

Summary Notes- August 12, 2014
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Nuclear Materials Committee Meeting

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, August 12, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 p.m., at the Department of Energy (DOE) Meeting Center in Aiken, South Carolina. It was also streamed online via Google Hangouts.

The purpose of this meeting was to receive an update on K-Area. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB Members:

Dr. Marolyn Parson – CAB Chair
Harold Simon – CAB Vice Chair
Nina Spinelli
Dr. Rose Hayes – NM Chair – *Conf. Call*

DOE/ Contractors/ Others:

Angelia Adams, DOE-SR
Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR
Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Tony Polk, DOE-SR
Jay Ray, DOE-SR
Kim Cauthen, SRNS
Bill Bates, SRNL
Jeff Allender, SRNL
James Tanner, Time Solutions
Ashley Whitaker, Time Solutions

Stakeholders:

Dawn Gillas
Tom Clements
Lee Poe

Agency Liaisons:

Tom Rolka, SCDHEC
Greg Mason, SCDHEC
Dan Burnfield, DNFSB

Welcome and Introduction:

CAB member Nina Spinelli opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She discussed the NM committee's focus before she reminded everyone the meeting was being streamed online. She provided a recommendation status update, stating recommendation 307 was open. She reviewed the meeting agenda and said there a draft position paper would be discussed following the scheduled presentation. She introduced Mr. Jay Ray, Department of Energy – Savannah River (DOE-SR) to begin his presentation.

Presentation: K-Area Update – Jay Ray, DOE-SR

Mr. Ray said the purpose of his presentation was to fulfill a NM Committee 2014 Work Plan topic by providing information about K-Area and plutonium storage. He provided a copy of the "SRS Waste and Material Flow Path" to show where K-Area was located at SRS. He discussed background information about plutonium consolidation before he described how plutonium had International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. He showed pictures of the K-Area storage configuration and different types of shipping containers. He discussed the expansion of K-Area saying in 2010 the Department initiated a project to expand the storage capacity of K-Area, which added an additional 2,500 storage positions. Mr. Ray described the processes involved in the 3013 Surveillance Program. He provided pictures of the Surveillance Program process before discussing program results. He stated plutonium was safely stored in K-Area. He mentioned that SRS had the experienced staff and facility to handle plutonium; however, he said SRS continued to evaluate storage conditions to ensure safe storage. This presentation can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Committee Discussion:

CAB member Spinelli introduced a draft position paper titled, "The Savannah River Site Citizen's Advisory Board's Position on The President's 2015 Budget Proposal." She explained the purpose of the draft position paper.

CAB Chair Parson suggested modifying the draft position paper so it addressed the 2015 budget as well as future budgets. CAB member Rose Hayes asked various questions about funding amounts within the draft position paper. Mr. Tony Polk, DOE-SR, explained that DOE formulated regulatory agreements based on budget amounts DOE could predict for the future; however, Mr. Polk explained it was even difficult for DOE to know all the budget information for only one year down the road. CAB member Spinelli said she would like the draft position paper to be discussed by the executive committee at the September 2014 Full Board meeting. This discussion can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comments:

Mr. Joe Ortaldo, public, suggested adding a summary sentence to the draft position paper that would highlight each funding amount.

Mr. Lee Poe, public, said he was very surprised by the draft position paper since he did not understand the intent or purpose.

Mr. Tom Clements, SRS Watch, said he would not be attending the CAB September Full Board meeting since he would be in Germany. He said he planned to tour the country as well as attend various discussions about the status of “gas reactor spent fuel” that was stored in Germany.

CAB member Spinelli adjourned the NM Committee meeting.

The next NM Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 p.m., at the DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC.

The online recording of this meeting can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov