



## **SRS Citizens Advisory Board**

### **Strategic & Long Term Issues Committee**

#### **Meeting Summary**

April 23, 2001  
North Augusta Community Center  
North Augusta, SC

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The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Strategic and Long Term Issues (S&LTI) Committee met on Monday, April 23, at the North Augusta Community Center, North Augusta, SC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the CAB Recommendations 120 and 121, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) status; Facility Disposition Division risk reductions program, the 2002 budget and hear public comments. Those in attendance were:

#### **CAB Members**

Mel Galin\*  
Bill Vogele\*  
J.G. Long\*  
David Adcock\*  
Karen Paterson

#### **Stakeholders**

Julie Corkran, EPA  
Melinda Holland, CRESP  
Russ Messick  
Bill McDonell  
Don Moniak  
Trish McCracken

#### **DOE/Contractors**

Jim Buice, DOE  
Steve Baker, DOE  
Julie Petersen, DOE  
Drew Grainger, DOE  
Teresa Haas, WSRC  
Dave Freeman, WSRC

\* Members of the S&LTI Committee

Note: Carlyne Williams, a member of the S&LTI Committee, was unable to attend.

#### **Welcome and Introduction:**

Mel Galen, S&LTI Committee Chair, welcomed those in attendance and asked them to introduce themselves. Mr. Galen reviewed the agenda and stated that Mark Frei, DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary of Project Completion, would be addressing the CAB on the 2002 budget at the full CAB meeting the next day, April 24.

#### **Recommendation 120 and 121:**

Jim Buice, DOE, reviewed the details behind both recommendations that had both been adopted on March 28, 2000 for the 2001 budget. Recommendation 120 is Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 Budget Deferment of Infrastructure Activities. Recommendation 121 is FY 2001 Budget Deferment of Pu 3013 Stabilization Capability. Based on the status of the recommendations it was decided to close both of them. As details of the 2002 budget unfold, new recommendations may be generated on either of the issues. It was requested that the status of the Pu 3013 program be presented at the May meeting.

#### **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Status:**

Drew Grainger, DOE, reviewed the status of the NEPA activities. He stated there were four Environmental Impact Statements (EISs):

- SRS High-level Waste Tank Closure – Final EIS expected in Summer 2001

- SRS Salt Disposition Alternatives – Draft EIS issued March 2001, Final expected in June 2001
- Disposition of Scrap Metals from Radiological Areas – Draft expected in December 2001 with final expected in June 2002
- Geologic Repository for Spent Nuclear Fuel – Final expected in December 2001.

There are also four Environmental Assessments (EAs):

- Offsite Shipments of Certain Low-Level and Mixed Waste – Final EA issued February 2001.
- Construction and Operations of the Low-Enriched Uranium (LEU) Loading Station – Final EA issued November 2000. Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) approved the interagency agreement on March 28, 2001.
- Alternate Approach for Defense Waste Process Facility (DWPF) Canister Storage – Project scope is being revised. Pre-approved EA will follow scope revisions.
- Removal, Transportation, and Storage of Strontium 90 Thermoelectric Generators. – Draft EA expected in summer 2001.

Mr. Grainger stated there are several potential NEPA reviews coming up.

- EIS on a Modern Pit Facility – Advanced Notice of Intent (NOI) is planned for Fiscal Year 2002. EIS will be prepared by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).
- EIS on Advanced Accelerator Applications Program / Accelerator Driven Test Facility – NEPA process would not begin until Fiscal Year 2002. EIS would be prepared by NNSA.

#### **Facility Disposition Division (FDD) Risk Reduction Program:**

Dave Freeman, WSRC, stated the FDD risk reduction program's purpose is to manage excess facilities to reduce risks and costs. All inactive facilities are placed on a list and facility hazard screening reviews are conducted. Cognizant facility personnel identify the facilities with the worse hazard from a facilities review checklist. The field reviews are evaluated from many conditions such as structural integrity, worker occupancy, industrial safety, radiological hazards, hazardous materials, environmental releases, and hazardous energy sources. The list is placed in priority order. Detailed facility evaluations are conducted by field walkdowns, document reviews and interviews. Hazards are identified and formally documented. A multi-disciplined team evaluates the hazards. The hazards are prioritized and then risk reduction activities are identified. The hazards requiring mitigation are identified and then the hazards mitigated.

Mr. Freeman showed pictures of the F Area Powerhouse that was removed because of the hazards that existed with the total structure. The facility hazard screening reviews are updated annually. Any newly identified hazards are evaluated and the hazards and risks status updated. Hazards are actively being removed so risks are minimized for the facility worker, the environment and the public.

#### **2002 Budget Discussion:**

Mr. Galin stated that the proposed 2002 budget revealed substantial dollars eliminated from the total budget and in particular from the SRS budget. He stated that the CAB should write a letter to Secretary Abraham expressing the CAB's displeasure in reductions in the clean up efforts at SRS. A draft letter was reviewed with the committee with many modifications made. Mr. Galin stated that each committee should review issues in their area and prepare a recommendation. He stated that perhaps the recommendations could be combined into one recommendation. It was suggested that the legislative delegations from both Georgia and South Carolina be sent a copy of the letter. After much discussion, all modifications to the letter were completed for discussion at the full CAB meeting on Tuesday, April 24.

Karen Patterson said that the Site Specific Advisory Board Chairman were going to write a combined letter to Secretary Abraham that would be out the end of April.

Ron Moniak requested that copies of *From Waste to Wilderness, Maintaining Biodiversity on Nuclear-Bomb-Building Sites*, by Robert H. Nelson, April 2001, be distributed to all CAB members. (Copies were made and distributed on April 24)

**Public Comment:**

Trish McCracken requested a copy of the packet that was mailed to the CAB members that included the letter from Senator Thurmond to Secretary Abraham. She also requested copies of letters sent to Secretary Abraham from members of the Georgia and South Carolina delegations.

With no other comments, the meeting was adjourned.

*Meeting handouts may be obtained by calling 1-800-249-8155.*