

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board – Combined Committees Meeting**  
**North Augusta, SC**  
**May 20, 2013**

**Monday, May 20, 2013 Attendance:**

**CAB**  
Thomas Barnes  
Artisha Bolding- *Absent*  
Dr. Donald Bridges  
Ed Burke-*Absent*  
William Calhoun  
Louie Chavis  
Robert Doerr-*Absent*  
Kathe Golden  
Jessica Grainger  
Dr. Rose Hayes  
Dr. Virginia Jones  
Cleveland Latimore  
Clint Nangle  
Dr. Marolyn Parson  
Larry Powell  
Dr. William Rhoten  
Earl Sheppard  
Harold Simon  
John Snedeker-*Absent*  
George Snyder  
Nina Spinelli- *Absent*  
James Streeter  
Ed Sturcken-*Absent*  
Christopher Timmers  
Louis Walters

**DOE**  
Dr. David Moody, DOE-SR  
Pat McGuire, DOE-SR  
Terry Spears, DOE-SR  
Karen Guevara, DOE-SR  
Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR  
Avery Hammett, DOE-SR  
Angelia Adams, DOE-SR  
Jean Ridley, DOE-SR  
Rich Olsen, DOE-SR  
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR  
Julie Petersen, DOE-SR

**Agency Liaisons/Regulators**  
Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC  
Van Keisler, SCDHEC  
Heather Cathcart, SCDHEC  
Crystal Robertson, SCDHEC  
Scott Simons, SCDHEC  
Kim Brinkley, SCDHEC  
Gregory O'Quinn, SCDHEC

**Contractors**  
Kevin Kostelnik, SRNS  
John Gilmour, SRNS  
Dave Olson, SRR  
Ginger Dickert, SRR  
Kim Hauer, SRR  
Larry Ling, SRR  
Mark Schmitz, SRR  
Ashley Whitaker, NOVA  
James Tanner, NOVA  
Jesslyn Anderson, NOVA

**Stakeholders**  
Patricia McCracken  
Karen Patterson  
Kaylee Jacoby  
Frances Close  
Amanda Hill-Attkisson  
Dianne Valentin  
Betsy Rivard  
CeCe Anderson  
Peter LaBerge  
Elaine Cooper  
Wanda Breedlove  
Robert Ingham  
Clint Wolfe  
Joanne Williams  
Becky Rafter  
Joe Ortaldo  
Tom Clements  
Bobbie Paul  
Lisa Darden  
Connie Young  
Jesse Young  
Charles Munns  
Nancy Bobbitt  
Dawn Gillas  
David Hoel  
David Natos  
John Michael  
Suzanne Rhodes  
Cassandra Fralix  
Chris Hall  
Courtney Hanson  
David Stinson  
Susan Corbett  
Wilkins Byrd  
Gerald Jennings  
Judy Greene  
Bill Lawless

CAB Facilitator, Ashley Whitaker, NOVA, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reviewed the Meeting Rules of Conduct and reviewed the day's agenda. She reminded everyone how to access electronic copies of meeting materials through the CABNET meeting feature. She stated copies of the CAB Spring newsletter were available before welcoming CAB Chair Donald Bridges to open the meeting.

CAB Chair Bridges introduced the newest CAB member, Mr. Louis Walters, who was attending his first Full Board Meeting, and then opened the meeting.

## **Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee Overview- Marolyn Parson, Chair**

CAB member Marolyn Parson listed the FD&SR Committee members and reviewed the committee's objectives. She provided a recommendation status update, stating that recommendations 293 and 294 were open. She reviewed each recommendation before discussing the presentations from the April 9, 2013 FD&SR Committee meeting. CAB member Parson stated the "Revisit of the Area Completion Strategy" presentation given by Ms. Angelia Adams, DOE-SR, was significant since the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) were concerned there were time periods where minimal cleanup work was scheduled to be completed. She announced the next FD&SR Committee meeting would be held on June 11, 2013, and reviewed presentations scheduled for that meeting. She also asked the FD&SR Committee members to review recommendation 294 and be ready to discuss the SRS preparedness brochure and Government Accountability Offices (GAO) report since she hoped to discuss them at the next meeting. CAB member Parson mentioned the scheduled presentation for that day, "Federal and State Regulatory Oversight of Cleanup Activities" would be rescheduled.

## **Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee Overview- Rose Hayes, Chair**

CAB member Rose Hayes listed the previous NM Committee members and reviewed the committee's purpose. She provided a recommendation status update, stating recommendation 302 was open. She announced the next NM Committee meeting would be held on June 25, 2013, and reviewed presentations scheduled for that meeting. CAB member Hayes mentioned a draft recommendation the NM Committee hoped to submit to DOE at the meeting. She then reviewed the presentations scheduled for the next day and began discussions on the draft recommendation.

### **Recommendation Discussion**

"Chemical Separation or Partitioning and Transmutation (P/T) of Used Nuclear Fuel and Defense High Level Radioactive Waste"

CAB member Hayes introduced and read the proposed recommendation before opening the floor for comments.

CAB member Kathe Golden asked if the partitioning and transmutation procedures were used in a production or commercial manner. CAB member Hayes replied she did not think the techniques were used in the United States, but thought the techniques were being studied in Russia.

Dr. David Moody, Site Manager, stated CAB member Hayes was summarizing what had been accomplished after extensive separation and division of waste into component fractions. He explained the type of technology discussed in the recommendation was only interesting to separation scientists and had low practical value for managing High-Level Waste or used nuclear fuel (UNF). Dr. Moody said DOE would update the CAB, but mentioned there was not a "magic bullet" that could be used to manage UNF or High-Level Waste. CAB member Hayes thanked everyone for the input and stated she planned to vote on the recommendation the next day.

## **Waste Management (WM) Committee Overview- Earl Sheppard, Vice Chair**

CAB member Earl Sheppard listed the WM Committee members and reviewed the committee's purpose. He allowed CAB Chair Bridges to discuss a letter the CAB sent to DOE in January about expanding the board's charter to include discussions on other cleanup activities besides Environmental Management (EM) cleanup.

CAB member Sheppard provided a recommendation status update, stating that recommendations 269, 290, 297, 298, 299, 300, and 301 were open. He stated the next WM Committee meeting was scheduled for June 25, 2013 before he reviewed the presentation topics scheduled for that meeting.

### **Recommendation Discussion**

"Replacing Glass Waste Storage Building (GWSB) #3 with GWSB#1"

CAB member Sheppard briefly reviewed the draft recommendation before opening the floor for discussion. CAB Chair Bridges asked if the months of August and September were still viable dates for DOE to provide information to the

CAB. Mr. Terry Spears said he understood the need for the recommendation, but he suggested pushing back the requested dates by a month of two, since nothing should happen between September and October. Mr. Spears said there was no harm in changing the dates and it would actually give DOE-SR more time to be able to meet the dates.

Mr. Bill Lawless, a member of the public, recommended changing item number one of the recommendation to include the possibility of future vitrified High-Level Waste inventories that meet the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant-Waste Acceptance Criteria (WIPP-WAC). Mr. Spears, in response to Mr. Lawless, explained the forecast for the radionuclide inventory in those canisters would get higher over time.

“Savannah River Site’s Citizens Advisory Board position on using SRS for interim Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel”

CAB Chair Bridges provided a brief background of the draft recommendation. He provided a summary on the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) on America's Nuclear Future to brief everyone on the issues of spent nuclear fuel (SNF). He stated the recommendation about using SRS for Interim Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel raised major concerns from members of the CAB and public. He stated since the CAB has been so interested, the Board decided to seek input very early in the stage. CAB Chair Bridges explained the topic was controversial and sensitive, but encouraged everyone to keep an open mind. CAB Chair Bridges felt the recommendation should be changed to a position paper and be voted on around September or November.

Ms. Karen Patterson, Governors Nuclear Advisory Council (GNAC), stated she had a different interpretation of the recommendation and response. She explained that the suggestion made by the CAB, was that South Carolina put enforceable agreements in place if DOE decided to bring waste to SRS. She stated DOE was committed to the consent-based process, but unfortunately, no one understood the consent process. She said GNAC would not take a position on the issue since a final decision would be years away. Ms. Patterson stated, “I think it would be foolish of the CAB to put a stake in the sand here when you have no idea, five or ten years from now, what will transpire.”

Dr. Moody, DOE-SR, stated the intent of the January 2013 response was focused towards DOE being committed to following the consent-based process; however, he said DOE did not know if enforceable milestones would be negotiated between certain state entities. He stated DOE-SR was committed to the consent-based process, and planned to move forward with the process.

Mr. Joe Ortaldo, public, said he thought the recommendation was well written; however, felt it would be premature of the CAB to make a decision at that time since DOE would not make a decision for several months. Mr. Ortaldo stated he wrote down wording suggestions and questions for the recommendation, which he provided to the CAB Support Team. A copy of his suggestions are attached to this document.

CAB member William Calhoun asked for clarification on the issue of the material from Canada. Mr. Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR, explained the amended Record of Decision (ROD) was approved in April, which authorized the receipt of material from Canada, which is a couple of years off. He explained that H-Canyon would have to undergo preparations before that material could be unloaded at SRS.

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, asked about past recommendations the CAB voted on, including decisions where there was no policy or no legal basis. Mr. Clements said, “This is quite a reversal from the way the CAB has been acting in the past, so I wish you could clarify if I am not catching onto the real conflict, or if you are trying to establish a policy where the CAB should never take action where there is no firm legislation or policy in place.” CAB Chair Bridges stated he did not mean to suggest that the CAB would not take a policy or position; however, the recommendation greatly impacted the community and would be voted on at a later time. Mr. Clements, asked for an explanation about why the recommendation process was different since the recommendation was introduced at the committee level in April. CAB Chair Bridges discussed the input he received from CAB member Ed Burke and explained the CAB would not vote on the recommendation at that time.

CAB member Golden said that multiple times the CAB wrote recommendations that said the board did not want material brought in without a path forward. She commented that interim storage could be 200 or 300 years away, but she did not know anyone that would not vote for this recommendation. She stated the CAB should decide what needed to be done with the recommendation.

Mr. Charles Munns, public, commented that he liked the recommendation and encouraged the CAB to take a broader look and that it was premature to vote now. He stated that he agreed that it was very early in the process. He stated that the CAB was charged with focusing on EM cleanup efforts at the site, but he encouraged the CAB to develop a broader view of the situation.

Ms. Suzanne Rhodes, public, stated that if SRS brings the type of fuel, that the BRC was considering, that would be about twice the metric tons that were already under DOE's responsibility.

Ms. Becky Rafter, GAWAND, thanked the CAB for allowing the public to have an opportunity to comment on the recommendation. She stated that she supported the recommendation.

Ms. Elaine Cooper, Sierra Club, asked the CAB use the correct wording so the recommendation does not seem like a form of consent. She explained that several people throughout the community are watching South Carolina.

CAB member Parson stated she was confused with the procedures since when a recommendation was discussed on day one of a full board meeting that usually meant that it was voted on day two. She stated the only time she had seen that the recommendation did not go to day two was when the CAB said to table a recommendation. CAB Harold Simon stated that CAB member Parson was correct.

Mr. Terry Spears, DOE-SR, stated his understanding was that the committee was not ready to make a decision on the recommendation. He explained that the committee should decide whether or not to make it a recommendation or position paper. He stated that the day's meeting was simply another way for the public and CAB to discuss the recommendation so the committee can take everyone's comments under consideration when it makes a final decision.

Ms. Susan Corbett, Sierra Club, stated the South Carolina Sierra Club completely endorsed the recommendation. She said the meeting had taken a confusing turn, which she felt muddled the progress that had been made. She stated, "As an observer, the only reason I can think of why the recommendation would not be voted on was because the people making the recommendation realize that it would pass if it was voted on today." She stated that she felt the majority of the CAB and majority of South Carolina citizens did not want SRS to be the nation's nuclear waste site or create any other projects, such as reprocessing, that would create a legacy of more waste at SRS.

"Revising DOE Order 435.1"

CAB member Sheppard introduced this draft recommendation. Mr. Bill Lawless suggested adding a third item to the recommendation, which asked the CAB to be included in public comments and discussions on DOE Order 435.1. Mr. Lawless suggested adding a sentence within the comment section of the recommendation, which addresses the fact that SRS already ships "unMOXable plutonium in special containers to Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), this plutonium meets the WIPP-WAC, but it has likely a greater concentration of fissile material than does the vitrified high-level waste." CAB member Sheppard agreed with the additional sentence Mr. Lawless provided, and the changes were made.

### **Strategic & Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee Overview- Clint Nangle, Chair**

CAB member Clint Nangle listed the S&LM Committee members and reviewed the committee's purpose. He provided a recommendation status update, stating that recommendations 288 and 302 were open. He stated that recommendation 302 was a joint recommendation with the NM Committee, which both he and CAB member Hayes decided to leave open at that time.

CAB member Nangle addressed the proposed recommendation entitled, "Assessment of SRS Epidemiology Studies," which was discussed at the April 9, 2013 S&LM Committee meeting; however, he said the committee decided to wait and discuss the recommendation at the June 11 S&LM Committee meeting. CAB member Nangle asked for input on the value of an epidemiological studies update.

CAB member Hayes stated the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) would conduct an epidemiological study of six nuclear plants. She also mentioned studies conducted by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or National Academy of Sciences (NAS). CAB member Hayes volunteered to provide the six sites to CAB member Nangle. He mentioned the committee would address concerns about an epidemiology study update once CAB member Hayes provided the committee with the name of the six sites.

CAB Chair Bridges asked CAB member Nangle about the progress of the recommendation. CAB member Nangle stated he was unsure about recommending DOE conduct an epidemiology study during this budget-conscious time. Ms. Karen Patterson referenced an epidemiological study that was conducted by the CDC on SRS employees and told the CAB to review that presentation.

CAB member George Snyder stated the S&LM Committee had not received any reason for the study. He said the CAB should focus on writing recommendations pertaining to cleanup instead of conducting studies. CAB member Nangle stated the next committee meeting would be held on June 11, 2013 from 4:00-5:50 P.M. at the DOE Meeting Center.

CAB member Calhoun asked if SCDHEC had any concerns with the last epidemiological study being 10 years old. Ms. Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC, replied there was no pressing need to perform another epidemiological study since every year SCDHEC had performed monitoring at SRS, there have been no drastic changes in the research results.

### **Administrative & Outreach (A&O) Committee Overview- Cleveland Latimore, Vice Chair**

CAB member Cleveland Latimore reviewed the purpose of the A&O Committee before he reminded everyone the spring issue of the Board Beat newsletter had been released. He reminded CAB members that updated copies of the CAB contact information sheets were placed at each of their seats. He encouraged everyone to visit the CAB Facebook page and the website at cab.srs.gov. He mentioned the CAB Support Team recently held a Google Hangouts training session. He stated the 2014 Membership Campaign was underway and encouraged CAB members to think of new outreach efforts to attract potential members. He then introduced Mr. Clint Wolfe to begin his presentation.

### **PRESENTATION: Community Presentation- Clint Wolfe, Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA)**

Mr. Wolfe stated the purpose of his presentation was to discuss teacher workshops that CNTA offered, with the help of the American Nuclear Society (ANS), for high school and middle school teachers. He stated the main objective of the workshops was to equip teachers with better information about the nuclear industry. He listed various groups that help CNTA sponsor the workshops and the type of materials teachers are able to take back to the classroom. Mr. Wolfe listed the various workshops, which included: power generation fundamentals, nuclear fundamentals, fission, nuclear power plants, radiation, half-life, radiation protection, and general radiation risks. He briefly described each session and the type of interactive activities teachers' experience. He stated that once teachers attend a CNTA workshop, they were equipped with the knowledge to frame public discourse, provide substantive information to the public, and increase public confidence in regulatory oversight.

CAB member Hayes asked Mr. Wolfe if he was suggesting that SRS, and the surrounding community, should consider SRS as a future consolidation site for the country's nuclear waste. Mr. Wolfe said he was not suggesting that because he did not know what making that suggestion entailed. He said he heard that Nuclear Energy (NE) was going to entertain a proposal to define a consent-based process, site a pilot facility, and then locate an interim storage facility. He stated that an interim storage facility would offer significant amounts of technology, investment, and research and development (R&D); however, he encouraged the CAB to see what the government proposed before disagreeing with the idea.

CAB member Hayes stated that a majority of the concern about SRS becoming the consolidated storage site was because there have been several government proposals; however, nothing had moved from SRS. Dr. Moody replied that all the legacy transuranic (TRU) waste should be shipped in fiscal year (FY) 2014, while off-spec plutonium and highly enriched uranium (HEU) feed had also been shipped from SRS. CAB member Hayes stated she misspoke and restated, "I should have said High-Level Waste and SNF." Dr. Moody replied, that DOE-SR had permission to process a portion of the SNF in L-Basin, which would be blended down and shipped from SRS. CAB member Hayes asked if the HEU would be leaving SRS and then be replaced by foreign and domestic receipts. Dr. Moody stated there certainly was more coming in, but the goal was not to expand any of the storage positions in L-Basin. Dr. Moody said he hoped, the budget would allow for processing material; however, at a minimum DOE-SR would process the material at a rate that would not require additional storage racks in L-Basin. CAB member Hayes asked if there would be added material in L-Basin. Dr. Moody replied, "If we have it our way, we will process it and have an empty L-Basin."

CAB member Calhoun asked Dr. Wolfe if he saw a future of nuclear energy developing natural gas missions. Dr. Wolfe replied that he did see a future but, first natural gas is kind of like the "fad of the moment, but nuclear power is up and

Mr. John Michael, GAWAND, commented on the cancer rates found within Mr. Wolfe's presentation. Mr. Michael stated he felt as though Mr. Wolfe's figures were inaccurate and stated several people died from the accident at Three Mile Island. Mr. Michael said he felt there was a disservice being done when nuclear power was sold if no one admitted the large-scale cancer effects. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would provide Mr. Michael with sources of his information.

CAB Chair Bridges asked Mr. Wolfe what he thought would be viable new missions for SRS. Mr. Wolfe replied, "An obvious one, if the nation decided to pursue it, would be new reactor technology in order to determine if the waste could be used as a fuel. There could be a case made in the future for reprocessing and maybe a combination of recycling with fast reactors could both minimize nuclear waste and be a very important energy source. Those are all things I think the site, and surrounding area, have assets and technical capability to make a reality."

Ms. Lisa Darden, a member of the public, commented she had been reading that nuclear power really costs citizens a lot more money. She stated in Bavaria, Germany, studies were being conducted on emissions, and September 22, 2011, increased emissions occurred. Mr. Wolfe explained the nuclear utility industry was a net contributor to the United States Treasury since it paid the waste fund.

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, asked Mr. Wolfe if he had an estimate for the construction of a reprocessing plant. Mr. Wolfe did not have an estimate of the construction costs; however, he explained if a reprocessing facility did come to SRS, the facility could provide economical and learning opportunities.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Frances Close, Friends of the Earth, stated she was in favor of the recommendation that now was "somewhere in limbo." She stated back in the 1980's, a proposal entitled "Away From Reactor Storage" (AFR) was developed and there was an alarming letter that DOE was not going to be able to meet the agreements it made under the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA). Ms. Close said she thought subdividing those decisions into EM, Nuclear Energy, and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and then saying there was not enough money to pay for the cleanup, was a bad way to prioritize efforts at SRS.

Ms. Suzanne Rhodes, South Carolina League of Women Voters (SCLWV), thanked the CAB for allowing a public comment period. She stated she opposed spent fuel storage at SRS and explained how consolidated storage would triple DOE's responsibilities at SRS. She encouraged the CAB to do more studying of epidemiology and referenced Bob Alvarez's work of studying the community impacts of SNF. She encouraged the CAB to request a presentation from Ms. Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC, regarding implications of the 2014 budget on Waste Management at SRS, which the SCLWV was concerned would get out of control. She said that reprocessing did not facilitate geologic storage and explained that the SCLWV opposed proliferation measures and were against separation issues.

Ms. Cassandra Fralix, public, stated she agreed with the recommendation and thanked the CAB for allowing the public to provide input on the topic. She said the recommendation was clear and she did not want any waste to come to SRS.

Ms. Courtney Hanson, GAWAND, thanked the WM Committee for proposing the recommendation and said the recommendation was a "no brainer" and not shortsighted, since there were dozens of people from Georgia and South Carolina who did not want waste to come to SRS. She explained GAWAND felt waste should be stored in dry casks until a replacement repository was located. She expressed her concern of the waste coming to SRS and asked everyone to remember the main mission of SRS was cleanup. She said nuclear waste coming to SRS would likely open the door to reprocessing, which would create millions of gallons of High-Level Waste that would await disposition at SRS.

Ms. Amanda Hill-Attkisson, GAWAND, stated there was not a repository in sight and explained if the waste came to SRS, the site would become a permanent storage facility. She expressed her concern about waiting to vote on the WM recommendation because certain individuals wanted to hear the incentives that South Carolina would be offered. She stated the program would burden the community and encouraged the CAB to evaluate the community's lack of consent.

Mr. John Michael, GAWAND, stated the topic of interim storage was a global issue and bringing the waste to SRS really would not solve any problems. He stated the reason people were focusing on South Carolina because decisions that were being made regarding SRS would impact the entire country.

Mr. Joe Ortaldo, public, encouraged other public citizens in attendance to attend the upcoming WM Committee meetings since the committee has stated it wished to have more public involvement on the issue.

Mr. Chris Hall, Sierra Club, stated he was concerned with the security implications of moving nuclear waste across the country. He asked the CAB to consider having presentations from groups who oppose these projects in order to have a clear and balanced viewpoint of complex issues.

Ms. Susan Corbett, Sierra Club, suggested that SRS shift from nuclear technologies and create new missions involving alternative energies. She stated SRS could become a shining beacon for solar technology, including hydrogen fuel cells made from solar power. She addressed the issue of no one being harmed from nuclear waste by reading a past newspaper article regarding SRS employees. A copy of this article has been attached to this document.

Ms. Connie Young, Don't Waste Aiken, stated several individuals thought there would be a vote that day on the recommendation regarding consolidated interim storage at SRS. She provided the CAB with several letters from various cities across South Carolina of citizens who did not consent with waste coming to SRS. An example of this letter and the list of individual people who submitted a letter have been attached to this document.

Mr. Jesse Young, Don't Waste Aiken, thanked the CAB and stated he did not want the funding to be diluted or SRS to get distracted from accomplishing its cleanup missions. He stated Don't Waste Aiken wholeheartedly supported the CAB's recommendation and encouraged the CAB not to let politics dilute the issue.

Mr. Wilkins Byrd, Conservation Voters of South Carolina (CVSC), stated that the CVSC position on the CAB's recommendation was pragmatic and rooted in distrust of promises that have not been kept. He stated elected officials for South Carolina would be foolish to welcome 70,000 more tons of nuclear waste and he encouraged the CAB to deny consent for the use of SRS for the storage of commercial nuclear waste.

Mr. Charles Munns, public, stated he was concerned with the quality of life; however, he believed SRS helped with the local quality of life. He said it was premature to draw a red line without fully grasping the risks and gains of government proposals. He addressed issues of economic impacts by explaining that Aiken was built on four sectors, which were manufacturing, retirees, equestrian, and SRS. He stated SRS was good for the community since it was one of the four pillars that helped create Aiken. He asked the CAB to take a broader view about consolidated interim storage.

Ms. Bobbie Paul, GAWAND, thanked the CAB for trying to move the recommendation forward and said she believed Yucca Mountain should be science-based. She stated that concerned citizens considered the potential material coming to SRS to be nuclear waste, while others thought of it as a continuing commodity. She stated that the 37 million gallons of High-Level Waste should be cleaned up and she hoped the recommendation would deny interim storage.

Ms. Joanne Williams, public, stated she attended the meeting to thank the CAB for its efforts of proposing the recommendation on consolidated interim storage; however, she thought it was an easy decision to vote on the recommendation. She hoped the CAB would vote on the recommendation later in the year.

Ms. Wanda Breedlove, public, asked why Yucca Mountain was determined not to be the initial repository. She also asked why the WM recommendation was only being discussed and not voted for approval. She stated that when the CAB's recommendations were not honored, respected, or given credit, she did not feel like her comment in support of the WM Committee would be given any consideration either. She mentioned interim storage was a global issue and as a taxpayer, she wanted to pay for something better.

Mr. Gerald Jennings, public, stated this was his first time attending a CAB meeting, but he lived in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) his entire life. He stated SRS had provided great economic benefits to the community; however, he felt SRS was both a positive and negative element in today's society. He thought there would be more citizens who would be unhappy that Yucca Mountain could be Aiken, South Carolina.

Ms. Dawn Gillas, public, stated she had lived in New Ellenton, South Carolina for 16 years and had never seen any negative impacts on the environment from SRS. She stated she felt the WM recommendation was a very emotional and controversial topic and stated it would be a long time before a final decision was made.

**~Meeting Adjourned**

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**North Augusta, SC**  
**May 21, 2013**

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Dr. Donald Bridges  
Ed Burke-*Absent*  
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Kyle Bryant, EPA

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Julie Petersen, DOE-SR  
Jennifer Nelson, DOE-SR

**Stakeholders**  
Judy Greene  
Tom Clements  
Dianne Valentin  
Betsy Rivard  
Bobbie Paul  
CeCe Anderson  
Dawn Gillas  
Karen Patterson  
Clint Wolfe  
John Michael  
Nancy Bobbitt  
Charles Utley  
Kristin Major  
Joe Ortaldo  
Amanda-Hill Attkisson

CAB Chair Donald Bridges opened the meeting. CAB Facilitator, Ashley Whitaker, NOVA, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance, and informed meeting attendees of the public comment periods planned throughout the day. She reviewed the Meeting Rules of Conduct and the agenda before inviting CAB Chair Bridges to begin his update.

**CAB Chair Opening and Update- Donald N. Bridges, CAB**

CAB Chair Bridges called for discussion of the March Full Board meeting minutes. There were no suggestions or comments regarding the minutes. He opened the floor for a vote; the CAB, with no opposition and no abstentions, approved the meeting minutes with 17 votes.

CAB Chair Bridges welcomed everyone to North Augusta and asked new CAB member Louis Walters to say a few words about himself. He then stated that CAB membership was a unique opportunity that helped instill public confidence with the cleanup efforts at SRS. He spoke about the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Boards (EMSSAB) and said there was a webinar and conference call on April 25, 2013, which discussed program and budget updates. He informed CAB members that he would offer comments from the CAB to the Assistant Secretary's Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB) when they visited SRS in June.

CAB member George Snyder asked what activities the EMAB handled. Ms. Karen Guevara, DOE-SR, stated that the EMAB focused on Environmental Management (EM) cleanup issues throughout the DOE complex. She explained that the EMAB was currently focusing on five different tasks.

CAB Chair Bridges explained he did not anticipate major cost cutting changes this year; however, DOE-SR was evaluating the possibility of allowing the CAB to have a downstream meeting in Savannah, Georgia. He discussed public outreach efforts and explained that the CAB was reaching out to various stakeholder groups in the community. He explained at each Full Board meeting, different organizations would have the opportunity to provide input about cleanup at SRS; however, guidelines were established for groups that planned to provide input to the CAB. He thanked CAB member Rose Hayes for working to schedule a presentation about the CAB for members of the Aiken City Council and encouraged other CAB members to develop new ideas and send them to the CAB Support Team.

CAB Chair Bridges listed the presentations that were scheduled for that day, noting that Mr. Chris Hanson from DOE Headquarters (HQ) would offer a presentation on DOE's response to the BRC Report that was issued in January. He also mentioned that HQ determined there was not a conflict with him being the CAB Chair and a member of CNTA. He listed various challenges for 2013. He stated that he hoped to continue receiving valuable input from CAB members and the public in order to submit new recommendations to DOE.

### **Agency Updates**

#### **Mr. Zack Smith, SRS Deputy Manager- Department of Energy- Savannah River (DOE-SR)**

Mr. Zach Smith, Deputy Manager, began his agency update by listing various aspects of a "fine-tuned machine," or SRS. He explained SRS was comprised of precise components worked together towards a common goal. He said there had been several successes at SRS including the recent closure of tanks 18 and 19, P and R reactors, Heavy Water Components Test Reactor (HWCTR), and the very close completion of dispositioning 12,000 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste from SRS. He encouraged the CAB to remain consistent with keeping the finely tuned machine operating by being committed to this area. Mr. Smith explained it was an understood fact that SRS still had a long way to go; however, DOE-SR needed to continue building on its successes.

He explained that in the near term, the retrieval of tanks five and six were underway. He explained that construction of the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF), which was the key to cleaning up tank farms, was approximately 65 percent complete. He explained that H-Canyon would continue processing vulnerable fuels and blending down highly enriched uranium (HEU) to low enriched uranium (LEU). Mr. Smith stated there were challenges, such as the budget, but DOE-SR must drive forward and apply its limited resources to achieve success and keep the fine-tuned machine operating. He stated DOE would continuously strive to deliver results, proving this area was worthy of future investments. Mr. Smith stated, "It is our site. It is your site. It is the way we work together, and it is all the incredible things we achieve as an organization and our consistent delivery of end results, and I assure you it is the envy of the DOE complex and absolutely second to none."

CAB Chair Bridges asked what the general impact of the budget impacts were. Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Dwayne Wilson, CEO of SRNS, recently released a letter stating there would not be additional furloughs at this time. Mr. Smith said DOE-SR was looking for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as well as EM to finish the fine details of the final appropriations. He stated his expectation was the situation would not change and he thought there was a high likelihood that it would improve. CAB Chair Bridges asked if there would be any future sharp cuts, which Mr. Smith replied, "Not in the immediate future."

CAB member Rose Hayes asked Mr. Smith if he could share conversations the governor has had with site management about the future of SRS. Mr. Smith replied that Governor Haley was supportive of SRS and was doing everything in her power to provide the necessary resources. He stated she made it clear that she would hold DOE-SR accountable to the milestones. CAB member Hayes asked if management and the governor discussed current or future projects that may be coming to SRS. Mr. Smith stated discussions had been focused on tank retrievals, the completion of the SWPF, and meeting the milestones associated with cleanup.

CAB member Virginia Jones asked if SRS was receiving monetary benefits from the government. Mr. Smith stated all the income and tax revenues generated by both Georgia and South Carolina residents benefit the surrounding economy.

### **Mr. Kyle Bryant, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

Mr. Kyle Bryant, EPA, began his update stating that EPA had concerns about the 2014 Liquid Waste budget, which may cause SRS to miss milestones in future years. He stated EPA was still dealing with sequestration issues and EPA employees have begun scheduling their 32-hour furlough time; however, after July 5, additional furlough time may be imposed. He mentioned the last Environmental Justice (EJ) community meeting, was on March 7, 2013 in Beaufort, SC. He mentioned that there were approximately 60 local residents at the meeting and he applauded CAB member Earl Sheppard for attending the meeting and facilitating part of the discussions regarding the clean water. He stated the next EJ meeting would be that night in the Shellbluff community at Alan Chapel Baptist Church.

CAB Chair Bridges asked Mr. Bryant to provide a general overview of an EJ meeting. Mr. Bryant replied that meetings usually have two presentations from both a member of EPA and DOE-SR to provide an overview of both roles at SRS. He stated presentations were given about community capacity building in order to teach members of the public the importance of understanding what occurs at SRS. He stated that presentations are also offered on various federal agency grants and resources that are available to the public.

CAB member Bill Calhoun asked if there would be more value in having CAB members attend EJ meetings. Mr. Bryant explained attending EJ meetings was a good opportunity for CAB members to network with other citizens, while hearing about issues that the CAB normally did not discuss.

CAB member Kathe Golden asked whether or not the education programs and job partnership fallen by the wayside since the budget cuts. Mr. Bryant stated that the jobs training initiative stated that EPA wished to initiate the third round of the initiative; however, the contractor experienced construction delays, which was the driver that allowed EPA to offer the jobs; however, since construction was delayed, EPA has held off the program.

### **Ms. Shelly Wilson, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC)**

Ms. Shelly Wilson, SCDHEC, asked Ms. Heather Cathcart, SCDHEC, to provide an update on recent soil and groundwater cleanup activities. Ms. Cathcart stated that since the March Full Board meeting, SCDHEC had attended two Liquid Waste meetings and three comment resolution meetings on various documents. She explained that in addition to the meetings, SCDHEC had reviewed 15 documents pertaining.

Ms. Wilson addressed High-Level Waste in the aging tanks at SRS, which she said was the single largest environmental threat in the state of South Carolina. She said she was glad to hear from several citizens who indicated that they support treatment of the High-Level Waste and tank closure. She stated that there had been success in the area of High-Level Waste because there had been a lot of hard work to tackle the complicated regulatory and technical challenges.

She explained that there were more than 30 enforceable milestones that stretch through the future, which were all aimed at driving down the risk. She said SCDHEC had technically aligned itself with a clear path forward, which was a rare circumstance. She stated there was a rare circumstance in SC where SCDHEC was currently aligned regulatory and technically with a clear path forward to be able to reduce that risk on an "agreed upon schedule." She explained that in order to stay on that path forward, SCDHEC need to receive adequate budget funds. She stated, "Critically, the fiscal year (FY) 2014 budget can derail all that work for High-Level Waste." She stated that the proposed dollars for 2014 slow everything down to where it could be hard to recover, leaving all the 30 milestones in jeopardy.

She said SCDHEC was very interested in making everyone aware of the need for the proper amount of money in FY 2014; however, SCDHEC was upset that DOE-HQ had not asked for enough money to support the High-Level Waste moving forward at a pace to achieve the milestones. She said, unless DOE gets milestone extensions to the 30 milestones, they would face significant penalties from SCDHEC. She stated that several milestones were located in the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA), the saltstone permit, and the site treatment plan. She stated that the penalty for DOE-SR missing those milestones ranged in price from \$3,000 to \$105,000 per day. Ms. Wilson encouraged the CAB to read

the letter from SCDHEC director, Catherine Templeton, to Senator Graham in order to help SCDHEC draw attention to the 2014 budget. A copy of the letter has been attached to this document.

CAB Chair Bridges asked what the CAB could do to help. She explained that the CAB could focus on the FY 2014 budget and potentially put forward a recommendation to obtain sufficient funding for FY 2014, 2015, and out to the future to be sure to meet regulatory commitments.

CAB member Hayes stated that the CAB recently tabled a recommendation about the development of a risk-based system; however, she ensured Ms. Wilson that the NM Committee would determine what they could do in order to move the recommendation along.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Betsy Rivard, public, stated she was opposed to SRS becoming an interim storage site and supported the CAB recommendation. She said she was discouraged that the CAB would not be voting on the recommendation at that time; however, she encouraged the CAB to focus on the Liquid Waste funding.

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, applauded the CAB's role and thanked the members for serving. He encouraged the CAB to focus on the High-Level Waste cleanup. Mr. Clements stated that he attended the WM meeting where the recommendation on interim storage was developed; however, he said Mr. Burke stated that the recommendation would be acted on in July.

### **Waste Management (WM) Committee Overview- Earl Sheppard, Vice Chair**

CAB member Sheppard reviewed his presentation from the day before. He stated that the WM Committee had seven open recommendations. He stated that the next WM Committee meeting would be June 25, 2013, at the Department of Energy (DOE) Meeting Center and discussed topics that would be discussed. He welcomed Mr. Hebert Crapse, DOE-SR, to begin his presentation.

### **PRESENTATION: Transuranic and Solid Waste Program Update- Hebert Crapse, DOE-SR**

Mr. Crapse, DOE-SR, said the purpose of his presentation was to satisfy a WM Work Plan requirement and provide updates on the SRS TRU Waste Program, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), and other solid waste disposal activities at SRS. He showed a copy of the "SRS Waste and Material Flow Path" to illustrate various areas he would discuss in his presentation. He provided a brief overview of the SRS TRU Waste Program and explained that TRU waste had been generated and managed at SRS since the early 1970's; however, in 2001 the first shipment of TRU waste was sent to WIPP. He said, "Stored legacy TRU waste at SRS peaked in 2002 at 12,000 cubic meters and 1.2 million curies." He added that approximately 12,000 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste had been disposed to WIPP. Mr. Crapse explained the legacy TRU waste program was on the verge of completion, but remediation was another major effort currently being done at SRS. Mr. Crapse explained several meters of waste had been stored for several years, which he said did not meet the established WIPP facility criteria. He explained the waste had to be opened in order to remove any prohibited items and then repackaged for shipment to WIPP. Mr. Crapse showed images of a room in H-Canyon where large box waste was stored. He also showed pictures that represented how the waste was originally packaged. He said, "This FY DOE-SR will finish the final of the remediated waste that we have been storing at SRS since the 1970's." He explained the importance of the TRUPACT-111 shipping container, which was licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and was responsible for shipping waste to WIPP. He mentioned shipments to WIPP from SRS should be completed in FY 2015 if adequate funding was available. He explained in the future, SRS would maintain its WIPP certification and performed annual shipping campaigns to WIPP, before he listed various "TRU waste generators" at SRS, which included "non-MOX plutonium disposition, future 235-F deactivation, and the ongoing H-Canyon, Savannah River National Laboratory, and MOX operations."

Mr. Crapse provided an update on the Solid Waste Disposition program, which focused on the management, treatment, storage, and disposal of TRU waste, Radioactive Low Level Waste (LLW), Mixed Low Level Waste (MLLW), and Hazardous Waste (HW). He described each type of waste and how it was generated before explaining the disposition locations. He stated the disposal volume to date of LLW was 6,055 cubic meters, MLLW was 87.8 cubic meters, and HW was 133.8 cubic feet. He explained that Solid Waste operations remained regulatory compliant and efficient, LLW,

MLLW, and HW operations were keeping pace with SRS, and the availability of funding in FY 2014 would determine the completion of legacy TRU waste disposition.

CAB member Hayes asked about transmutation effects once the LLW was stored. Mr. Crapse explained that LLW was very expensive for DOE-SR and since tritium was a short-lived radioisotope, DOE-SR were able to work through the Site Treatment Plan of how to dispose of that material. CAB member Hayes asked if the capacity for WIPP was strictly measured by cubic meters or curies and if the amount was tracked. Mr. Crapse answered WIPP was measured by cubic meters and the curies were tracked; however, he stated all the radionuclides were tracked and authorized through EPA.

CAB member Artisha Bolding asked if the containers placed in the LLW disposal trenches were treated or sealed before being placed in the trench. She also asked Mr. Crapse if he knew how much the TRU and solid waste program timelines were impacted by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funding. Mr. Crapse explained most of the waste was not sealed or treated prior to disposal in trenches since most of the wastes were pieces of equipment that had a small traceability of plutonium. He stated when ARRA funding was implemented in 2009, the TRU program was almost postponed until 2019, with a proposed completion date of 2025. Mr. Crapse stated that ARRA funding helped move the program completion date from 2025 to 2014.

CAB Vice Chair Harold Simon asked what the process was for categorizing and certifying a WIPP shipment. Mr. Crapse replied the TRU waste program had a very prescriptive characterization process, which meant all the waste containers had to go through several tests before the containers could be certified. CAB Vice Chair Simon asked what the follow-up process was once the waste was shipped to WIPP. Mr. Crapse replied that it took approximately eight hours to unload a shipment; however, DOE-SR constantly analyzed individual freight shipping containers for radioactive contamination and go through safety audits to ensure top-notch safety precautions were followed.

Mr. John Gilmore, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), stated that SRNS did not categorize the waste sent to WIPP. Mr. Gilmore said the waste categorization for shipping certification to WIPP was done through the central categorization project, which was conducted by another contractor out of the Carlsbad, New Mexico field office. Mr. Gilmore explained the individuals from Carlsbad were responsible for x-raying the waste; however, SRNS was responsible for repackaging the waste before the contractor individuals from the Carlsbad field office to perform certification process.

CAB member Bill Calhoun asked when storage space at the WIPP facility would be maximized. Mr. Crapse stated the WIPP facility was permitted to hold 175,000 cubic meters of disposal waste and approximately 80,000 spaces had been filled. CAB member Calhoun asked how much material would be shipped to SRS from Canada. Ms. Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, replied that the liquid material from Canada was about 6,000 gallons.

CAB member Louis Walters asked Mr. Crapse to explain the process regarding the Canadian fuel and how it impacted the numerical figures within his presentation. Mr. Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR, stated there were two separate programs involving Canada and said the liquid uranium material coming from Canada would be processed in H-Canyon and any waste generated from the uranium would not be handled as TRU waste. Mr. McGuire explained another agreement with Canada involved DOE-SR receiving FRR from various countries. Mr. McGuire said that Canada had spent nuclear fuel (SNF), would be coming back into the country over the next several years, and stored in L-Basin until a decision was made to process the material, place it in a dry storage configuration, and ship it to a federal repository. CAB member Walters asked about the transport of the Canadian fuel through New York. Ms. Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, explained that the NRC to address the liquid movements during shipping was certifying a new shipping container. She explained the container would be certified the same way as the TRUPACT-111 Mr. Crapse presented. Ms. Maxted said the individuals in New York were concerned about the fuel being liquid, which could be easily dispersed; however, under the NRC rules, the container must go through rigorous tests to ensure it would not leak.

### **Recommendation Voting**

#### **“Replacing Glass Waste Storage Building (GWSB) #3 with GWSB#1”**

CAB member Sheppard reviewed the recommendation before CAB Chair Bridges called for a motion. The CAB approved this recommendation with 19 votes of approval, no oppositions, and no abstentions.

“Revising DOE Order 435.1”

CAB member Sheppard reviewed the recommendation and asked if there was any comments. CAB Chair Bridges called for a motion to accept this recommendation. The CAB approved this recommendation with 19 votes of approval, no oppositions, and no abstentions.

### **Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee Overview- Marolyn Parson, Chair**

CAB member Parson reviewed her presentation from the day before and stated the FD&SR Committee had two open recommendations. She reminded everyone of the next FD&SR Committee meeting at the DOE Meeting Center on June 11, 2013 and discussed presentations for that meeting. She reminded everyone to read the response for recommendation 294, the SRS Community Preparedness brochure, and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report.

### **Administrative & Outreach (A&O) Committee Overview- Cleveland Latimore, Vice Chair**

CAB member Latimore stated the purpose of the A&O Committee before he listed members of the committee. He reminded everyone about the 2014 Membership Campaign and encouraged CAB members to reach out to find potential members. He reminded everyone of the CAB Facebook page and recently published spring Board Beat Newsletter.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. John Michael, GAWAND, stated that everything was packaged so nicely in the presentations; however, what would be done if the budget were not received to complete the cleanup activities. He stated he had points relating to human nature and the way processes were determined. He stated that citizens of Nevada that would be impacted by the Yucca Mountain repository stood together and overwhelmingly said no to the plan. He encouraged the CAB to scrutinize the information the board was presented about the nation’s nuclear waste coming to SRS. Mr. Michael stated it was vital that everyone at the meeting, and in the United States, push utility companies toward alternative energy sources.

Ms. Diane Valentin, GAWAND, stated she attended the Full Board meeting because she was concerned the conversation went toward future acceptance of waste at SRS. She told the CAB they should be concerned that South Carolina had could be considered for the dumping ground of the nation’s nuclear waste. She expressed her disappointment that the CAB decided to postpone voting on important recommendations. Ms. Valentin said several of her colleagues who spoke throughout the Full Board meeting, were from various backgrounds, and encouraged the CAB to consider all the information they had heard. She expressed the importance of speaking up for things someone was passionate about.

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, stated that the Canadian shipment was a plan from Canada to dump material on the shoulders of South Carolina. He encouraged the CAB to pay attention to discussions relating to the MOX program at SRS, which was tremendously over budget. Mr. Clements referenced a paper written by the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO), which discussed the impacts of reprocessing at SRS and said he would submit various documents to be included in the minutes regarding to information he felt SRSCRO left out of the report. He also explained EnergySolutions in a January memo to the NRC said SNF storage and reprocessing were “totally linked.” He explained the DOE strategy for the management and disposal of UNF and High-Level Waste stated that the “once through fuel cycle” would remain in place for the next few decades. He also referenced a February 2013 report the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) released, stating there was no need to process all the existing SNF. A copy of the documents are attached to this document.

Ms. Judy Greene, a member of the public, thanked the CAB for the opportunity to speak before mentioning the recommendation that was discussed in the WM Committee the day before. She explained consolidated interim storage was very important; however, her immediate concern was the FY 2014 budget shortfall, which could potentially derail several interdependent processes for dealing with the existing gallons of waste at SRS.

### **Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee Overview- Rose Hayes, Chair**

CAB Chair Bridges explained the FY 2014 budget was submitted and in the process of going through congressional approval process. He proposed two options to deal with the FY 2014 budget concerns, which were to develop a letter to

DOE and then follow up with a position paper at the committee level before presenting each at the July Full Board meeting. He reminded each CAB member to write his or her congressional delegates. CAB member Golden asked Ms. Shelly Wilson if there was a particular person, rather than local elected officials, who members should include in the letter writing campaign. Ms. Wilson stated the CAB could include people that SCDHEC included in their letter.

CAB member Hayes reviewed her presentation from the day before introducing Mr. Chris Hanson, DOE-HQ, to begin his presentation.

**PRESENTATION: Strategy for the Management and Disposal of Used Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste- Chris Hanson, DOE-HQ**

Mr. Chris Hanson, DOE-HQ, stated the purpose of his presentation was to discuss the recommendations of the BRC, the administration's response to the BRC as outlined in the strategy, and ongoing UNF and High-Level Waste projects going on for FY 2014. He explained in January 2012, the BRC on America's Nuclear Future submitted a report to the Secretary of Energy, which had eight key recommendations. He listed and briefly described each of the eight recommendations before discussing the summary of the administration's strategy for UNF and HLW strategy, which was released in January 2013. He provided a chart of the key strategy elements, which over 10 years, was supposed to accomplish the siting, licensing, design, and construction of a pilot interim storage facility. He discussed how DOE's strategy focused on system design, a consent-based process to site facilities, and the governance and funding structure. Mr. Hanson discussed interim storage facilities stating, "Facilities sited using a consent-based process and licensed by the NRC" before he discussed geologic disposal repository and transportation methods. He stated that only one of each of the geologic repository and transportation facilities. He explained the consent-based process and new organization stating that a new organization requires multiple "workable models;" however, there was not a specific endorsed model at that time. Mr. Hanson addressed the need for funding reform by stating appropriations, the reclassification of fee income or spending, and access to "corpus" of the Nuclear Waste fund were currently ongoing. He listed several legislation factors the administration believed were necessary to include within the strategy.

Mr. Hanson addressed the Administration's focus on disposition of UNF, stating the program was a very long-term, flexible, multi-faceted approach to dispose of the nations commercial and defense waste, which was estimated to cost \$5.6 billion over the programs first 10 years. He stated the President's FY 2014 Budget included \$60 million for strategy implementation activities such as R&D and High-Level Waste management and disposal system design. He discussed the disposal R&D activities stating that the goals were to increase analysis capabilities of geologic media that were not looked at since the decision to focus on Yucca Mountain while determining if there was a technical basis for disposal in the United States in different geologic settings. He said the objective for future transportation R&D was to prepare for the eventual large-scale transport and implementation of a staged, adaptive, and collaborative transportation process for UNF and High-Level Waste; however, the groundwork was being laid for implementing consolidated storage. Mr. Hanson discussed the mission for future fuel cycle R&D was to develop UNF management strategies and technologies before he listed various FY 2014 planned accomplishments.

CAB member Calhoun asked what would happen if there was not a community that would provide consent to move forward with a pilot, temporary, or permanent consolidated storage facility. Mr. Hanson stated DOE was dedicated and optimistic about making a consent-based process work that will find a community and give the appropriate incentives to make it a possibility.

CAB member Hayes asked why Yucca Mountain was no longer being considered as the federal repository. Mr. Hanson explained the issue of the containers failing and the potential contaminants that could migrate into the environment.

CAB Chair Bridges asked what incentives were included. Mr. Hanson stated incentives were an important part of the process and would most likely be negotiated with each community.

CAB member Golden asked how independent from the variables of the Administration would the new organization be. Mr. Hanson stated it should be a separate organization and have officials with six-year term limits. CAB member Golden stated South Carolina had an agreement with the government, which resulted in deadlines for certain activities to be completed. She said it seemed like Congress was going to cut the budget, making it extremely difficult for DOE-SR to achieve its deadlines. She explained how she did not understand whether any public trust regarding government documents could be maintained or "obtained" if the budget was cut.

## **PRESENTATION: A Perspective On Managing the Nuclear Fuel Cycle- Rick McLeod, SRSCRO**

Mr. McLeod, SRSCRO, began his presentation stating he would offer a perspective on issues the community should consider as it related to managing a comprehensive solution to the nuclear fuel cycle. He stated Community Reuse Organizations (CRO) were formed in the middle 1990's when the major shift toward downsizing the workforces was occurring across the DOE complex. He explained DOE made a financial commitment to economic development and established 15 CRO across the DOE complex; however, eight currently exist today. He continued his presentation by stating the purpose and functions of the SRSCRO. He said the CRO was comprised of 22 members, and then showed a map of SRSCRO range across two states and five counties.

Mr. McLeod discussed the President's Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) recommendations, which were formed in January 2012. He explained SRSCRO chose to focus on four of the eight recommendations the BRC proposed, which were the consent-based approach, the new organization, the access to waste fees, and the prompt development of one or more consolidated storage facilities. Mr. McLeod addressed the DOE strategy in response to the BRC report, which DOE released in January 2013. He then listed several ways the local area was a unique nuclear region. He explained in March 2012, SRSCRO created a "tier one group," which asked, "Should a five-county region surrounding SRS use its assets to help provide solutions to manage the nation's fuel cycle and if so, what were the terms and conditions under which the community would agree to participate." He said individuals in the group did not want to consider only hosting a storage facility because there would be limited economic benefits, which led other individuals to think the region would be negatively portrayed. He explained community roles must include job-creating activities such as research and development (R&D) and manufacturing associated with the nuclear fuel cycle; however, legally binding commitments to a final disposition plan for new and current nuclear materials stored at SRS should also be included. He said the tier one group believed additional research and an understanding of economic development impacts should occur before a community consensus could be pursued.

Mr. McLeod provided background information on the independent study commissioned by SRSCRO, which was directed by Mr. Tim Frazier, the Designated Federal Officer for the President's BRC on America's Nuclear Future. He stated the study addressed issues relating to managing the fuel cycle; however, he reminded everyone it was important to remember the study was used to give information and a decision had not been made. He listed elements of the scope of work and the five conclusions for the study. He briefly described each conclusion before providing a diagram, which showed how to manage and close the fuel cycle. He explained that closing the fuel cycle using fast fuel reactors would be very expensive; however, managing the fuel cycle suggested that there were many options to consider.

Mr. McLeod discussed the four steps of the "Modified Consensus Model," which included: 1.) Introduce and clarify the issue, 2.) Explore the issue and look for ideas, 3.) Discuss, clarify, and amend your proposal, and 4.) Implementation. He explained SRSCRO was between steps one and two in the model. He said that consensus building did not always result in a unanimous vote or a 100 percent satisfaction rate, but a consensus was "finding an acceptable proposal that all members support." He said the SRSCRO Board of Directors would consider its role in developing a comprehensive plan aimed at building a community consensus for hosting fuel cycle-related facilities. He encouraged the CAB to read the entire SRSCRO study and explained that due to SRSCRO's broad regional mission, the organization would continue to act as a facilitator for public dialog regarding solutions to the nation's nuclear fuel cycle.

CAB member Hayes asked if there were variables within the consent-based process, which focused on individuals' opinion about their quality of life. Mr. McLeod replied, "If you do what some individuals were proposing, the site would be closed, and we would lose 11,000 people, 11,000 families, and 11,000 homes and would affect both individuals in South Carolina and Georgia." Mr. McLeod explained that a continuing mission and job platform for SRS and its employees must be developed in order to continue generating income for the surrounding communities.

CAB member Calhoun asked Mr. McLeod to describe the type of individuals included within the tier one group. Mr. McLeod stated the group was comprised of a few SRSCRO board members and various members of the community. CAB member Calhoun asked if the funding source for SRSCRO was publically available. Mr. McLeod replied, "Yes" since the organization was classified as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

### **Recommendation Voting**

"Chemical Separation or Partitioning and Transmutation (P/T) of Used Nuclear Fuel and Defense High Level Radioactive Waste"

CAB member Hayes reviewed the proposed recommendation, which had no additional discussion. CAB Vice Chair Simon called for a motion to vote on the recommendation. The CAB approved the recommendation with 18 votes, no oppositions, and no abstentions.

A copy of this recommendation has been attached to this document.

### **Strategic & Legacy Management (S&LM) Committee Overview- Clint Nangle, Chair**

CAB member Nangle reviewed his presentation from the day before and provided a recommendation status update, stating that recommendations 288 and 302 were open. He encouraged everyone to attend the next S&LM Committee meeting on June 11, 2013 before welcoming Mr. Rich Olsen, DOE-SR, to begin his presentation.

### **PRESENTATION: Environmental Management Performance Metrics Fiscal Year 2013 Targets- Rich Olsen, DOE-SR**

Mr. Rich Olsen, DOE-SR, said the purpose of his presentation was to fulfill an S&LM Committee Work Plan requirement by discussing the EM performance targets for FY 2013, and actual performance of the targets through April 2013. He gave a brief introduction of the SRS Cleanup Program, which began in 1990's, and stated performance measures were developed to track progress towards end state targets. He explained the current lifecycle estimate, including cost, scope, and schedule, indicated that EM cleanup at SRS would conclude by 2042. Mr. Olsen explained that completing EM cleanup at SRS was contingent upon the cost, schedule, or scope components. He said, "If our budgets are constrained, that automatically may impact the completion date of 2042." He showed a large chart titled, "SRS EM Program Lifecycle FY 2012 Update" that depicted various ongoing and future cleanup activities that would occur at SRS through 2042. Mr. Olsen provided another chart that broke down the four major areas of the cleanup program, which included Radioactive Liquid Waste, Contaminated Solid Waste, Nuclear Materials Management and Disposition, and Soil, Groundwater, and Facilities.

Mr. Olsen explained that there were different metrics and definitions under each major cleanup area. He mentioned that DOE-SR added a definition for the Liquid Waste area entitled "Radioactivity: Curies Stabilized in Canisters," to satisfy a request from the CAB. Mr. Olsen provided several pictures of activities categorized under each major cleanup area. He explained a chart that showed the overall EM Performance Report through April 2013 along with individual reports for the four major cleanup areas. He stated DOE-SR would continue to update and validate lifecycle measures for the key operational areas of EM cleanup operations and explained that DOE-SR would provide a presentation to the CAB on the revised Nuclear Materials targets due to the Amended Record of Decision (ROD).

CAB member Hayes asked about the capacity of Glass Waste Storage Buildings (GWSB) at SRS. Ms. Jean Ridley, DOE-SR, replied that the plan was to build above ground storage after the second GWSB reached capacity for the DWPF canisters; however, right now those plans were on hold since the budget would affect the amount of canisters that could be produced each year. CAB member Hayes asked how the funding became available to process FRR and DRR assemblies and ship the fuel to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Mr. McGuire explained the priority to process the 1,200 FRR or DRR assemblies and High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) cores was in response to recommendations proposed by the CAB. Mr. McGuire explained that the ROD allowed DOE-SR to process up to 1,000 bundles of FRR and DRR fuel and 200 HFIR cores in H-Canyon. CAB member Hayes asked if DOE generated any profit from collecting fuel from other countries. Mr. McGuire clarified that the government could not make a profit, but sometimes the government offered money to help offset costs, which could be invested in infrastructure. CAB member Hayes asked Mr. Terry Spears if the amount of plutonium being placed within canisters had the same requirements as the Yucca Mountain criteria. Mr. Spears replied that the limitation on plutonium and fissile constituents within each canister was still limited to the Yucca Mountain standard of 897 grams per cubic meter of fissile constituents.

CAB member Parson asked Mr. McGuire if the 1,200 bundles of FRR and DRR were being removed in order to make room for something that DOE was negotiating for the future. Mr. McGuire replied that the removal of the 1,200 bundles would continue supporting programs to be able to receive FRR and DRR so new racks did not have to be constructed. CAB member Parson asked how the amount of curies varied within each canister. Mr. Terry Spears, DOE-SR, stated some of the earlier canisters were "somewhat benign," but today DOE-SR was beginning to notice an increase in the amount of radioactivity, or curies, placed within canisters. Mr. Spears clarified that as the future rate of salt processing

increases, there would be another significant increase in the amount of curies within a canister. CAB member Parson asked how the CAB would be able to determine the amount of curies when a canister is at its end state. Mr. Spears stated there were batch plans developed by Savannah River Remediation (SRR), which includes the knowledge of material within various tanks.

CAB member Golden compared H-Canyon operations to a bakery and asked Ms. Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, “If you are a bakery and you have 10 different people order chocolate chip cookies, you go ahead and make all the chocolate chip cookies so you do not have to clean the beaters in order to not have to reset.” Ms. Maxted replied, “If you have an oven and you are cooking a pizza on one rack, you might as well cook a pizza on the second rack to save time.” CAB member Golden thanked her for her comparison.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Karen Patterson, GNAC, said she was concerned with the proposed FY 2014 budget and the impacts the budget could have on SRS. She encouraged the CAB to write letters to their congressional representatives about the FY 2014 budget and to request a presentation from DOE-SR on the impacts of the FY 2014 budget on the years succeeding calendar year 2014. She mentioned the GNAC wrote a letter to the congressional delegations regarding the budget. Ms. Patterson addressed the High-Level Waste tanks and how they were considered to be the most significant environmental risk in the South Carolina. A copy of her letter is attached to this document.

Mr. Clint Wolfe, CNTA, encouraged CAB members to share their concerns about SRS becoming an interim storage facility with federal and state officials. He mentioned DOE-SR was obviously aware of the current budget situation; however, he hoped there would be better efforts to promote awareness at DOE-HQ. Mr. Wolfe commented on the variety of opinions shared at the meeting, but encouraged the CAB to continue hearing input from the community.

Mr. Carter Thomas, public, stated he was somewhat overwhelmed at the meeting, but appreciated having the opportunity to speak. He stated the CAB should “keep their eye on the ball” to finish the cleanup at SRS, instead of thinking of ways to keep the nuclear industry alive.

Ms. Bobbie Paul, GAWAND, stated she learned a great deal of information at the meeting that day; however, she felt that cleanup efforts should be focused more on cleanup of the High-Level Waste tanks now more than ever. She discussed the High-Level Waste tanks at Hanford, Washington. Ms. Paul addressed the three levels of movement inside the High-Level Waste tanks at SRS as well as possible changed in movement for one tank at SRS. She stated “Cleanup was an honorable profession” and encouraged everyone to be stewards of the cleanup efforts at SRS.

Ms. CeCe Anderson, public, stated she was concerned with the waste disposal from Canada to SRS. She addressed training and precautions that were in place for employees responsible for handling various types of waste. She commented on the possible consolidated interim storage at SRS and asked DOE-SR if they really believed in the safety mission statement.

Ms. Dawn Gillas, public, reminded the CAB to hear as much information as possible on the recommendation discussed in the WM Committee before stating that reprocessing helped recycle the good parts of the waste material.

Mr. Tom Clements, Friends of the Earth, hoped everyone could eventually agree on the issue of High-Level Waste management. He mentioned the issue of SNF, the consent-based process, and encouraged the CAB to request a presentation on the historic aspects of reprocessing.

Mr. Charles Utley, public, mentioned he attended the Full Board meeting that day because he thought the CAB was voting on a recommendation, which opposed consolidated interim storage at SRS. He stated there was life outside of SRS that depended on the CAB’s decision; however, he told the CAB to be influenced by what they felt was right.

Ms. Amanda Hill-Attkisson, GAWAND, asked the CAB to remember the community when making decisions. She stated the focus of SRS was to safely clean up the nuclear waste, with regard to the surrounding community and expressed her concern for an updated epidemiological study and environmental monitoring be conducted in South Carolina and Georgia.

**~Meeting Adjourned**



## **Summary of Comments to the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board**

Tom Clements  
Southeastern Nuclear Campaign Coordinator  
Friends of the Earth  
Columbia, SC

May 20, 2013

Thank you for this opportunity to submit these comments to the SRS Citizens Advisory Board. We strongly support the draft recommendation against bringing commercial spent fuel to the site for consolidated storage.

### **Wrong Approach: Spent Fuel Storage and Reprocessing at the Savannah River Site**

Concerning the proposal to bring a large quantity of highly radioactive spent fuel to the Savannah River Site for reprocessing, as proposed by the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO), I have the following comments.

The document by the SRSCRO totally ignores the cost of a reprocessing plant and who will pay for it. AREVA, according to the attached article, estimates a reprocessing plant in 2011 to be \$25 billion. The U.S. Department of Energy, in a 2009 presentation (see attached) estimated a reprocessing plant to cost more than \$15 billion. Additionally, the life-cycle costs of operating a single reprocessing plant are ignored. The life-cycle cost of the \$20-billion Japanese reprocessing plant Rokkasho - which has not been able to start after five years of trying - is estimated to be on the order of \$140 billion.

The SRSCRO ignores that there is no current or anticipated demand for any plutonium that would be removed via reprocessing from the 47,000 metric tons they aim to bring to SRS. There would simply be no demand by nuclear utilities for this weapons-usable plutonium and no reactors in which to use any plutonium fuel.

The SRSCRO ignores the myriad of waste streams arising from reprocessing, many of which would have to be disposed of on site. Bringing spent fuel to SRS for reprocessing could turn SRS into a de facto Yucca Mountain mega-dump for nuclear waste, which will not be acceptable to the people of South Carolina.

According to the Environmental Impact Statement for the Private Fuel Storage Facility for spent fuel storage facility in Utah – the NRC license for which has been withdrawn – it is stated that only “approximately 45 jobs” would be created during operation of the facility. Thus, there would be an insignificant jobs impact to South Carolina. (See extracts from the EIS attached.)

AREVA has revealed in an October 23, 2012 email message to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it intends to pursue licensing of a reprocessing plant in 2019. (See email attached). This is totally unrealistic but reveals that AREVA is anxious to try and put reprocessing in place, with the hope of making a large profit.

EnergySolutions, in a January 10, 2013 memo to the NRC, tipped its hand in revealing that it thinks spent fuel storage and reprocessing are linked. That memo, which is attached, stands as a warning to South Carolina – that if a spent fuel storage facility is sited here then the real goal is to reprocess the spent fuel at such a facility.

The DOE’s *Strategy for the Management and Disposal of Used Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste* – see excerpt of the January 11, 2013 report attached – clearly states that the so-called “once-through” fuel cycle will remain in place for the next few decades,” underscoring no ability of need to reprocess spent fuel.

Finally, a February 2013 document produced by the DOE labs – *Categorization of Used Nuclear Fuel Inventory in Support of a Comprehensive National Nuclear Fuel Cycle Strategy*- clearly states that there is no need to retain the current inventory of spent fuel for reprocessing. This is the very inventory on which the SRCRO’s flawed report is based. This conclusion by the DOE labs renders the SRCRO’s advocacy of reprocessing at SRS to be little more than an exercise which will never be put in place.

On February 28, 2013, a public dialogue in Aiken on whether to bring spent fuel to SRS was begun by the public interest group **Don’t Waste Aiken** (<https://www.facebook.com/DontWasteAiken>). A full house gathered to discuss the wisdom of bringing spent fuel to SRS for storage and reprocessing and there was great concern expressed about not giving consent to such a proposal.

Don’t Waste Aiken and other groups in South Carolina will continue to lead the public discussion about not consenting to spent fuel storage and reprocessing in South Carolina.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit these comments.

TomClements 329 @cs.com

tel. 803-834-3084



# SRS Citizens Advisory Board

## Written Statement Form

Name: <u>Tom Clements</u>	Date: <u>5/21/2013</u>
Affiliation: <u>Friends of the Earth</u>	
Address: <u>1112 Florence St</u>	
City: <u>Columbia</u> State: <u>SC</u>	
Zip Code: <u>29201</u>	
Email Address: <u>tomclements329@cs.com</u>	

### STATEMENT:

For the record, I once again request release of documents supporting the statements by Mr. Patrick McGuire that disposal of plutonium from Savannah River Site in the WIPP facility is costing \$100,000/Kilogram.

I request that documents not only be provided to me but also to the SRS CAB.

Thank you.

Tom Clements

Please use a separate sheet if more space is needed.

This form may be completed to make an official statement as part of this meeting in lieu of a comment made during public comment period. All statements will become part of the official meeting minutes. No response will be provided.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

LWVSC.org

Post Office Box 8453 Columbia SC 29202

## Presentation to Citizens Advisory Board May 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 Commercial Spent Fuel Storage at SRS

The League of Women Voters of South Carolina (the League) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the CAB consideration of the use of Savannah River Site (SRS) for interim storage and possible reprocessing of commercial spent fuel.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is currently responsible for about 2,700 metric tons of spent reactor fuel, mostly at Hanford Washington, some here at SRS, and smaller amounts of naval wastes at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory and some naval shipyards. DOE also assumes responsibility for fuel from some special-case commercial nuclear reactors, foreign research reactors, and certain domestic research and test reactors.

Robert Alvarez\* reported last February: According to spent nuclear fuel data from the Nuclear Energy Institute, a pilot storage facility anticipated by the Blue Ribbon Commission might store as much as 5,000 metric tons containing more than one billion curies of intermediate and long-lived radioactive wastes.

That is about twice the metric tons already under DOE's responsibility. This is also more than twice the radioactivity currently contained in high-level wastes stored at the SRS site, according to Alvarez, who has decades of experience in nuclear waste management.

He continued: Assuming 5,000 metric tons of commercial spent fuel is sent by rail to SRS, it would result in 280 to 500 shipments. If sent by truck, this could result in approximately 2,500 shipments.

All this is prior to any possible expansion. Recall that Congress decided to double the capacity of Yucca Mountain and to cancel the search for a second site, even as geologic and hydrologic problems in Nevada were being uncovered.

I was a child when the defense activities at SRS began. We probably agree that final management of these wastes will not be completed in my lifetime – perhaps not even in Shelly Wilson's. Please keep in mind that both SRS and Hanford are currently behind schedule and over budget with their legacy management responsibilities.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IS A NONPARTISAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION THAT ENCOURAGES INFORMED AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT. WORKS TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF MAJOR PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES, AND INFLUENCE PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY.

The BRC anticipates that the next repository will not operate for decades; most of us agree to sometime after 2048. SRS wastes will remain at SRS for at least that long, probably much longer. If SRS accepts commercial spent fuel, that waste will also remain at SRS. There is no reason to believe that defense wastes will become a priority at the ultimate repository.

The League's primary concern is: Will Congress continue to fund successful waste management at SRS to provide maximum protection of public health and safety? Removal to a repository is of secondary concern to the League.

Congress' capability to establish a permanent geologic repository is questionable. Many of us are hopeful - for the safety of the communities which host these facilities - that closely monitored on-site storage at existing sites will be pursued as a back-up plan. This would apply to both commercial and defense wastes, assuming the sites are safe.

Finally, reprocessing does not facilitate geologic storage. The "hotter" reprocessing wastes require additional geological separation. Independent analysts uniformly recognize that reprocessing has no advantage in the foreseeable future. The League opposes proliferation measures; while other countries are considering their options, separation of US commercial spent fuel would be an inappropriate example.

The League agrees with two of the CAB draft conclusions:

➡ There is no economic, safety or waste management advantage to reprocessing ... for the foreseeable future.....

➡ The completion of a new repository is generations away and there is no reason to believe the proposed 2048 date will be adhered to.

Thank you very much, and good luck to us all.

Suzanne Rhodes, Nuclear Waste Observer, LWVSC.org

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\*[www.ips-dc.org/staff/bob](http://www.ips-dc.org/staff/bob). [bob@ips-dc.org](mailto:bob@ips-dc.org). Alvarez serves as a senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington DC and is an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced Strategic International Studies. He served as a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Energy between 1993 and 1999.

# Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

www.BREDL.org 3417 Sutton Place Augusta, Georgia 30906 Phone: (706) 772-5558 E-mail: cutley@paine.edu

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**Date: May 21, 2013**

**From: Concern Citizens of Shell Bluff, Waynesboro, GA**

**To: Donald Bridges, Chairman of the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board**

**Re: Savannah River Site and Commercial Nuclear Power Plant Waste**

Dear Chairman Bridges and members of the Board:

The Concerned Citizens of Shell Bluff—a chapter of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League—supports action by the Citizens Advisory Board not to accept any new waste to the Savannah River Site facility. Specifically, a working committee of the Savannah River Citizens Advisory Board recently made the following recommendation:

“The Department of Energy should not consider the Savannah River Site as a potential location for Commercial Power Plant Spent nuclear waste.”<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Chairman, there are good, sound reasons for adopting this recommendation, reasons based on equity, public health and environmental justice.

For decades the citizens surrounding the facility have contributed to the development of our country’s nuclear weapons program. Today there is a vast movement to increase nuclear reactors in our communities, therefore increasing the amount of waste. The proposed Plutonium Fuel (MOX) Facility, Unsafe Storage Tanks, New Nuclear Plants, will all impact these communities. Therefore, we must not allow this injustice to be placed on our citizens.

As you may know, there is presently under discussion in the US Congress legislation, entitled “The Nuclear Waste Administration Act,” which should persuade the full CAB to adopt this recommendation today. The Congress, based on the report of the Blue Ribbon Commission, is looking for a volunteer to take the nation’s commercial nuclear power plant waste. But we are

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<sup>1</sup> “Savannah River Site’s Citizens Advisory Board position on using SRS for interim Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel,” Draft Recommendation sponsored by the Waste Management Committee

convinced that so-called interim storage of this radioactive waste would lead to permanent disposal. Today, over sixty thousand tons of this highly radioactive irradiated nuclear fuel is stored at U.S. nuclear power plants. And every year, each of the nation's 104 nuclear reactors creates approximately 20 tons of additional waste.

The contamination from past nuclear activities has created a clean-up problem at SRS which will never be set right. The facility is already at its capacity; therefore, why would we even consider additional waste for this facility? With the large amount of radioactive waste already here, we must consider the disproportionate amount of exposure to the communities surrounding SRS.

Mr. Chairman, the residents of Aiken, New Ellenton, Barnwell, Augusta and Shell Bluff had had enough. There are those who would bring all manner of radioactive waste to the Central Savannah River Area. We oppose this. Therefore, we ask the Citizens Advisory Board to adopt the committee's recommendation.

Thank you.



**Rev. Charles Utley, Environmental Justice Campaign Coordinator**



**Rev. Willie Tomlin, Vice President of the Board of Directors**



# SRS Citizens Advisory Board

## Written Statement Form

Name: <u>Thomas Frank England</u>	Date: _____
Affiliation: <u>SKR</u>	
Address: <u>SKS 6209 705-1C</u>	
City: _____ State: _____	
Zip Code: _____	
Email Address: <u>thomas.england@srs.gov</u>	

add him to distribution

### STATEMENT:

Please add me to the CABS email list, replacing  
Wynne Bethman remove her from distribution

Please use a separate sheet if more space is needed.

This form may be completed to make an official statement as part of this meeting in lieu of a comment made during public comment period. All statements will become part of the official meeting minutes. No response will be provided.

803 952 - 6491

## Savannah River Site cancer compensation briefing draws hopeful crowd

By Rob Pavey

Staff Writer

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Cold War veterans and their survivors packed a meeting room Tuesday to explore new compensation opportunities for cancers linked to jobs at Savannah River Site.

The program has already paid out \$502 million to more than 3,800 SRS workers diagnosed with one or more of 22 cancers related to radiation exposure, said Rachel Leiton, the director of the U.S. Labor Department's Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation.

However, a new category for former SRS workers employed for at least 250 days between Jan. 1, 1953, and Sept. 30, 1972, will make about 800 previously rejected claims eligible for reconsideration for lump-sum payments of \$150,000 or benefit combinations worth even more.

Previous claims need not be re-filed, Leiton told about 250 people during a town hall meeting at the Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center. "If it looks like it might be eligible for this class, we'll go ahead and reopen that case for you."

Under the new "special exposure cohort" class for the site, a dose reconstruction study by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health is no longer required.

Such analyses often took two years or more, and now those cases can be resolved in six months or less. Many workers with authenticated diagnoses can quickly be given a "presumption of causation," making it easier to collect compensation.

The changes were welcome news for some former SRS workers.

"I have three kinds of cancer and I've been turned down three times," said one former employee, who spoke at the meeting but would not provide her name. "I worked there 28 years, got uterine cancer in '94 and breast cancer in '87."

In 2000, she was diagnosed with a type of lymphoma.

"We're the ones who need help," she said from her oxygen-equipped wheelchair.

Although most attendees had filed previous claims, the meeting also attracted some first-time inquiries.

Julie Poole was just 9 years old when she lost her father, nuclear physicist Lovell D. Tice, to a rare type of lymphoma.

"We used to ask him what he did out there and he'd tell us, 'it's secret,' " the Columbia woman said. "He was only 42 when he died."

She was among dozens of visitors who met privately with Labor Department staff members to evaluate records and seek guidance on how to file or check on claims.

Because records from so long ago are often missing or incomplete, program officials are available to help track down information, Leiton said.

"We try to ensure that we find as many of those records as we can," she said. Sources sometimes extend beyond the Department of Energy and can include records from labor unions, contractor corporations – even personal affidavits.

"One of the most important things is to provide medical evidence," she said. "Confirming the diagnosis is one of the most important things to be done."

[Back to Top](#)

Joe Ortaldo  
5/20/2013

**SUGGESTED MODIFICATION FOR CAB POSITION ON INTERIM STORAGE OF USED FUEL AT SRS**

The CAB requires additional information before it can adopt a position relative to the interim storage of used commercial fuel or non-SRS generated defense waste at SRS. The following issues/questions must be addressed:

- \*Why can't Yucca Mtn. be used for interim storage?
- \*Why is consolidation better than on-site storage at generation sites?
- \*Present study reports evaluating potential interim storage sites
- \*How long will interim storage be utilized?
- \*Why is SRS being considered for interim storage?
- \*What are results of NEPA and EIS evaluations?
- \*What the potential economic benefits for the CSRA?
- \*What is required to improve the credibility of Washington DOE? Ie. Yucca Mtn.

Submitted by: Joe Ortaldo  
803-649-0227 rosjoeo@aol.com



Catherine B. Templeton, Director

*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment*

May 13, 2013

The Honorable Lindsay Graham  
290 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Savannah River Site Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Budget

Dear Senator Graham:

The high level radioactive liquid waste in aging tanks at SRS is the single largest environmental threat in South Carolina. The proposed FY14 budget derails the agreed upon schedule for liquid waste risk reduction. The recent constricted FY13 budget and insufficient proposed FY14 funding jeopardize:

- Thirty milestones for bulk waste removal and tank closure in the Federal Facility Agreement and General Closure Plans,
- The startup milestone for Salt Waste Processing Facility in the Saltstone Permit, and
- The liquid waste treatment milestone in the Site Treatment Plan Consent Order.

Missing the regulatory schedule milestones for waste treatment and tank closure will trigger significant penalties. The Department of Energy (DOE) appears to be preparing to request milestone schedule extensions rather than asking for sufficient funding to meet regulatory commitments.

In South Carolina we have worked hard to reach agreement with DOE on a technical and regulatory path forward. Evidence of this cooperation is clear in the 2012 closures of Tanks 18 and 19. Given that an agreed upon roadmap is in place, all that is needed for continued success is adequate funding. Funding of SRS liquid waste at \$664 million and SWPF at \$170 million helps avoid future penalties, takes advantage of current cooperative planning, and drives down risk on an agreed upon schedule.

This letter is in support of an additional \$112 million for liquid waste management and an additional \$78 million for the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) at Savannah River Site (SRS) in the FY14 budget. A sustained budget level of \$664 million (\$112 million added to the

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Mills/Jarrett Complex • Box 101106, Columbia, SC 29211-0106 • 1751 Calhoun Street, Columbia, SC 29201 • [www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov)

To Senator Graham  
May 13, 2013  
Page 2

President's budget request of \$552 million) for liquid waste management and \$170 million (\$78 million added to the President's budget request of \$92 million) for SWPF will uphold continued risk reduction while making it possible for SRS to meet future enforceable milestone commitments.

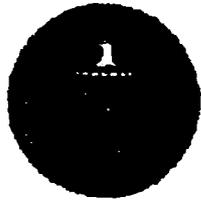
Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine Templeton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Catherine B. Templeton

cc: Dr. David Moody, SRS  
Daniel Poneman, DOE  
David Huizenga, DOE  
Senator Dianne Feinstein, Chair, Energy and  
Water Development Subcommittee  
Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen, Chair, Energy and  
Water Development and Related Agencies



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY**

**Nuclear Energy**

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## **DOE Perspective on Advanced Nuclear Fuel Cycles**

**Presentation to  
US NRC Regulatory Information Conference  
Bethesda, MD**

**Buzz Savage  
Office of Nuclear Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy**

**March 11, 2009**



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Nuclear Energy

## Cost

- 
- **A transition to a closed fuel cycle would be expensive and take several decades**
    - a commercial scale reprocessing plant could cost >\$15 billion ✱
  
  - **Business case for an integrated fuel management approach**
    - Industry estimated that a waste fee between 1 – 3 mils/kWh would be needed
  
  - **R&D and innovative technology could significantly reduce costs**
    - Simplified/compact systems, advanced materials
    - Improved design processes, reduced conservatism



## **EnergySolutions' Statement to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Reprocessing and the Disposition of Used Nuclear Fuel**

EnergySolutions has the experience and capabilities to handle, store, reprocess and dispose of used nuclear fuel (UNF). We are very keen to continue to take an active part in the Blue Ribbon Commission's (BRC) recommended path forward, including the setting up of one or more Consolidated Storage Facilities for UNF in the USA, and also the pursuit of UNF reprocessing.

We are currently contracted with DOE to carry out several studies related to the BRC recommendations, including producing design concepts for one or two CSFs, and the development of standardized transportation, aging and disposal canisters for UNF. We strongly support the setting up of one or more CSFs in the USA and the progressive movement of UNF from the shutdown and operating reactor sites to these CSFs. Our CSF design concepts study first looked at UNF transportation issues from both shutdown and operational sites, the need for repackaging some UNF prior to transport, the difficulties with transport access to certain shutdown sites, the lead time to acquire suitable cask and railroad cars, and the licensing requirements for all equipment and transport methods. It went on to identify, cost and compare 6 options, covering one or two CSFs, differing UNF receipt rates, UNF pickup orders, operational start dates and geological repository operational dates. These scenarios were illustrative only at this stage but the model we developed enables all possible options to be compared and provides the basis for production of a full conceptual design.

EnergySolutions supports the reprocessing of UNF in the USA because it (i) minimizes the volume of high level waste (HLW) that ultimately will require geologic disposal, (ii) provides a vitrified HL Waste form that is more robust than irradiated nuclear fuel assemblies that were not originally designed for long term storage, and (iii) enables the removal from the HLW of long-lived heat emitting transuranics such as americium so that these can be separately destroyed. During the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) period we produced a conceptual design, technology roadmap and business plan for a UNF reprocessing facility capable of reprocessing 1500 MT of UNF per year and future expansion up to 3000 MT/year. During that period we actively engaged with the NRC on its gap analysis of the regulatory framework for analyzing a reprocessing facility. We support the continuation of that process and ultimately a rulemaking for the creation of a Part 7X. At the end of the GNEP period our conceptual design provided all that was required for an immediate move into the detailed design process.

We believe there are significant synergies between a CSF and a reprocessing facility. Each requires a receipt facility and temporary storage for the UNF, a hot cell or pool facility for the removal of UNF from canisters so that it can be reprocessed or re-packaged for repository storage, and an R&D facility. Establishing a CSF and a reprocessing plant on the same site would allow economies to be realized by the common use of these facilities. Such a combined site would also potentially be more attractive than a standalone CSF to a prospective host community because of the much larger range of high quality jobs that it would offer. This could help the identification of volunteer communities for such a site, as recommended by the BRC. EnergySolutions is actively engaged with potential host communities for a CSF and we believe that the CSF will ultimately be tied to a Reprocessing Plant, an R&D facility and, potentially also the Geologic Repository.

Chris Phillips  
January 10, 2013

## Areva sees US nuclear waste recycling planning by '15

Mon Jun 6, 2011 3:56pm EDT

- \* Areva in talks with US utilities to advocate for center
  - \* Would take 10 years to build waste recycling plant
  - \* Japan's nuclear crisis has renewed interest in recycling
- (Adds details about cost of recycling center, paragraph 10)  
By [Ayesha Rascoe](#)

WASHINGTON, June 6 (Reuters) - Areva ([AREVA.PA](#)) hopes that by 2015, it can start planning construction of a facility for recycling nuclear waste in the United States, an executive for the French nuclear power company said on Monday.

Jacques Besnainou, head of Areva's North American unit, said the company was in discussions with several utilities about forming an alliance to advocate for a recycling center.

"We're hopeful that we can start planning for such a facility by 2015," Besnainou told reporters at a briefing held by The Energy Daily, a trade publication.

Once planning began, it would take about 10 years to get a facility up and running, he said.

Interest in nuclear waste recycling has grown since Japan's nuclear crisis exposed the dangers of storing waste at power plants indefinitely, Besnainou said.

"One of the things we're discovering in Fukushima is leaving used fuel in ... a spent fuel pool may not be a very wise decision," he said.

Efforts to regain control of Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex have been hampered by the overheating of pools containing spent fuel.

### KICK THE CAN DOWN THE ROAD

There is no law against building a nuclear recycling center in the United States, but Besnainou said the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would need to devise regulations for a facility.

He said it would help if the United States created an agency focused on handling nuclear waste that could help fund and plan a recycling center.

Areva has said it would cost about \$25 billion to build a recycling center in the United States. Besnainou suggested part of the funding for the project could come from the federal government's Nuclear Waste Fund, which brings in about \$750 million in fees annually from U.S. ratepayers.

The United States has no permanent storage site for nuclear waste. The Obama administration shelved the long-delayed Yucca

Mountain, Nevada spent fuel dump. The Yucca Mountain waste dump was opposed by Nevada residents but supported by Republicans and lawmakers from states holding significant amounts of nuclear waste.

Besnainou said a recycling center would be preferable to developing interim storage sites, such as those being considered by the Obama administration's Blue Ribbon commission on nuclear waste. [ID:nN13248241]

"When you do a recycling center, you're being part of the solution. You're taking care of the fuel, you're making the fuel less dangerous," Besnainou said. "Interim storage is kicking the can down the road."

The amount of used fuel left over after recycling is much less than the United States must manage now, and having a recycling center would delay the need to decide on a permanent storage site by at least 50 years, Besnainou said.

(Editing by [Dale Hudson](#) and [David Gregorio](#))



# CVSC

Conservation Voters of South Carolina

Executive Director  
Ann Timberlake

September 6, 2012

Board of Directors

Dana Beach  
Charleston

Emma Ruth Brittain  
Myrtle Beach

Wilkins Byrd  
Aiken

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Rock Hill

Carol Ervin  
Charleston

Frank Holleman  
Greenville

Blan Holman  
Charleston

Jay James  
Chair, Darlington

Marlon Kimpson  
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Arnold Nemirow  
Charleston

Charles Patrick  
Charleston

Chris Pracht  
Anderson

Gail Richardson  
Barnwell

Alan Runyan  
Beaufort

Harry Shealy  
Aiken

Cody Smith  
Columbia

Childs Cantey Thrasher  
Columbia

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. My name is Debbie Parker and I serve as Legislative Director for Conservation Voters of South Carolina. We are the non-partisan political voice of South Carolina's conservation community and coordinate with over 40 organizations to promote a healthy, clean future for our state. Our coalition represents over 50,000 citizens.

I testified last year before the Blue Ribbon Commission about the conservation community's grave concerns about bringing more nuclear waste to our state. Conservation Voters of South Carolina, along with Audubon South Carolina, Coastal Conservation League, Upstate Forever, South Carolina Sierra Club, South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Environmental Education Association of South Carolina, Solar Business Alliance, Morning Sun Foundation, League of Women Voters of South Carolina, Waccamaw Riverkeeper and Wildlife Action went on the record opposing importing waste under any conditions, including under the pretexts of "interim" or "consolidated" spent fuel storage or reprocessing.

Our state's experience with nuclear waste at the Barnwell low-level storage facility nearby provides an instructive lesson in the pitfalls of importing nuclear waste to South Carolina. After nearly two decades of negotiations, our General Assembly finally upheld the terms of the Atlantic Compact and ceased being the nation's dumping ground for low level commercial waste.

For too long South Carolina has shouldered a disproportionate share of our country's nuclear waste. As the Department of Energy itself has stated, the 36 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste at the Savannah River Site constitutes South Carolina's gravest environmental threat.

With no repository designated, with no plan for permanent disposal, we cannot endorse any negotiations that imply "consent" under any circumstances for SRS to serve as an "interim" site for consolidation of commercial nuclear waste storage or for reprocessing. Such talk substitutes a long-term national solution with a short-term South Carolina problem. Given our history with all waste-hazardous, infectious and garbage- even now the possibility of 300 train cars of nuclear contaminated dirt, we ask the Nuclear Advisory Council and the Governor to flatly oppose more nuclear waste coming to South Carolina.

Ann Timberlake

Debbie Parker

Executive Director

Legislative Director

*Conservation Voters of South Carolina is the nonpartisan political arm of South Carolina's conservation community. We work to support pro-conservation policies and we also facilitate the Common Agenda process, which brings together 41 organizations representing over 50,000 citizens dedicated to a clean, healthy and economically vibrant South Carolina.*

Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (SRS CAB)  
Ms. Ashley Whitaker  
SRS CAB Administrator  
DOE-SR Operations Office  
P. O. Box A  
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Aiken, SC 29802  
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No Consent for Spent Fuel Storage or Reprocessing at the Savannah River Site

To Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board: I am writing to you to express my opposition to the U.S. Department of Energy's proposal for consolidated storage of the nation's highly radioactive spent fuel at the Savannah River Site (SRS) or any other place in South Carolina or Georgia. I do not consent to spent fuel storage at SRS and thus support the SRS Citizen Advisory Board's recommendation that "The Department of Energy should not consider the Savannah River Site as a potential location of Commercial Power Plant Spent nuclear waste." Given that radioactive spent fuel is a threat to public health and the environment, I totally agree with the observation in the draft recommendation now before the CAB that "Future generations of Georgians and South Carolinians will not be well served by having the Savannah River Site become an interim storage site for commercial nuclear waste for what will be an undetermined amount of time."

Additionally, I oppose the reprocessing of spent fuel at SRS as it would create a huge volume of nuclear waste that would pose a risk and be costly to deal with and result in separated weapons-usable plutonium for which there is no use.

Spent fuel should be removed from storage pools at nuclear reactors as quickly as possible and stored in dry casks. On-site storage of the dry casks until such time as geologic disposal is available means less risk in handling, less worker exposure to radiation and less risk in transport. Consolidation of spent fuel is not the answer and only creates more problems.

Thank you very much for taking my opinion into consideration as you discuss the recommendation to stop SRS from becoming the nation's dump for high-level nuclear waste.

Sincerely,

*John Chapman*

John Chapman



Public Comment Letters – May 2013 Full Board

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Pamela Sherman  
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Patricia Hyman  
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Paul T. Palmer (letter)  
Priscilla Preston  
Priscilla Quirk  
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Rachel Vane  
Richard Brendal  
Ron Cain  
Sally Webb  
Shannon Stern  
Sharon Bramlett  
Stephen Valder  
Sue DeFord  
Susan Corbett  
Susan Kauthman  
Terry Collins  
Theresa Guy  
Timothy & Beverly Keating  
Virginia Bell  
Virginia Woodhead



# CVSC

Conservation Voters of South Carolina

Executive Director  
Ann Timberlake

September 6, 2012

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Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. My name is Debbie Parker and I serve as Legislative Director for Conservation Voters of South Carolina. We are the non-partisan political voice of South Carolina's conservation community and coordinate with over 40 organizations to promote a healthy, clean future for our state. Our coalition represents over 50,000 citizens.

I testified last year before the Blue Ribbon Commission about the conservation community's grave concerns about bringing more nuclear waste to our state. Conservation Voters of South Carolina, along with Audubon South Carolina, Coastal Conservation League, Upstate Forever, South Carolina Sierra Club, South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Environmental Education Association of South Carolina, Solar Business Alliance, Morning Sun Foundation, League of Women Voters of South Carolina, Waccamaw Riverkeeper and Wildlife Action went on the record opposing importing waste under any conditions, including under the pretexts of "interim" or "consolidated" spent fuel storage or reprocessing.

Our state's experience with nuclear waste at the Barnwell low-level storage facility nearby provides an instructive lesson in the pitfalls of importing nuclear waste to South Carolina. After nearly two decades of negotiations, our General Assembly finally upheld the terms of the Atlantic Compact and ceased being the nation's dumping ground for low level commercial waste.

For too long South Carolina has shouldered a disproportionate share of our country's nuclear waste. As the Department of Energy itself has stated, the 36 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste at the Savannah River Site constitutes South Carolina's gravest environmental threat.

With no repository designated, with no plan for permanent disposal, we cannot endorse any negotiations that imply "consent" under any circumstances for SRS to serve as an "interim" site for consolidation of commercial nuclear waste storage or for reprocessing. Such talk substitutes a long-term national solution with a short-term South Carolina problem. Given our history with all waste-hazardous, infectious and garbage- even now the possibility of 300 train cars of nuclear contaminated dirt, we ask the Nuclear Advisory Council and the Governor to flatly oppose more nuclear waste coming to South Carolina.

Ann Timberlake

Debbie Parker

Executive Director

Legislative Director

*Conservation Voters of South Carolina is the nonpartisan political arm of South Carolina's conservation community. We work to support pro-conservation policies and we also facilitate the Common Agenda process, which brings together 41 organizations representing over 50,000 citizens dedicated to a clean, healthy and economically vibrant South Carolina.*

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SRS CAB Administrator  
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