

Recommendation 372
Proof of Implementation of Recommendations Accepted by DOE

Background

The Citizens Advisory Board Standard Operating Procedures, Article II, Section 2.2c state that members should “seek and receive information sufficiently early in the decision-making process to ensure that the Board’s recommendations can actually influence the decision-making process”. Regular presentations by DOE and contractors at the Full Board meetings; and based on the annual Work Plan, assist board members in gathering information used to write a recommendation for improvement in the processes and programs. And Section 2.2e provides guidance that “the Board shall make a good faith effort to balance information sources and obtain information on SRS activities, projects, and programs related to the board’s work plan.” Section 2.3a states that board members should provide DOE-EM with “input and recommendations concerning the process, content, public participation, and other policy aspects of EM environmental restoration, waste management, technology development, and other related EM activities at SRS.”

A recent study was conducted internally by board members and the results issued via a memorandum titled “Review DOE responses to SRS CAB recommendations” by Gregg Murray, Mach 16, 2022². This memorandum outlines that almost 1750 recommendations have been passed by the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Boards since 1994. “During the last 10 year period SRS CAB passed 105 recommendations. Data for analysis was provided by CAB Staff Team.” DOE has accepted 37% and partially accepted 46% and rejected 17%.

Recommendations

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board recommends that:

1. DOE provide clear and publicly accessible information regarding implementation of the accepted and partially accepted recommendations for the last five years. In addition to a clear statement about implementation status (e.g., "Implementation of the recommendation is complete (or “ongoing”, “suspended”, or “discontinued”), the information should include a brief explanation of any deviations from the DOE response to the recommendation.
2. DOE prepare an annual report summarizing the status of all accepted or partially accepted recommendation items and any recommendation action item completed during the reporting period.

Reference:

1. 2022 Citizens Advisory Board Members Information manual requires, Part 5, “Standard Operating Procedures”
2. Memorandum “Review DOE responses to SRS CAB recommendations” by Gregg Murray, Mach 16, 2022