Waste Processing Facility integration in the Tank Farms for feed readiness. She continued by explaining other tank farm improvements, Salt Waste processing improvements; sludge processing improvement; the Defense Waste Processing Facility improvement; and the safety improvements. The liquid waste recovery act scope of work is to work safely, execute scope, create and retain job; and requires full cost accounting. There were questions and discussions from the SRS CAB members on the reduction of FY10 budget and the impacts from the budget reduction for the liquid waste scope of work. The FY10 budget for SRS has not been defined yet; therefore, impacts to the work scope have not been identified. The process is to work funding to the greatest extent to minimize impacts. SRS uses the change control process if necessary to reallocate funding to other site projects. SRS will continue to work to ensure the required scope of work continues in the liquid waste operations. The SRS CAB members are interested in how well the jobs vs. retained jobs when budget shortfalls are identified and how the recovery act work is reducing the EM life cycle. With the additional recovery act funding, SRS has reduced risks and improved efficiencies.

Dave Olson and Pete Hill, SRR, provided the Liquid Waste Contract process overview and FY10 objectives and specific activities being planned to accomplish closure of 22 tanks in the next eight years. Mr. Olson stated that the SRR processes are very integrated and applied online. The SRR and the DOE-SR Salt Waste Processing Facility managers and staffers are meeting frequently to ensure working to achieve the same goals to safely disposition the SRS liquid waste. Open discussions were focused on the processes and clarification of technologies being used to accelerate tank closures and the liquid waste operations. The SRS CAB members requested that a copy of the Liquid Waste System Plan, Rev. #15, be provided to them as soon as it is available. The SRS CAB members are interested if the increased number of canisters from 186 to 325 will create the need for a GWSB III. The increased number of canisters being created will ensure another storage building is necessary.

Rick McLeod, SRS CRO, provided a presentation on the CRO mission, function, and the CRO position to build a consensus in the CSRA on final waste disposition from the DOE Complex including the Savannah River Site. The SRS CAB members in attendance indicated a strong interest in the topic.

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They asked if the Department of Energy's Secretary had established the Blue Ribbon panel to research other possible sites and what are the main objectives to shutting down Yucca Mountain as the federal repository. At this time, Mr. McLeod does not have an answer, but would like the support of the SRS CAB members and the community to pursue.

Mr. Ortaldo, Chair, WMC, has requested that the SRR presentations and the SRSCRO presentation be provided at the upcoming SRS CAB full-board meeting in November.

After consultation with DOE-HQ, Terry Spears., SRS CAB DDFO, has approved. the SRS CRO presentation will be provided.

Other:

Mr. Ortaldo reviewed the upcoming meeting schedules and encouraged everyone to sign-in and complete the feedback forms.

Public Comment:

None.

Adjourn:

Mr. Ortaldo adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Follow-Up Actions:

- Provide the SRR and the SRS CRO presentations at the full board meeting in November.
- Survey CAB members for interest in a tour of the Defense Waste Processing Facility.
- Provide a copy of the Liquid Waste System Plan, Rev. #15, when available.

Presentations are posted on the SRS CAB Website separately.