The CAB ER & WM subcommittee met on January 27, 1997. Mr. Lawless opened the meeting with introductions. Other subcommittee members present were Kathryn May, CAB ER & WM Co-chair, Arthur Belge and Deborah Simone. Todd Crawford, CAB technical support, also attended. Ann Ragan attended from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). Attending from WSRC/BSRI were Bill Noll, Mary Flora, and Anne Roe. de’Lisa Bratcher attended as the Associate Designated Deputy Federal Official, ADDFO. Bill Lawless opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Bill Noll gave a presentation describing the Complex-Wide EM Integration initiative. The EM Integration initiative resulted from a request from Al Alm to examine waste management on a complex-wide basis to determine how it can be managed cheaper, faster, and better. Questions to be asked in the evaluation include (1) What type waste and how much is at each site?, (2) What existing treatment facilities do we have at each site? and (3) What is the capacity of those treatment facilities? The EM Integration effort is an opportunity to improve the Ten Year Plan objectives. The charter for the EM Integration is to identify opportunities in implementing DOE-EM’s 10-Year vision through a complex-wide integration effort which will reduce program costs and risks. The system engineering effort will build on and augment previous analyses and databases. The project will be an integrated corporate (contractor led) effort. The effort will focus on the most important waste streams, materials, and treatment facilities, transportation systems, storage and disposal facilities, as well as technology insertions. Transuranic and mixed low level waste will be the first waste streams examined under the integration approach.

The EM Integration effort may result in a waste consolidation at several sites. This consolidation brings up State equity issues, that is, is it fair to expect a few States to accept all of the risk associated with receiving the wastes. Mr. Noll pointed out that the keys to implementing the EM Integration effort were public support, State equity issues, and regulatory flexibility. Ann Ragan pointed out that SCDHEC was concerned with this equity issue. She said the State would be supportive if it meant there was a balance of waste entering and leaving the site. It was noted that the waste treatment facility currently being planned for SRS was a facility to sort and segregate mixed and TRU waste. Bill Lawless discussed the opportunities with the CIF, and he noted that if the evaluation reduced the need to build additional vaults it would save money. He also commended the effort and noted that with the State as a willing partner the effort would move forward.
The draft motions and planned presentations for the next day’s CAB meeting were reviewed and discussed. The first motion concerned the River Water System EIS and the second motion concerned the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, (WIPP SEIS-II). A list of 1997 issues for consideration by the ER&WM subcommittee was also reviewed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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