

Summary Notes – August 26, 2014
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 p.m., at the Department of Energy (DOE) Meeting Center in Aiken, SC. It was also streamed online via Google Hangouts.

The purpose of this meeting was to receive a presentation about the D-Area ash project. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB:

Louis Walters – FD&SR Vice Chair
Dr. Marolyn Parson – CAB Chair
Harold Simon – CAB Vice Chair
Larry Powell
Dr. William Rhoten – *Online*
Nina Spinelli
Dr. Eleanor Hopson
Louie Chavis – *Conf. Call*

DOE/Contractors/Others:

Karen Adams, DOE-SR
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR
Avery Hammett, DOE-SR
Bill Taylor, DOE-SR
Sandra Waisley, DOE-SR
Chris Bergren, SRNS
Kim Cauthen, SRNS
James Tanner, Time Solutions
Ashley Whitaker, Time Solutions

Stakeholders:

Cee Cee Anderson
Michael Hopson
Joe Ortaldo
Betsy Rivard

Welcome and Introduction:

Committee Vice Chair Louis Walters opened the meeting by listing the FD&SR Committee members and reviewing the committee's purpose. He provided a recommendation status update and stated that recommendations 315 and 317 were open. He announced the next FD&SR meeting was scheduled for October 21, 2014. He introduced Ms. Karen Adams, Department of Energy – Savannah River Site (DOE-SR), to begin her presentation.

Presentation: D-Area Ash Project – Karen Adams, DOE-SR

Ms. Adams said the purpose of her presentation was to provide an overview of the remediation efforts that were planned for the D-Area ash project. She showed a picture of the D-Area ash basin and landfill to describe facilities that had been closed and were scheduled for closure. She provided background information about the D-Area Ash basins. Ms. Adams stated the D-Area Ash basins and landfill supported the operations of the powerhouse, which was shutdown in April 2012. She said the D-Area coal pile runoff basin was partially closed under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and in 2011; however, in 2011 DOE led negotiations with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), to close the basins and landfill under the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) over five years instead of six months. She listed what the D-Area Ash Project included before she discussed the necessary project materials. She said the estimated cost for the D-Area Ash Project was 79 million dollars. She explained that the project was scheduled to begin on October 1, 2014 and be completed by year 2019. Ms. Adams showed a picture of the geosynthetic cap that would be used in the D-Area Ash Project before she discussed another diagram that illustrated how much each layer of the geosynthetic cap would be installed. You can view this presentation on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Committee Discussion:

CAB Chair Parson introduced one draft recommendation titled, "Updates Provided to the Citizens Advisory Board at the Bi-Monthly Committee Meetings and Via Email." CAB Chair Parson read the draft recommendation. CAB member Walters, CAB member Larry Powell, and CAB member Nina Spinelli suggested some grammatical changes. CAB member Spinelli said she liked the draft recommendation but she felt the recommendation should be respectful of DOE's time since DOE was already helpful in assisting the CAB. CAB Vice Chair Harold Simon asked for a phrase to be included in the draft recommendations that required all updates to be in written form since it was difficult for him to remember everything that was discussed at Committee meetings. Ms. Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR, reminded CAB Vice Chair Simon that online recordings and meeting summaries for all CAB meetings were available on the CAB's website. CAB member Spinelli and CAB Chair Parson discussed having written handouts at meetings. Ms. Flemming explained that anything developed at SRS for the public had to be security-reviewed, which meant by the time the CAB received a handout, the information would have already happened. CAB Chair Parson asked if a statement should be added to item number three of the draft recommendation about the CAB receiving copies of SRS news releases. CAB member Powell said he felt the CAB only needed copies of news releases that were relevant to SRS cleanup. Mr. Bill Taylor, DOE-SR, mentioned that all news releases were posted on the SRS website and Facebook page. CAB Chair Parson also explained how individuals could sign-up online to receive emails from various DOE Offices. CAB Chair Parson said she would revise the draft recommendation in order for the recommendation to be distributed at the September Full Board meeting.

CAB Chair Parson mentioned she participated in the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) January 2014 Workshop. She explained that she recently received a copy of the meeting summary titled, "Best Practices for Risk-Informed Decision Making Regarding Contaminated Sites." She said she felt the CAB, specifically the FD&SR Committee, would enjoy reviewing the presentations and hoped the meeting summary would be available online. You can listen to this discussion on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comments

Mr. Joe Ortaldo encouraged the CAB to ask DOE-SR to include the Board on the distribution list when DOE sent any original news releases to local newspapers.

Ms. Betsy Rivard, Georgia Women's Action for New Directions (GAWAND), said a Google search for "D-Area ash basin" brought up a report from the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL). She read various sections of the report. She said she felt the presentation that was given downplayed the importance of the D-Area cleanup project and she hoped the CAB understood the importance of the cleanup effort.

CAB member Walters adjourned the FD&SR Committee meeting.

The next FD&SR Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 p.m., at the DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC.

**The online recording of this meeting is located on the CAB's website at:
cab.srs.gov**