

# Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation Committee Report

Marolyn Parson, Ph.D., Chair

Augusta, GA

October 29-30, 2012



# Committee members

- Marolyn Parson, *Chair*
- Tom Barnes, *Vice Chair*
- Artisha Bolding
- Louie Chavis
- Kathe Golden
- Bill Rhoten



# Committee focus

- The committee addresses the remediation of contaminated soil, groundwater, and surface water.
  - Specifically, the committee deals with issues related to:
    - Federal Facility Agreement
    - Risk management/assessment,
    - The regulatory process, and
    - Other cross-cutting issues pertaining to environmental restoration.
- The committee also follows deactivation and decommissioning actions taken to reduce risk & costs following shutdown of excess industrial, radioactive, and nuclear facilities.





# Status of recommendations

- One open recommendation, #279 “Federal Facility Agreement Update Provided Annually.”
  - Basically asks Department Of Energy to provide updates in a timeframe that allows the Board to give input before changes to the Agreement are made, rather than just providing an update of changes.
  - Response from Department of Energy was received November 16, 2011.
    - While the timeframe for input was not exactly in line with what was stated in the recommendation, it seems workable. We will have to wait and see how it goes during this round of updates.



# Status of recommendations

- Currently three pending recommendations, first one is #283 “Revising The Department Of Energy Websites & Using Plain Language To Communicate With the Public More Effectively”
  - Basically the recommendation asks the Department of Energy
    - To post more information on its websites,
    - To make the websites more searchable,
    - To make the websites usable to users with different computer platforms, and
    - To write documents using plain language that is easy to understand by the general public.
- Response received from the Department on January 16, 2012.





## Committee Decision on Department of Energy's Response to Recommendation #283

- At the April 23, 2012, committee meeting it was decided not to close the recommendation for now as the Department of Energy has several projects in the works that are addressing some of the specific concerns in the CAB's recommendation.
- Further, at the April 23, 2012, meeting the committee asked the Department of Energy to provide updates specific to the five items in the recommendation at either the June or August committee meetings.



## Committee Decision on Department of Energy's Response to Recommendation #283, cont.

- At the August 21, 2012, committee meeting, the Department of Energy gave a verbal briefing that again only addressed the improvements in the search performance of [www.srs.gov](http://www.srs.gov) & browser support issues.
- After discussion, the committee expressed dissatisfaction with the Department of Energy's response to date & asked me to write a letter to Dr. David Moody expressing this dissatisfaction & urging the Department to fully respond to the specifics of the recommendation.
- At the September Board Meeting, action was taken to have this letter sent on behalf of the Board to Dr. Moody.





## Status of recommendations, cont.

- Second pending recommendation is Recommendation #293 “Remedial Actions and Clean-up of 235-F.”
  - Basically asks the Department Of Energy to take a comprehensive look at the existing plans for decontamination and decommissioning of building 235-F and reassess the present schedule for 235-F cleanup.
  - Further, in view of comments made in the Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board Recommendation 2012-1 (May 9, 2012), it asks the Department to take near-term immediate actions to remediate the situation.
  - Last, it asks the Department to advise the CAB, at the January 2013 meeting, of the cost and timeline of implementing the Safety Board’s Recommendation and how other projects will be impacted by the implementation of said Recommendation.





## Status of recommendations, cont

- The third pending recommendation is Recommendation #294 “Development of Environmental Review Roadmap and Document Listing.”
  - Basically this recommendation asks the Department of Energy to develop a periodic report that provides an overview of upcoming environmental reviews and provide relevant information on the particulars of each review process.
  - Second, it asks the Department to develop a list of upcoming environmental reports and information soon to be issued that would be of interest to the public at large.



# Committee Meetings:

- Committee has not met since last Board meeting.
- Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at 6:00-8:00 p.m.
  - DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC, &
  - Streamed online via Live Meeting.
    - If you cannot attend in person, check out the meeting using Live Meeting
      - It is easy to use & a good way to participate.
- Planned Presentation
  - Federal Facility Agreement Appendix E Major Projected Changes





# Presentations

- Today:
  - “Annual Environmental Report”
    - Amy Meyer, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
- Tomorrow:
  - “Radioecology Initiative”
    - Gene Rhodes, Savannah River Ecology Laboratory
  - Integrator Operable Units Program
    - Brain Hennessey, Department of Energy, Savannah River Operations Office