

**Summary Notes- April 15, 2014
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, April 15, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 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 information on alternative dispositions of used nuclear fuel. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB Members:

Dr. Marolyn Parson- CAB Chair
Dr. Rose Hayes- NM Chair
Dr. Virginia Jones
Dr. Michael Havird
Harold Simon- CAB Vice Chair – *Online*
Nina Spinelli – *Online*

DOE/ Contractors/ Others:

Maxcine Maxted, DOE-SR
Pat McGuire, DOE-SR
Tony Polk, DOE-SR
Jean Ridley, DOE-SR
Gerri Flemming, DOE-SR
Bill Taylor, DOE-SR
Bill Bates, SRNL
Ed Sadowski, SRNL
James Tanner, NOVA
Jesslyn Anderson, NOVA

Agency Liaisons:

Mike May, SCDHEC
Thomas Rolka, SCDHEC

Stakeholders:

Lee Poe
Joe Ortaldo
Karen Patterson
Dawn Gillas
Tom Clements

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 NM committee’s focus before she introduced Mr. Ed Sadowski, Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) to begin his presentation.

Presentation: Alternative Dispositions of Used Nuclear Fuel- Ed Sadowski, SRNL

Mr. Sadowski said the purpose of his presentation was to provide information about several alternatives for disposition of Used Nuclear Fuel (UNF) and to fulfill a NM Committee 2014 Work Plan topic. He stated the current interim storage method at SRS was L-Basin storage, while the current disposition path for typical UNF at SRS was through H-Canyon and the High Level Waste system. He then discussed possible alternatives for disposition of UNF, which would require significant amounts of research and development (R&D), demonstrations, and scale-up; however, he explained that funding was currently unavailable. Mr. Sadowski explained six possible alternatives for disposition of UNF, which included dry storage, melt-dilute, electrochemical separation, electrodialysis separation, selective electrochemical extraction, and chromatographic separation. He stated the UNF at SRS was being stored safely and securely. He said the UNF and water in L-Basin were routinely monitored while disposition of UNF through H-Canyon and the High Level Waste system was the most viable option with the technology available. He said SRNL was pursuing advances in future technology by beginning years of research and development. This presentation can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Committee Discussion:

CAB member Hayes provided a recommendation status update, stating recommendations 307, 313, and 314 were open. She stated that the NM Committee had one new draft recommendation titled, “Potential New Technologies to Address Used Nuclear Fuel and Defense High-Level Radioactive Waste Inventory at Savannah River Site.” She

read and explained the purpose of each recommendation. CAB member Hayes asked for the recommendation to be discussed at the May 2014 Full Board meeting. This discussion can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comments:

Mr. Joe Ortaldo, public, encouraged the CAB to remain optimistic about the possibility of Yucca Mountain being a potential location for the federal repository.

Mr. Tom Clements, Savannah River Site Watch, explained the DOE Plutonium Disposition Assessment, led by Mr. John McWilliams, may be released soon and he recommended the CAB request a presentation since the document included information about the future of plutonium disposition. He mentioned the recent Aiken Standard newspaper article where an AREVA representative criticized the accuracy of the DOE assessment; however, Mr. Clements said he had written a letter to Shaw Areva and asked them to release their annual cost assessment.

CAB member Hayes adjourned the NM Committee meeting.

The next NM Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2014, from 6:30-8:20 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