



## **SRS Citizens Advisory Board Nuclear Materials Management Subcommittee**

**Meeting Summary**  
**July 21, 1997**  
**Aiken, S.C.**

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The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Nuclear Materials Management (NMM) Subcommittee held a meeting on Monday, July 21, 7 p.m. at the University of South Carolina-Aiken. Subcommittee members attending were Vice-chair Ken Goad, Mary Elfner, Ed Tant, Jimmy Mackey and Beaurine Wilkins. Savannah River Site resource personnel attending included Donna Martin, Westinghouse Savannah River Company, and Jean Ridley, Associate Designated Deputy Federal Officer, Department of Energy-Savannah River. Members of the public attending were Bob Matthews, Rick Geddes, Arun Dutta and a representative from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

### **Introduction**

The meeting was held specifically to discuss a four-point recommendation on the scope of a nonproliferation study of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) treatments. The recommendation was developed after the June 30 subcommittee meeting held in Beaufort, SC.

Ken Goad, CAB NMM vice-chair, conducted the meeting in the absence of Tom Costikyan, NMM chair. Goad gave a brief background of the goal of the nonproliferation study, then focused on each point of the recommendation.

### **Point One**

Goad explained the first point was a request for DOE to clarify its nonproliferation policy. Although various documents and studies over the years have referred to the nonproliferation, Goad said the committee felt DOE has never fully explained the policy. Point one was accepted with no changes.

### **Point Two**

The second point of the recommendation endorsed DOE's decision to broaden the study to address all SNF alternatives rather than only chemical processing. Although the subcommittee endorsed increasing the study scope, the subcommittee members at the June 30 meeting said the study should discuss how any disadvantages should be mitigated. All agreed point two should be included in the recommendation with no changes.

### **Point Three**

After point three was read, several questions were asked concerning International Atomic Energy Agency procedures. A question was also raised on only chemical processing was specified as the only treatment requiring international oversight when in actuality, all treatments would require some form of oversight. Attendees agreed the wording should be changed to include all treatments, not just chemical processing.

Jimmy Mackey, CAB, said nonproliferation oversight activities were already underway, with about 160 countries participating in International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He added that point three was important because representatives from countries such as China, Iran or Iraq would participate and the United States should be careful that security is not breached. He also suggested that "classified" may not be the accurate wording to use. Bob Matthews said "classified" covers a range of information and it was the appropriate term to use.

Mary Elfner asked for the term "transparency" be changed in the recommendation. She was unclear on the exact meaning of the word and felt the public would also be confused on the definition of the word. A suggestion was made to reword the sentence so that transparency is explained.

#### **Point Four**

Discussion on point four focused primarily on the wording and clarification on which treatments would be included as uncertainties in costs and schedule. The sentence was reconstructed to ensure that all alternative treatment options be addressed and compared, rather than addressing only selected treatments.

#### **Conclusion**

In closing, the subcommittee suggested that Goad briefly provide some background to the full Board on why the nonproliferation study was being prepared. All voted to present the recommendation as rewritten at the Tuesday meeting.