

Summary Notes- June 25, 2013
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
Nuclear Materials Committee Meeting

The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Nuclear Materials (NM) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, from 4:00-5:50 p.m., at the DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC. It was also streamed online via Google Hangouts.

The purpose of this meeting was to receive an update of the Dry Storage of SRS Foreign and Domestic Research Reactor Used Nuclear Fuel (UNF). There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB Members:

Dr. Rose Hayes- NM Chair
Louie Chavis- NM Vice Chair- *Online*
Dr. Donald Bridges- CAB Chair
Harold Simon- CAB Vice Chair
Bill Calhoun
Nina Spinelli
Dr. Virginia Jones
Ed Sturcken
Ed Burke
Earl Sheppard

DOE/ Contractors/ Others:

Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR
Terry Spears, DOE-SR
Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR
Bill Taylor, DOE-SR
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR
Jim Bolen, DOE-SR
Dipak Jani, DOE-SR
Edgard Espinosa, DOE-HQ
David Rose, SRNS
Sheldon Ray, SRNS
Steve Thomas, SRR
Ashley Whitaker, NOVA
James Tanner, NOVA
Jesslyn Anderson, NOVA

Stakeholders:

Frances Close
Tedda Howard
Stan Howard
Murray Riley
Judy Greene
Tom Clements
Connie Young
Nancy Bobbitt
Steve Baker
Joe Ortaldo
Robert Christopher

Agency Liaisons:

Tom Rolka, SCDHEC
Jeff Joyner, SCDHEC
Rob Pope, EPA- *Online*
Martha Berry, EPA- *Online*

Welcome and Introduction:

CAB member Rose Hayes opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and reviewing the meeting rules. She asked everyone to introduce themselves, including online attendees. She reviewed the committee's focus before providing a recommendation status update. She stated the NM Committee had two open recommendations and explained that she wanted to discuss three draft recommendations after the scheduled presentation. She introduced Ms. Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR, to begin her presentation.

Presentation: Dry Storage of SRS Foreign & Domestic Research Reactor Used Nuclear Fuel Update- Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR

Ms. Maxted stated the purpose of her presentation was to provide an update about Dry Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel (UNF) as requested by CAB member Hayes. She provided a copy of the "SRS Waste and Material Flow Path" to illustrate L-Basin's location at SRS. She showed several pictures of commercial transfer and dry cask storage systems. She also showed pictures of vertical and horizontal commercial storage facilities before discussing DOE-SR's conceptual strategy for storage of Foreign Research Reactor (FRR) and Domestic Research Reactor (DRR) fuel. She stated DOE-SR developed a three-phase conceptual strategy, which identified the need for a pilot case where casks were studied for fuel conditions and cask atmosphere; however, the program also demonstrated the scientific basis for extended storage of fuel stored in a "road-ready" condition. Ms. Maxted discussed each individual phase of the conceptual strategy stating the total estimated cost

for the project would be \$1.3 billion. She provided an overview of the commercial nuclear dry storage industry before addressing the information notice the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued in April. She stated that periodic monitoring efforts such as the NRC information notice help ensure dry storage systems continue performing effectively. She showed pictures and described the effects of galvanic corrosion and efflorescence, which were found at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station and the Idaho National Laboratory. She said dry storage was an option being evaluated for the foreign and domestic research reactor UNF at SRS; however, no decision had been made on the dry storage of the fuel at SRS. This presentation can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Committee Discussion:

CAB member Hayes provided a recommendation status update, stating that recommendations 302 and 306 were open. She stated the NM Committee had three new draft recommendations. She discussed the first draft recommendation titled, "Request for Long-Term Assessment: Disposition of Research Reactor Fuels stored in L-Basin." Ms. Maxted suggested inserting the numerical amount of fuel that could be processed in H-Canyon as a result of the Amended Record of Decision (ROD). CAB member Hayes said she appreciated her input then moved on to the next draft recommendation.

CAB member Hayes read and explained the second draft recommendation titled, "Nuclear Waste Management Plan for Interim Storage of Defense Waste in Yucca Mountain, Temporary Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel at Generation Sites, and Development of Separation Technologies for Reducing Waste Volume, Radioactivity, and Half-Life." CAB member Bill Calhoun asked the committee if they felt the recommendation would have meaningful impact, since the current political viewpoint seemed to be that Yucca Mountain would never be a successful option. Mr. Patrick McGuire, DOE-SR, explained that DOE issued a strategy on the disposition of High-Level Waste and spent nuclear fuel (SNF) based on a consent-based approach. He said he felt like the CAB's recommendation ignored DOE's decision for a consent-based approach. CAB member Hayes explained to Mr. McGuire that the CAB was recommending that DOE reconsider Yucca Mountain as an option for an interim storage facility. CAB Chair Bridges and CAB member Burke suggested various grammatical options for each item of the recommendation, which CAB member Hayes agreed with.

CAB member Hayes read and explained the third draft recommendation titled, "Transferring Materials in L-Basin to Auxiliary Dry-Cask Storage." CAB member Burke asked Ms. Maxted if she felt the draft recommendation would help "reinforce" the strategy DOE was trying to develop. Ms. Maxted replied yes. CAB member Hayes suggested removing item number of the recommendation since Ms. Maxted stated in her presentation that a study was conducted to characterize the materials that could be transferred to a dry-cask system.

CAB member Hayes stated she wanted to discuss the three draft recommendations at the upcoming July 2013 Full Board meeting. She then asked if anyone wanted to make a public comment. This discussion can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

CAB member Hayes adjourned the NM Committee meeting.

The next NM Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2013, from 4:00-5:50 p.m., at the DOE Meeting Center in Aiken, SC.

The online recording of this meeting can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov