



Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board

Executive Committee Meeting

**October 15, 1996 5 p.m.
Augusta Sheraton Hotel
Augusta, Georgia**

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board Executive Subcommittee met on Tuesday, October 15 at 5 p.m. at the Augusta Sheraton Hotel in Augusta, Ga. Bob Slay chaired the meetings. Other committee members present were Ann Loadholt, Tom Costikyan, Bill Lawless, Kathryn May, Lane Parker and Vernon Zinnerman. Executive Committee member P.K. Smith and Board member Deborah Simone attended a portion of the meeting. Board Facilitator Walt Joseph also attended. Mary Flora and Dawn Haygood of Westinghouse Savannah River Company were present and Gerri Flemming of the Department of Energy acted as Associate Designated Deputy Federal Official.

Proposed Spent Nuclear Fuel Forum

Committee members first discussed a proposed educational forum regarding spent nuclear fuel. Much enthusiasm was shown by the full Board at the September CAB meeting for hosting a forum. The Executive Committee discussed the formation of a steering committee to begin planning the forum. Bill Lawless moved that Tom Costikyan and Karen Patterson act as co-chairperson for the event. Ann Loadholt seconded the motion. This nomination was approved by a unanimous vote. The following Board members were also appointed to the steering committee: Bill Lawless, Suzanne Matthews, Kathryn May, Lane Parker and Vernon Zinnerman. P.K. Smith agreed to act as a logistical advisor for the forum drawing on her experience with the April Plutonium Forum.

Environmental Management Advisory Board

The Executive Committee next discussed the Board's interest in becoming involved in the Environmental Management Advisory Board and its vital role in DOE's national decision-making process. Bob Slay stated that after talking with local DOE, he thought it would be best to submit the name of someone who would participate on the EMAB if the Board's request is granted. Ann Loadholt moved that Bill Lawless be that individual. Lane Parker seconded the motion. The committee unanimously agreed.

Membership Issues

Membership issues were discussed and the fact that the Board's membership criteria are very restrictive by design. Members were concerned that the priority could become filling a slot with

someone who is not the most qualified candidate for the position. Lane Parker stated that initially the membership criteria left out many stakeholders during the early working group efforts and great emphasis had been placed on diversity. Members agreed on the need for diversity, but also emphasized the need to select the best candidate for a vacant position.

The Executive Committee decided to ask the Administrative Subcommittee to look at the following three issues and come back to the full Board with recommendations:

- 1) Should the quorum requirements be relaxed from two-thirds to majority?
- 2) What course of action would the Administrative Subcommittee recommend if three qualified candidates are not available to run for a vacant position?
- 3) What type of opportunities could be provided for Board members to become more familiar with final candidates for membership prior to March elections.

Facilitation/Media Relations

Board members addressed the role of the facilitator and one Board member's request to add media relations duties to the facilitator's scope of work. Vernon Zimmerman stated that the concern regarding independent media relations assistance is an issue of perception. He stated that a few members are concerned that the CAB is seen as an extension of DOE and Westinghouse and that he is interested in generating the right type of perception. He would like for Walt Joseph to conduct some research and evaluate if the Board's efforts to communicate through advertising are effective. He would like to be assured that the Board is doing all it can to reach communities and interested stakeholders.

Bob Slay stated that the 25-member Board by definition can give diverse points of view and the Board should not try to generate issues that unnecessarily concern the public. However it is the Board's responsibility to inform those stakeholders who are interested. Lane Parker agreed to look into the issue and work with Walt Joseph in his role as the Outreach Subcommittee Chairperson. If changes to the current scope of work for the facilitator are necessary, they will be provided by Lane Parker prior to rebidding the contract in early 1997.

Other Administrative Items

The Committee also discussed the administrative services provided by Joan Moser through Mr. Joseph's facilitation contract and unanimously agreed to directly subcontract Ms. Moser's support to guarantee her continued services to the Board.

Bob Slay requested guidance from the Executive Committee regarding recent correspondence from Mr. Bob Newman and his frustration with the CAB regarding the issue of the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority Regional Waste Management Center. Committee members noted the Board hosted several public meetings and made efforts to facilitate communications with the Department of Energy. Board members stated the Board should not serve as an automatic intermediary regarding issues not being addressed by the CAB. The committee agreed the

appropriate resolution was letter from Bob Slay to Mr. Newman stating the Board felt this issue was not one in which the Board could support Mr. Newman's request.

Bill Lawless also suggested that the videotapes from the April Plutonium Forum be edited from five hours to a one hour production and that this be done by an objective professional producer. The CAB could then broadcast the videotape on local stations, he said. Walt Joseph agreed to research the cost associated with hiring a professional producer.