

**Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board
Draft Meeting Minutes
November 13-14, 2006
Augusta, Ga.**

Monday, November 13, 2006, Attendance

SRS CAB Members

Meryl Alalof
Donna Antonucci
Manuel Bettencourt
Tracey Carroll
Leon Chavous
Gerald Devitt
Mary Drye
Cynthia Gilliard
Judith Greene-McLeod
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman
Ranowul Jzar

Stakeholders

Sam Booher
Franklin Boulineau
Liz Goodson
Perry Holcomb
Charles Pair
Jack Roberts
Faye Walker

Bill Lawless
Wendell Lyon
Jimmy Mackey
Madeleine Marshall
Karen Patterson
Barbara Paul
Wade Waters
Alex Williams
Gloria Williams - Way

Regulators

Carolyn Haugabook EPA
Joan Litton, SCDHEC

Agency Liaisons

William Spader, DOE
Al Frazier GA DNR
Robert Pope, EPA
Shelly Sherritt, SCDHEC

DOE/Contractors

Steve Baker, DOE
Bert Crapse DOE
Gerri Flemming DOE
Julie Petersen DOE
Sheron Smith, DOE
Dawn Haygood, WSRC
Jim Moore, WSRC
Steve Thomas WSRC
Mike Schoener, MAS
Rick McLeod, V3
Mindy Mets, V3
Mitch Morgan, V3
Ron Schroder V3

Mike Schoener, Board Facilitator, opened the meeting by stating the meeting rules, including open participation by the public during the meeting. Two candidates for the 2007 Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) were present and introduced themselves as Charles Pair, retired from SRS and living in Augusta, GA, and William Franklin Boulineau, from Hephzibah, GA, a principal and chemistry teacher. Mr. Schoener announced that Gerri Flemming would be providing a presentation on Federal Administration of the SRS CAB following the day's meeting.

Waste Management Committee - Chaired by CAB Member Bill Lawless (for CAB Member Bob Meisenheimer)

Saltstone Permit Status

Shelly Sherritt, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), provided a presentation titled, "Proposed Permit Modification for the Saltstone Disposal Facility." Ms. Sherritt explained that the majority of SRS high level radioactive waste is to be disposed of in a federal repository, with a lesser volume of residual low-activity waste-planned for disposal in the Saltstone Disposal Facility. She explained that the process for disposal of those residuals is outlined in Section 3116 of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which recognizes four voices – U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the state (South Carolina, through a permit decision) and the public through public comment.

Ms. Sherritt also said that the DHEC objective is reduction of risk posed by 36 million gallons (about 420 million curies) of toxic and radioactive waste stored in aging tanks at SRS. Risk is reduced, she said, through waste treatment (specifically, continued operation of the Defense Waste Processing Facility and startup of the Salt Waste Processing Facility) and tank closures in accordance with the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) schedules, with minimized residuals remaining in South Carolina.

Ms. Sherritt explained that the Draft Saltstone Disposal Facility Permit Modification, which is available for public review and comment, has conditions for limited disposal, treatment facility schedules, and funding.

The draft permit conditions, she stated, set deadlines for startup of treatment facilities as follows: Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction/Actinide Removal Process by September 30, 2007, and the Salt Waste Processing Facility by September 30, 2011. The draft permit also requires the Department of Energy to identify required funding and to take all necessary steps to obtain timely funding, subject to penalties.

Ms. Sherritt stated that DHEC has requested public review and comment from October 3, 2006, through November 17, 2006. DHEC will review all comments received prior to making a final permit decision and will notify commenters and hearing participants of the final decision.

She introduced Ms. Joan Litton, SCDHEC, who is the manager of the division responsible for the draft permit.

CAB Member Madeleine Marshall asked about DOE's coordination with other sites that receive waste from SRS. William Spader, DOE Deputy Designated Federal Official, explained that while this permit is specific to SRS, DOE coordinates with other federal repositories receiving waste from SRS.

CAB Member Alex Williams inquired as to when and how the public can comment on the proposed permit and Ms. Sherritt noted the November 8th public meeting and provided the mailing address for sending public comments to DHEC. Ms. Litton noted that public comment information was posted in four area newspapers and played in radio announcements since October 3. The public comment period ends on November 17, 2006. CAB members were given the following point of contact to send comments: mccainjm@dhec.sc.gov, or to SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201, ATTN: John McCain.

CAB Member Bill Lawless asked about the number of comments SCDHEC has received to date. According to Ms. Litton, the number totaled around 15-20 at the public meeting and approximately five prior to the meeting.

Jack Roberts, general public, asked if DOE had bought into the conditions before the permit went out for public comment. Ms. Sherritt answered yes, stating that the permit reflects the DOE's input.

CAB Member Lawless reviewed two draft motions, one regarding critical elements of the disposition processing plan and the second regarding the PUREX and TRU Waste Updates (see attachment). All modifications and additions were discussed, and the committees agreed to submit the recommendations to the CAB for review and approval.

Strategic and Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee - Chaired by CAB Member Jimmy Mackey

CAB Member Jimmy Mackey reviewed a draft motion addressing the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL) funding. The motion was discussed and modifications were made. Following the discussions, the committees agreed to submit the recommendation to the CAB for review and approval.

2007 Budget Update

Mr. Steve Baker, of DOE-SR's budget office, provided an update on the SRS FY2007 budget and FY 2007/2008 priorities. He indicated that he could schedule a meeting to discuss Site priorities in-depth at a future S&LM Committee meeting.

Environmental Management (EM) priorities for 2007/2008 provided by Mr. Baker were:

- Safety and Security / Maintain Facilities
- Resource Conservation Recovery Act Commitments to State
- Continue DWPF production of vitrified liquid waste canisters
- Continue interim salt waste activities
- Continue design of Salt Waste Processing Facility
- Nuclear Material maintenance and disposition (Highly Enriched Uranium)
- Plutonium (Pu) Disposition Program
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Commitments
- Continue shipping of Legacy Drummed Low-Activity Transuranic (TRU) Waste to WIPP [spell out]
- Deactivation and Decommissioning (D&D) Activities: Complete facilities in process at end of FY06, with the exception of P-Area; P-Area funded scopes; Partial P-Area Reactor Deactivation

Mr. Baker explained that the total Site budget target levels for FY2007 totaled \$1,631M.

He reviewed the SRS Environmental Management activities in more detail, specifying that these figures represent *requests* made and clarifying that the figures may change once appropriations are actually made. These figures total \$1,317,640 and are summarized below (\$ in Thousands – Target Level):

- 2012 Completion Projects (EY85) 236,132
- 2035 Completion Projects (EY86) 277,338
- Tank Farm Activities Project (EY87) 570,924
- Safeguards & Security 163,626
- Program Direction 49,620
- Technology Development and Deployment 19,500
- Other EM Activities 500

CAB Member Lawless asked where the Salt Waste Disposal Facility funding is located in the listing, and Mr. Baker responded that this funding is in (EY87), Tank Farm Activities Project.

CAB Member Mackey pointed out that SREL does not clearly show up in this budget breakdown and explained that it should be visible in the breakout. He stated that was one of the reasons why the CAB wanted to proceed with its recommendation regarding SREL funding.

Mr. Baker noted that SREL funding had traditionally been requested in Non-Closure Mission Support (PBS 100), which is part of 2035 Completion Projects.

The Gold Metrics were discussed. CAB Member Lawless asked for clarification of the drop off in the number of high-level waste containers produced in FY2007.

At this point, Mr. Baker reviewed the FY2007 planned accomplishments of the following programs.

Nuclear Material Stabilization & Disposition (SR-0011B/C)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2020

Spent Nuclear Fuel Stabilization and Disposition (SR-0012)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2020

Solid Waste Stabilization & Disposition (SR-0013)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2012

Radioactive Liquid Tank Waste Stabilization and Disposition (SR-0014C)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2020

Soil and Water Remediation (SR-0030)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2025

Nuclear Facility D&D (SR-0040)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2025

Safeguards and Security (SR-0020)
Life-Cycle End State / End Date FY2025

Regarding the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF), Mr. Baker explained that the FY2007 Congressional Budget request was for a total project cost (TPC) of \$680M, based on a rough order of magnitude estimate provided by Parsons, the project's engineering, procurement and construction contractor. (*The FY2007 request, he stated, increased the FY2006 request for SWPF by \$240M and lengthened the project's schedule by 26 months.*) This information corrected: The \$680M request reflects an increase of \$240M over the previous years submission and also lengthens the project schedule by 26 months.

The primary driver for the increase to the estimated TPC was the adequacy of DOE standards for design of the safety confinement features of DOE nuclear facilities, including the SWPF. The Department directed that the safety

related performance category (PC) be increased from PC-2 to PC-3, which dictated much more stringent requirements.

CAB Chair Karen Patterson asked if this funding represented a decrease in anticipated funding. Mr. Spader, DOE, responded that the funding profile for D&D has changed, but the focus continues to be on waste disposition and supports the area completion strategy.

CAB Member Lawless asked what SWPF activity is actually expected to be completed in FY2007. Mr. Baker and Mr. Spader indicated that the strategy is to begin early construction activities by the end of FY2007.

Ms. Sherritt (DHEC) was asked by CAB Member Lawless if she was satisfied that FY2007 funding meets DOE's obligation for conditions outlined in the Saltstone draft permit. She stated that for FY2007 funding appears to support DOE's obligations, and future years will have to be proven. She noted that the future years will require more funding than FY2007. She also noted that the rest of the budget does seem to support regulatory requirements that DHEC oversees. The drop in the D&D and TRU funding is something that DHEC hopes is not a trend.

In response to CAB Member Jayaraman's question on how the 2007 budget compares to the 2006 budget, Mr. Baker said he would bring a slide with that information.

CAB Member Marshall asked if any budget issues, besides the SREL budget issue, are expected, and Mr. Baker responded that no other issues of that magnitude are currently anticipated.

Uncosted balances were brought up by CAB Member Mackey. Mr. Spader noted that overall, uncosted balances have trended down dramatically over the years and that the Site has very small uncosted balances at the end of the year.

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee - Chaired by CAB Member Mary Drye

CAB Member Mary Drye stated that the FD&SR Committee did not have a report; however, she was happy to receive any questions or concerns and will respond, as needed.

Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee - Chaired by CAB Member Manuel Bettencourt

CAB Member Bettencourt stated that the NM Committee met at the end of October and had a Plutonium Disposition Update presentation for the CAB meeting on Tuesday. He noted that there were four recommendations open and that the number will likely be updated following the Tuesday presentation.

Public Comments

Charles Pair introduced himself as a citizen running for election to the Board. He retired from SRS and has been involved in consulting work. He indicated that he was very interested in activities at the Savannah River Site after having spent many long hours at the Site and believed he could contribute to the Board. Mr. Pair came to Augusta in 1969 and has been in construction for 45 years.

Franklin Boulineau introduced himself as a candidate for election to the Board. He commented that he was thankful for the opportunity to attend the meeting and was excited about the information shared at the meeting. He was especially pleased about the fact that the SREL was a topic of interest to the Board.

Gerri Flemming relayed an e-mail submitted by Mr. William Palphreyman who is a candidate for selection to the Board. Mr. Palphreyman was unable to attend this meeting due to another obligation, but stressed that he is very interested in serving on the Board.

CAB Member Lawless expressed appreciations to Mindy Mets, the new Meeting Coordinator, and Sheron Smith, the new Federal Technical Coordinator, for supporting the Board and noted that Ms. Dawn Haygood was present so that the members would have an opportunity to speak with her.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting, Gerri Flemming, DOE Lead Federal Coordinator for the SRS Citizens Advisory Board, presented an overview of the Federal Administration of SRS Citizens Advisory Board.

Tuesday, November 14, 2006, Attendance

SRS CAB Members

Meryl Alalof
Donna Antonucci
Manuel Bettencourt
Tracey Carroll
Leon Chavous
Gerald Devitt
Mary Drye
Kuppuswamy Jayaraman
Ranowul Jzar
Bill Lawless
Wendell Lyon

Stakeholders

Barbara Smith
Charles Pair
Franklin Boulineau
Palmer Bowen, Forest Service
Jack Roberts

Jimmy Mackey
Madeleine Marshall
Robert Meisenheimer
Karen Patterson
Barbara Paul
Wade Waters
Alex Williams
Gloria Williams-Way

Regulators

Carolyn Haugabook EPA
Kim Newell, SCDHEC

Agency Liaisons

William Spader, DOE
Al Frazier, GA DNR
Robert Pope, EPA
Shelly Sherritt, SCDHEC

DOE/Contractors

Bert Crapse, DOE
Gerri Flemming, DOE
Dawn Gillas, DOE
Allen Gunter, DOE
Brian Hennessey, DOE
Julie Petersen, DOE
Howard Pope, DOE
Mike Simmons, DOE
Sheron Smith, DOE
Mike Schoener, MAS
Jim Moore, WSRC
Dawn Haygood, WSRC
Jim Heffner, WSRC
Mindy Mets, V3
Rick McLeod, V3
Mitch Morgan, V3
Ron Schroder, V3

SRS CAB members Arthur Domby, Mercredi Giles, Cynthia Gilliard, Judith Green-McLeod and Joe Ortaldo were unable to attend. The meeting opened with William Spader, DOE, serving as Designated Federal Official. Mike Schoener served as facilitator and Rick McLeod, was present as the CAB's Technical Advisor. The meeting was open to the public and posted in the *Federal Register* in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Approval of the Minutes

The meeting minutes of September 25-26, 2006, were approved with no changes.

Agency Updates

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC)

Shelly Sherritt, SCDHEC, discussed the status of radioactive liquid waste management issues and highlighted accomplishments over the year. SCDHEC has two main issues related to radioactive liquid waste and risk reduction, she stated, specifically, the salt waste processing and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) consultation process, as it impacts the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) schedules. Ms. Sherritt stated that SCDHEC was pleased with the agreements made in September that led to the recently issued Draft Permit Modification for the Saltstone Disposal Facility. This represents the commitment SCDHEC had been seeking from the DOE on treatment aspects related to the nuclear waste tank closure schedule and minimization of residuals that are disposed of in South Carolina. Ms. Sherritt encouraged public review and comment of the draft permit, stating that comments are due to the SCHDEC by November 17, 2006. The second area of concern, she stated, was the

predictability of the NRC consultation process under Section 3116 of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act and whether or not it supported the Site's ability to ultimately meet the tank closure schedules. She explained that this was an issue because it affected SCDHEC's ability to resolve an extension request for Tanks 18 and 19, currently in an informal dispute resolution between SCDHEC and the DOE.

Ms. Sherritt announced that DHEC, EPA and DOE would be celebrating the closure of T-Area at the end of November, noting that it represents the first complete area that has been closed at the Site and is the result of teamwork among SCDHEC, EPA and DOE. She stated that SCDHEC was also pleased that the Site surpassed its target level for FY2006 TRU disposition and that SCDHEC was currently working with DOE to amend an agreement in relation to Mound and Battelle TRU waste that will cover a new FY2007 target level of 3300 drums for TRU waste disposition. Ms. Sherritt stated that Don Siron has taken a new position with SCDHEC and will be in charge of cleanup programs related to Savannah River Site and will attend future meetings.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources/ Environmental Protection Division (GA DNR/EPD)

Al Frazier, GADNR/EPD, apologized for missing the last meeting due to significant problems from a new department accounting system that impacted travel funds. Mr. Frazier provided the following EPD comments to SCDHEC regarding the Draft Permit Modification for the Saltstone Disposal Facility:

“On behalf of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Environmental Protection Division, the Division would like to comment on the productive efforts of both the SCDHEC and DOE concerning the SCDHEC draft permit modification for the industrial solid waste permit for the SRS Saltstone disposal facility. It appears the draft permit has a number of resolutions to issues that have been concerns of the CAB, SCDHEC, and also the State of Georgia. Those concerns have been the amount of total curies (3-5 million) that will ultimately be disposed of in Saltstone, the major schedule setbacks in getting the salt waste treatment facilities constructed and on-line, and the DOE commitment to long term funding to ensure the ultimate goal of closure of all tanks is completed.

The draft permit appears successful in addressing these concerns as it will limit the curies disposed to a level "as low as reasonably achievable", limits the waste treated by the Dissolution, Deliquification, Adjustment D(DA) process to the 1.23 million gallons only contained in tank 41, establishes a hard date of September 30, 2007, for the startup of the Actinide Removal Process and the Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit to begin processing salt waste, establishes a hard date of September 30, 2011, for the Salt Waste Processing Facility to begin processing waste, requires DOE to take all necessary steps to obtain timely funding in support of the permit conditions, and requires DOE to complete all tank closures in compliance with DHEC's Federal Facility Agreement.

The issue of getting the high level wastes and low level wastes out of the aging waste tanks at SRS, processing the low level waste it into a stable grout mixture, vitrifying the high level fraction thru the operations of the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF), and disposing of the low level grout in a permitted industrial class landfill has been and remains a major goal. However, thru the ultimate issuance of this proposed permit, and DOE and SCDHEC working to ensure compliance with the finalized permit, both the citizens of SC and Georgia can feel a bit more comfortable that the potential for a major release from the storage tanks at SRS has and will be greatly decreased. The State of Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Environmental Protection Division commends and applauds these efforts and hopes that the SCDHEC and the DOE will continue to work together in achieving the ultimate effort of closing all waste storage tanks at the SRS facility.”

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Rob Pope, EPA, stated that the EPA was supportive of the SCDHEC position on salt waste processing and on issues of tank closures and meeting the FFA milestones. He also stated that the closure of T-Area was a major accomplishment and was the first area where D&D was completed. Soil and Groundwater came behind them to finish the rest of the area. Several operable units had action completed and these were all merged into one area operable unit. The process represents a good model for SRS. Mr. Pope commented that the EPA was pleased that Don Siron is SCDHEC's choice for cleanup programs at SRS, citing Mr. Siron's extensive knowledge of the Site.

Department of Energy

DOE Deputy Designated Federal Official, William Spader stated that SR Manager Jeff Allison regrets that he was unable to attend the CAB meeting due to business in Washington, DC. Mr. Spader stated while in Washington, with other members of the integrated project team, Mr. Allison is to receive the Secretary of Energy Project Management Achievement Award for the Glass Waste Storage Building #2, which was completed earlier this year, ahead of schedule and under budget. Mr. Spader proceeded to highlight a few accomplishments of the year, including completion of the F-Canyon complex deactivation, which was completed ahead of schedule. Processing was also

completed for all nuclear materials under two Defense Board Recommendations 94-1 and 2000-1. The T-Area closure was completed. The de-inventory of the F-Area materials storage facility resulted in a cost avoidance and a cost savings, as significant security upgrades were not needed. Additional accomplishments included 246 canisters poured at the Defense Waste Processing Facility, and SRS having met and exceeded the Battelle agreement for disposition of TRU waste.

Looking ahead, Mr. Spader noted some key opportunities for the Site, indicating that this is a significant year for the waste disposition program, which will focus on continued design on the Salt Waste Processing Facility and startup of the actinide removal process and the modular caustic side solvent extraction process. Additionally, he cited continued design of the Plutonium disposition project and continued disposition TRU Waste as key opportunities for progress.

Mr. Spader stated that the SWPF preliminary design had been reviewed by an independent team and a report is expected November 29, 2006. He said SRS is continuing to review schedule and cost in preparation for baselining the project early in CY 2007. Regarding the Saltstone Permit Modification, Mr. Spader noted the joint DOE, SCDHEC and NRC public meeting held on November 8, 2006, and recognized the presence and participation of CAB members at the meeting. He stated that the public comment period ends on November 17, 2006, and DOE, SCDHEC and the NRC will work together to address the comments from the process.

Regarding Section 3116 of the National Defense Authorization Act, Mr. Spader explained that SRS is continuing to work with the NRC to streamline the consultation process and noted that there would be a public meeting November 16, 2006, in Washington, D.C., to address issues with the process. Mr. Spader anticipates reaching an agreement with the NRC in early CY2007, stating that would be a good time to come back and brief the CAB on progress.

Mr. Spader also stated that the draft Request for Proposals for the management and operations contract for the Savannah River Site is available on the web. He also mentioned the legacy management strategic plan, which is currently in draft, is in the CAB members' packets and can also be reviewed online.

Following agency statements, Board members had some questions and comments. CAB Member Lawless asked Mr. Frazier (GADNR) for a copy of the draft GA DNR letter for use in citing in a CAB letter providing comments on the draft saltstone permit. He asked about the number of public comments received to date. Per Ms. Sherritt about 15 have been received, and she noted that comments had been heard for about 2 hours at the public meeting. Mr. Lawless asked about the T-Area cleanup completion and clarified that this completion is surface level with groundwater actions continuing. Mr. Pope (EPA) confirmed.

Public Comments

Charles Pair

Mr. Charles Pair introduced himself as a candidate for selection to the Board. He described himself as retired from Savannah River Site in 2003, and since that time has been doing construction consulting work overseas. After seeing the ad for CAB membership, he applied and is seeking membership to the CAB. Mr. Pair spent 18 years at the Site, with 99% of his time in the nuclear waste arena, including the construction of DWFP. He was also a construction manager on infrastructure required for the closure of tanks 17 and 20. He has worked other construction projects onsite and has worked in all areas of the site. Mr. Pair explained that he feels he can contribute to the board. He stated that a lot of the things going on at the Site have to do with infrastructure and he can bring that perspective to the board. In addition, he also had some concerns about the funding priorities while at the Site and thinks that is important to keep looking at.

Frank Boulineau

Mr. Frank Boulineau introduced himself as a retired public school teacher and administrator. Having received CAB publications he recognizes the important role of the board and is a candidate for membership to the CAB. Mr. Boulineau stated that he admires the work of the board and would like to be a more active part of the board. He has significant interest in the Savannah River Ecology Lab and knows the importance of the SREL to public education. In his early years and with a background in science, Mr. Boulineau found that his professors were very involved with the SREL and he was impressed with the work going on. As he became a teacher, he was able to connect to the lab and has also participated in the presentations for children. He stated that the connections he has made are truly special and explained seeing lab workers as advisors when cleaning out Spirit Creek. Mr. Boulineau reiterated that the SREL is valuable for many reasons, but is especially important to the citizens.

Donna Antonucci

CAB Vice-Chair Donna Antonucci commented that with elections to the Board in January, Jimmy Mackey and Bill Lawless would not be on the slate. She explained that she has depended on the information and insight they have shared with Board members. She expressed appreciation for all they have done for her in the last four years, thanked them, and urged them to continue to stay in touch with board members.

Chair Update

CAB Chair Patterson stated that she attended the DHEC public meeting, spoke at the meeting and reiterated the importance of issuing the saltstone permit modification and the CAB's support of issuing the permit.

Facilitator Update

Mr. Schoener provided the Recommendation Status report that indicated five recommendations were pending, meaning they were passed by the CAB, has been sent to DOE, and either the CAB has not received a response or is still evaluating the response. Twenty-seven recommendations are open, which means they have been sent to DOE, received a response, but some items require follow-up. There are 207 closed recommendations, meaning they are not awaiting responses from agencies.

Mr. Schoener suggested that the size of the report be minimized by showing details only for open and recent (within the last year) recommendations. Additional information is still available, if requested, but he is interested in minimizing the amount of paper and maximizing the value of the report. The report is also available on the internet.

CAB Members Lawless and Meisenheimer asked that future reports briefly list the actions that are taking place in addition to just listing the number of items pending and open. Mr. Schoener agreed to evaluate that and stated that this is a good topic for the next process retreat. CAB Member Jimmy Mackey asked where to make changes and was told to forward to Mindy Mets or Sheron Smith.

Strategic & Legacy Management Committee

A final draft recommendation, Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL) – Funding Reductions, was presented by CAB Member Mackey. The motion addressed concerns over recent funding reductions to the SREL, including future funding and the importance of the SREL to the community. Board members modified some wording and discussed the motion. CAB Member Lawless moved to adopt the motion, which was seconded by CAB Member Leon Chavous. The recommendation passed with a vote of 19 in favor, no opposition and no abstentions.

Mr. Mackey thanked the CAB members for their work on the motion.

Mr. Mackey noted that a response from DOE was received to Recommendation # 238 and he requested that CAB members review the response to the recommendation. He asked for feedback from the CAB.

CAB Member Barbara Paul provided an update on the repatriation of Native American remains. Some remains found during initial construction have not been repatriated and no headway has been made for at least 17 years due to legal issues. Ms. Paul thanked Mr. Mackey for opening the door to discussions that have occurred between the state archeologists, the Catawba tribe and those responsible for the 300 boxes of remains stored in state museums in South Carolina. An agreement is being drafted so that the Catawba tribe will be responsible for all of those remains plus others that may be unearthed.

Waste Management Committee

Mr. Howard Pope (DOE) provided a Solid Waste Program update.

He explained that Tansuranic (TRU) Waste was shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) , with 1150 cubic meters dispositioned in FY2006. He stated this represented 2930 drums shipped to WIPP, 497 drums shipped to Nevada Test Site (NTS) and 450 cubic meters disposed on-site as Low Level Waste (LLW). Also, he stated there were approximately 400 drums scheduled for shipment to NTS in FY2007 and the Battelle Columbus FY2006 commitment with SCDHEC to disposition 1,000 cubic meters was met 5 weeks early. He noted that there were 105 WIPP shipments planned for FY2007.

Mr. Pope reviewed TRU waste drum remediation, including the repackaging that began in 2006. He explained that Non Destructive Examination - NDE (x-ray) has been installed in E-Area vaults, and startup testing is underway. He stated that the Non Destructive Assay (NDA) equipment has been fabricated and delivery is expected from the vendor in the spring of 2007 with plans to be operational in FY2008.

He explained that some Technical and cost delays have pushed project completion to FY2007 and the project costs are \$7M for NDA and \$8M for NDE.

Mr. Pope further explained that the SRS TRU Waste Program Plans for FY2007-08, which included: disposition of 3,300 - 3,500 TRU waste drums in FY2007, submission of the RCRA Part B Permit for TRU Pads 1&2 in FY2007, startup of the large box WIPP characterization line in FY2008, completion of disposition of low activity drummed inventory in FY2008 (~7,000 drums), reduction of the TRU waste storage foot print by 7 pads in FY2008 and initiation of TRUPACT-III and Battelle RH-TRU waste shipments from SRS in FY2008.

A question was asked about the meaning of drop testing and Mr. Pope explained that this is one test to ensure that material can be transported safely. A container is raised to a specified height, and then dropped in order to evaluate the integrity of the container. CAB Member Lawless stated that the Committee wants to get a final report on the results of the drop tests.

Mr. Pope also explained that PUREX is the Plutonium URanium Extraction Process, which is a chemical process for separating plutonium and uranium from fission products. He said the PUREX solvent is composed of tributyl phosphate and n-paraffin, which is similar to kerosene. The PUREX Waste Types are legacy aqueous PUREX waste, legacy organic PUREX waste, and F-Canyon PUREX waste. The legacy aqueous PUREX treatment was completed in 2004. Some F-Canyon PUREX treatment has occurred and Perma-Fix has contracted to treat/dispose of the remaining F-Canyon PUREX and Legacy Organic PUREX waste. F-Canyon PUREX shipments to Perma-Fix are scheduled for completion by the end of January 2007 and Legacy PUREX shipments are scheduled for completion by the end of June 2007. Also, SRS has accelerated the Site Treatment Plan (STP) for treating Legacy Organic Purex from 2019 to September 30, 2007.

CAB Member Lawless commented that the CAB has been pushing for completion of the treatment of Organic PUREX for some time and has passed recommendations on the topic and thus deserves a lot of credit for focusing attention on this issue.

Rob Pope (EPA) noted that in the recent LLW disposition document from DOE-HQ, it seems that after 2010 SRS plans to send some mixed LLW to NTS. However, the document also points out that after 2010, NTS will lose its ability to take mixed low-level waste. Mr. Pope conveyed that this might be identified as a future need.

CAB Member Mackey questioned the amount of time and money DOE spent before making the decision to use a commercial company to handle the F-Canyon PUREX waste. Howard Pope explained that some issues did come up as the decision was made to use Perma-Fix, but he is confident in the current decision.

Ms. Patterson, CAB Chair, explained that the Oak Ridge CAB was concerned about incineration of PUREX coming from SRS. Mr. Pope explained that the RCRA part of the PUREX will be taken out and the remaining part would then be low level waste; the two types will be treated separately.

Mr. Pope also discussed the Consolidated Incineration Facility (CIF) closure and decommissioning. He explained that the CIF was completed 1996 and was originally intended to support the liquid waste program. CIF decommissioning could start in FY2011 and the facility would be decommissioned to the slab. He noted that discussions with EPA and SCDHEC are ongoing.

CAB Member Lawless commented that the postponement from 2008 to 2011 represents a large savings of money that would otherwise have to be spent soon.

To conclude, the presenter, Howard Pope, explained that disposal of 29,375 cubic meters of LLW has resulted in steady state operations and zero legacy LLW on the Site at the end of FY2005. Legacy Mixed LLW is down to 9.1 cubic meters, excluding PUREX (101 cubic meters) and Tritiated Oil (18 cubic meters).

CAB Member Gerald Devitt noted that the CAB had used a focus group to address the issues that Mr. Pope discussed and that the CAB has been significant in these achievements. CAB Member Wade Waters also commented on the history of the process that brought activities to this point and stated that he was pleased to witness the accomplishments.

CAB Member Lawless next introduced the motion titled, Progress of PUREX and TRU Waste Disposition. Board members discussed the motion, making some wording modifications and clarifications. CAB Member Mackey seconded Mr. Lawless' motion and a vote was taken. The recommendation passed with 18 in favor, no opposition and no abstention.

The next motion, Disposition Processing Plan Critical Elements, was introduced by CAB Member Bob Meisenheimer and explained by CAB Member Lawless. Following review, modifications and discussion, CAB Member Alex Williams moved to accept the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The recommendation passed with a vote of 17 in favor of the motion, no opposition and no abstentions.

Administrative Committee Report

CAB Administrative Committee Chair, Meryl Alalof, reviewed the final budget summary of the year, showing a total expenditure of \$317,763. CAB Chair, Karen Patterson, noted that CAB travel exceeded the allocation and that the amount allocated should be re-evaluated for the next year.

Ms. Alalof stated that the Administrative Committee met to review the slate of candidates for 2007 and that voting will take place at the January 2007 CAB meeting. Also, she stated, committee chairs will be elected and anyone interested in running for chair should submit their name to Mindy Mets (Meeting Coordinator) by noon on January 17, 2007. Once committee chairs are elected, vice-chairs will be selected. Notebooks, containing information about all of the candidates, were distributed to all members who were encouraged to carefully review them in order to make an informed decision in January.

CAB Member Lawless asked if there were any impacts to the budget from the CAB administration transition. Gerri Flemming (DOE) explained that she will be monitoring expenses and that as of now, no significant impacts are anticipated.

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee

CAB Committee Chair, Mary Drye, introduced Jim Heffner (WSRC) who provided an overview of the SRS Environmental Report for 2005.

Mr. Heffner reviewed environmental monitoring, program requirements, applicable DOE Orders and best management practices and applicable regulations. He provided background on the program and described the types of surveillance samples taken at the Site. These include: ambient air, rainwater, surface water, drinking water, food products, deer and hogs, fish/shellfish, soil, sediment, vegetation, and groundwater. He stated that monitoring occurs at radiological air surveillance locations, radiological water sampling locations, and fish sampling locations. CAB Member Lawless asked if locations are benchmarked. Mr. Heffner conveyed that generally offsite there are no radiological nuclides except for Tritium that are detectable or that are detectably different from world-wide background.

Mr. Heffner stated that the 2005 monitoring involved 10,000 samples and 30,000 analyses and results show that all of the environmental media are below appropriate regulatory or public safety standards offsite. He also stated that calculations are made using the concept of maximally exposed individual (MEI).

A 2005 dose summary was reviewed. Also, Board members discussed the 2005 special case sportsman dose calculations for fish, deer and hogs.

The compliance status for the Clean Air Act was noted with a compliance rate of 100 percent and no notices of violation. Compliance for the Clean Water Act was described with a NPDES compliance rate of 99.97 percent, no notices of violation and one exceedance (TSS at A-11) in 3,493 analyses.

Nonradiological surveillance occurs at SRS and shows average concentrations at all river and stream sites are less than the EPA's drinking water standards. Mercury in fish is monitored, and observations show maximum concentrations ($\mu\text{g/g}$) as follows:

- Bass: 4.08 (Steel Creek mouth)
- Bream 1.25 (Augusta Lock & Dam)
- Catfish 2.11 (Steel Creek mouth)

Long-term trends indicate that overall stream and river water quality below SRS is higher than above the plant and monitoring has shown that Site operations have not had any adverse impact on the water quality of SRS streams and the Savannah River.

In closing, Mr. Heffner explained that the SRS comprehensive environmental monitoring program has shown that the Site's airborne and liquid releases to the environment continue to decline. For 2005, the radiation dose to the public living near SRS is well below DOE's 100-mrem/year standard. Also, the downriver water consumer is well below the EPA's 4-mrem/year standard.

CAB Member Barbara Paul asked about the reason why fish are sampled only offsite and Mr. Heffner explained that this is because fish are not to be caught or consumed onsite. However, if the fish do leave the Site boundaries they are subject to sampling. Also, Ms. Paul asked if elevated mercury levels result in an advisory being issued and Mr. Heffner answered that, in SC, the answer is yes. Mr. Heffner also clarified that the sportsman dose calculation is based only on consumption of the meat not on other sources onsite.

CAB members discussed fish monitoring and agreed they would like to have a presentation from the SCDHEC explaining their monitoring results in the region.

Mr. Heffner provided a second presentation titled, Implementation of an SRS Game Animal Administrative Dose Release Limit. He provided the public game animal administrative dose limits as described in the table below:

Criteria	1965-2005 Hunts	Beginning in 2006
DOE Public Dose Limit	100 mrem/year	100 mrem/year
SRS Game Animal Administrative Limit	None	30 mrem/year

Mr. Heffner explained that the SRS administrative limit change is consistent with DOE-HQ guidance and ensures that game animals only attribute a maximum of 30% of the total allowable public dose. The hunter dose database was revised as a result of the change. Changing the Administrative Limit also changed the notifications so people would know what was being done and why.

Mr. Heffner concluded the presentation stating that the implementation of an administrative game animal release limit is part of the ongoing commitment by DOE-SR and its contractors to evaluate and implement programmatic changes to protect the public and environment from excessive exposure to radiation from SRS activities.

Public Comments

Ms. Meryl Alalof thanked Dawn Haygood (former CAB Administrator) for her service to the CAB and personal assistance to the Administrative Committee.

Ms. Haygood thanked the CAB and stated that she had worked with Sheron Smith and Mindy Mets (the new administrators) over the last month. She stated that the CAB is in great hands and that things will be fine with the new administration.

Barbara Smith, candidate for the Board, introduced herself. She has worked at the site for 18 ½ years and is currently working as a computer security engineer. Barbara has worked in each facility onsite and is hoping to be of assistance to the Board.

Nuclear Materials Committee Summary

CAB Committee Chair, Manuel Bettencourt, introduced Mr. Allen Gunter (DOE) who presented information about the Plutonium (Pu) Disposition Project, for which the Plutonium vitrification process will be used.

Mr. Gunter provided an update on the project, which is driven by the need to clean up EM sites and the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2002 (Public Law 107-107, Section 3155). He explained that the law requires a disposition pathway out of South Carolina for all plutonium transferred to the Savannah River Site and requires a report to Congress offering a disposition pathway if the Plutonium Immobilization Plant is cancelled. In 2002, he stated, the Plutonium Immobilization Plant was cancelled, meaning that the report has not been issued. The Plutonium Disposition Project will resolve that issue by providing a disposition pathway for materials that do not meet the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX) specifications. Plans for the project include completing the vitrification processing in K Area prior to completion of DWPF operations and for the material to be in a form suitable for disposal in a geological repository. Project construction is planned for completion, followed by startup in FY2013, resulting in completing the K-Area de-inventory by the end of FY2019. A conceptual design was provided and reviewed.

To update the project status, Mr. Gunter explained that the mission need (referred to as CD-0) was approved by Deputy Secretary Sell on September 6, 2005. The conditions for this, he said, included reviewing alternatives for processes and considering modifications of existing facilities or of facilities under development. On August 17, 2006, he continued, the selection of a preferred technology alternative and location (known as CD-1A) was approved by Deputy Secretary Sell, which means that vitrification has been approved as the preferred technology alternative for the Pu Disposition Project and that SRS is the preferred site. The approval for the alternative selection and cost range (known as CD-1) is scheduled for DOE approval on September 30, 2007. Preliminary Design will begin after approval of CD-1 with appropriate National Environmental Policy Act reviews to be conducted prior to CD-2 approval.

Additional key activities and dates were reported to the Board by Mr. Gunter. These include a proposed preliminary design start date in the first quarter of FY2008 and proposed CD-4 approval in FY2013, with a cost range for the project anticipated at \$300-\$500M. The preferred site is located in the K-Area Complex*. Some discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

* This sentence modified following STI review to better describe the location.

Handouts

SRS CAB Agenda, November 13-14, 2006

Proposed Permit Modification for the Saltstone Disposal Facility

Disposition Processing Plan Critical Elements, Draft, Joe Ortaldo, CAB

PUREX and TRU Waste Updates, Draft, Joe Ortaldo, CAB

2007 Budget Update, S.A. Blanding, DOE

SREL Funding Reductions, Draft, Jimmy Mackey, CAB

Office of Legacy Management Strategic Plan, October 2006

Federal Administration of the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board, Gerri Flemming, DOE

SRS Gold Metrics, October 2006

SRS CAB Recommendation Summary

Solid Waste Program Update, Howard Pope, DOE

SRS CAB FY 2006 Budget Summary

An Overview of the SRS Environmental Report for 2005, Jim Heffner, WSRC

Implementation of an SRS Game Animal Administrative Dose Release Limit, Jim Heffner, WSRC

Plutonium Disposition Project

SRS CAB 2007 Calendar