



SRS Citizens Advisory Board

Salt Processing Focus Group

Meeting Summary

November 30, 1999
Aiken Federal Building
Aiken, SC

The Salt Processing Focus Group met on Tuesday, November 30, 1999, at 6:00 P.M. at the Aiken Federal Building, Aiken, SC. Attendance was as follows:

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|---------------|-----------------|
| Ethan Brown | Lee Poe |
| Mike French | George Mishra |
| Ernie Chaput | Kelly Way |
| Bill McDonell | Karen Patterson |
| John Reynolds | Bob Hinds |
| Ken Rueter | |

Lee Poe opened the meeting by requesting introductions and reviewing the agenda. The Focus Group discussed the following areas:

FG Statement at NAS Meeting

Karen Patterson, CAB, briefed the group on her November 21, 1999, presentation to the NAS Committee on Cesium-Processing Alternatives for SRS HLW. Basically, Karen highlighted the background and path forward of the Focus Group for the NAS. She outlined the Focus Group's concerns if the technology selection is delayed.

Alternatives to stretch HLW Tank Space beyond FY09 & Interim Tank Space Initiatives

Ken Rueter, WSRC, briefed the group. Discussion focused around the following:

- Potential consequences should the start of coupled operations (sludge and salt processing) be delayed on production of salt only canisters, on tank space management, and existing regulatory agreements.
- Salt Processing Replacement preferred technology.
- The approximately 3 million gallons of storage space needed to store dissolved salt solution if the Salt Processing Facility is not on line by 2010.
- Possibility of reducing canister production prior to coupled ops followed by increased production to achieve a net average of 200cans/year.
- Speed that tanks can be emptied.
- Speed that salt cake builds up.
- Regulatory commitments.
- Sludge only cans/simulated sludge and salt cans.
- Qualification of salt only cans.

- Budget required for producing cans, submitting to repository, & a building a new facility.
- The risks of reusing old style tanks vs. feasibility of building new tanks.
- Infrastructure required for waste removal, condition and age of tanks.
- Problems of emptying tanks that contain both salt and sludge.
- Importance of involving stakeholders in old style tank/new tank decision.

The HLW Salt Disposition Systems Engineering Team Decision Phase Final Report (WSRC-RP-99-00007 Revision 0; November 01, 1999) was made available to the group.

DOE Program Briefing of NAS

John Reynolds spoke briefly on the presentation to the NAS by Frank McCoy on the contractor replacement issue and outlined the Phase 1 Schedule Logic chart. Discussion focused around the following:

- Draft RFP issued by 2nd Quarter FY00
- Final RFP issued by 3rd Quarter FY00
- Contract awarded by 1st Quarter FY01
- Preliminary Design complete by 4th Quarter FY02
- Issue draft SEIS by 2nd Quarter FY00
- ROD by 4th Quarter FY00
- Latest review of direct disposal

Actions

1. Plan next FG meeting, (12/14/99; 4:00P.M.; North Augusta Community Center) before the WM&ER Subcommittee meeting. Lee Poe distributed two handouts that should be reviewed before the next meeting. They were e-mail dated 11/29/99 with potential motions for CAB and Potential FG Briefing Areas.
2. Discuss plans of FG with ER&WM subcommittee chair.
3. Solicit ER&WM subcommittee and CAB support with periodic meetings and updates.
4. Develop agenda for December 14 meeting-Ethan Brown.
5. Determine potential motions for the FG-All.

Lee Poe and Ethan Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:45.