

Summary Notes—December 1, 2015
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board
Waste Management (WM) Committee Meeting

The WM committee held a meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, from 4:30-6:20 pm, at the New Ellenton Community Center in New Ellenton, SC. The meeting was also streamed online via Google Hangouts and posted to the CAB website and YouTube page. The purpose of this meeting was to receive updates from DOE-SR and SRR. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB:

Susan Corbett
David Hoel
Virginia Jones
John McMichael
Larry Powell
Earl Sheppard
Harold Simon
Nina Spinelli

DOE/Contractors/Others:

Pat Suggs, DOE-SR
Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Jim Folk, DOE-SR
Soni Blanco, DOE-SR
de'Lisa Carrico, DOE-SR
Brent Gifford, SRR
Tina Watson, Time Solutions
James Tanner, Time Solutions

Agency Liaisons:

Greg ?, SCDHEC
Tom Rolka, SCDHEC

Stakeholders:

Frances Close, SRS Watch
Tom Clements, SRS Watch
Mike Johnson, CNTA
Jeff Allender, Public
Joe Ortaldo, Public

Committee Welcome: Earl Sheppard, Committee Chair

Mr. Sheppard welcomed everyone. The committee had no open recommendations to discuss.

Point of Contact Status Update: Soni Blanco, DOE-SR

Ms. Blanco reported the status of each project within the Liquid Waste Program.

Presentation: ARP/MCU Operating Performance: Brent Gifford, SRR

Mr. Gifford presented an update of the current processes by reviewing the salt disposition operating diagram, which is expected to increase production volume without increasing the Curies disposed of within SC. He also presented a flow diagram for the ARP/MCU process and noted upgrades to the facility for higher reliability and improved effectiveness. Mr. Gifford also reviewed the Next Generation Solvent (NGS) in use and compared its effectiveness to previous generations. Mr. Gifford noted that in 2015 and continuing into 2016, the challenge was and will be the filtration rate, which controls how fast the system can move material through the process. Additional sampling and testing is being used to prevent chokepoints. During the presentation, Mr. Gifford reviewed non-Decontamination Factor (nDF) and Decontamination Factor (DF) in detail as they related to solvent decisions.

Committee Discussion

Susan Corbett, CAB Member, requested to get printed copies of the updates in future meetings. Tina Watson, CAB Facilitator, noted that the material would have to be vetted first. Additionally, Ms. Corbett asked where the NGS came from and what components it was made of. Mr. Gifford gave a detailed overview of the components of the solvent and discussed its effective use timeline and how they decide when it is time to switch the solvent or formula.

As the discussion continued, Mr. Gifford, Pat McGuire DOE-SR, and Jim Folk DOE-SR joined together to answer both CAB and public questions about what would happen to the ARP/MCU infrastructure and equipment once the SWPF came online. They concluded that

ARP/MCU would not be D&D until some point after SWPF had proven itself to function as planned and at anticipated volumes. They were considering a 6-month to 1-year window, but they emphasized that no decision has been made on the exact period or when the unit would go offline.

Public Comment Session

There were no public comments.

Committee Chair Sheppard adjourned the WM Committee meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be held on April 12, 2016, at 4:30 – 6:20 pm at the New Ellenton Community Center in New Ellenton, SC.

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