

SRS Citizens Advisory Board Chair Update

D. N. Bridges- Chair
January 28, 2013
Augusta, GA



Welcome



- Welcome to Augusta.
- Happy New Year!!
- This is the first meeting of the new year for CAB.
- Thanks for the efforts by CAB Support Team to set up these meetings.
- Since this is my last meeting and you have a new chair I will shorten my comments.



CAB Membership Update

- Thanks to each and every one of you.
- I have enjoyed the job immensely.
- You have been a wonderful group to work with.
- I want to speak to each Board member personally and just tell you how much you have meant to me.
- This job has been a superb experience.

CAB Membership Update

- CAB Membership – 25 members
- Turnover of 5 members for 2014
 - 3 members –rotating off with 6 yr. tenure
 - Kathy Golden, Ed Burke, Don Bridges
 - 2 recent resignations
 - Artisha Bolding and John Snedeker
- 2014 Board Makeup is good mix.
- New members arrive for March meeting.



SRS CAB Makeup- 2014

- **2014 Board Makeup**
 - 5 New members
 - 6 Members with one-year experience
 - 6 Members with two-years experience
 - 5 Members with three-years experience
 - 3 Members with five years experience
- Marolyn, Rose and Cleveland have one year left on Board.

Board Membership

- Each member is appointed by DOE HQ for a two-year term.
- Members are selected to reflect practically every segment of society.
- Every two years a sitting Board member must reapply for an additional term.
- Members are term limited to 3 terms or 6 years.
- In years past that limitation did not exist so some members served for more than 6 years.

Work Plan Meeting

- The planning for the 2014 work plan is focused on the Committees and the Committee Chairs.
- Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 19 for a full day at the DOE Meeting Center, Aiken.
- Essential that Committee Chairs or their Vice-Chairs attend.
- Other members may attend but no travel money is available.

Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board



- I was looking over my notes from one of the first meetings that I attended in 2008 as a member.
- The Chairman asked for our input on which issues should be included in the Top Issues of concern to express to the Assistant Secretary EM.
- My input was not reflected in the final list but I did want to show it to you for reference.
- This will tend to confirm what I have jokingly said many times- DOE moves at a very measured slow pace.



DNB Input: Issues of Concern

Approx. June 2008

- **Timely Processing of Salt Waste for Disposition**
 - ARP and MCP for interim processing (good)
 - SWPF for full processing of most of HLW. (not so good)
- **Timely Processing of Pu in H-Canyon in the absence of Pu Vitrification process. (not so good)**
- **Processing of Pu for MOX facility use. (moving slowly)**
- **Consolidation and management of Pu at SRS. (good)**
- **Meeting of Site closure commitments in view of scaled back budget. (not so good)**

Observations

- DOE has been a good steward of cleanup but progress for this six-year period has been slow.
 - SWPF still a couple of years away.
 - Pu being processed but at very slow rate for WIPP and MOX. (Not a lot of material processed).
 - **Consolidation and Management of Pu at SRS- Success.**
 - Meeting of Site Closure commitments with scaled-back budget (Somewhat Good but Site closure date in 2030s is now slipping to 2040s)
- Overall, this business of cleanup is not a fast moving process.

A Few Passing Comments

- Over the past 6 years I have been impressed with the competence, diligence, and the overall cleanup regulatory framework.
- I feel that cleanup is being carried out by very capable, well-meaning people truly dedicated to their jobs.
- Further, most of the cleanup is being done to regulations, laws, or other regulatory guidelines that are established above the local Site level.

A Few Passing Comments

- While most of the work is being carried out in a capable, diligent manner I wonder if we shouldn't all step back a little and assess in some cases if perhaps we are cleaning beyond a “responsible” or cost effective level.
- I'm suggesting a look in a thoughtful manner based on scientific assessment- not a “willy-nilly” reduction just to save money.

A Few Passing Comments

- Cleanup is costing untold treasure- \$60 B + for SRS that will last into the 2040s.
- Every \$100 M spent for cleanup is not available for Highways, Hospitals, Health Care, and other projects for the national common good.

List of Examples in Rhetorical Sense



- Cleanup of Old Army Barracks and Artillery Site in the middle of “no where” that has been inactive and abandoned for 60 years.
- Cleanup of metal from rifle range bullets located in middle of Site many miles from boundary.
- Cleanup of one small part of Site swamp to reduce exposure assuming someone swam 18 hours a day for 90 days a year in creek. (PS-Anyone familiar with those dose-risk curves know they “overestimate” the potential risk.)
- Cleanup of HLW tanks so that 10,000 years from now a person will only get 20 mr radiation (500-600 mr typical annual level for everyone.) assuming person lived 100 meters from discharge point and got max. exposure from swimming, fish, crops, etc.

A Few Passing Comments

- Most of the “heavy lifting” for regulatory reform would have to come from HQ or above but it may be worth raising the question from time to time.
- I’m fully aware that this involves decisions at high levels and present work is dictated by established regulations.
- Good Luck.

Emphasis for the CAB



- I feel these are the proper focus areas.
- Marolyn and each of you should reassess for your own view of 2014 and beyond.
- Focus for past two years:
 - Input from each CAB member.
 - More public involvement.
 - More recommendations to DOE.

EM SSAB Chairs'

FY 14 Focus Areas



This is also a good list that may influence you somewhat:

- Budget Priorities
- Identifying Community Expectations with Reduced Funding
- Broadening Community Participation in EM SSAB Membership, Meetings.

CAB Membership: A Responsibility



- As Citizens Advisory Board members you have:
 - The Mandate
 - The Opportunity
- To represent the interests and the views of the people of South Carolina and Georgia.
- Focus your thinking and views on how you can best carry out that role.
- Continually ask yourself, “Am I doing the best I can to represent my fellow citizens?”
- Go out and tell the world that you are a CAB member.

Final Parting Comment to each CAB Member



Respect Your Elders.