Summary Notes – October 14, 2015
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)
Waste Management (WM) Committee Meeting

The WM Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2015, from 4:30-6:20 p.m., at the New Ellenton Community Center in New Ellenton, South Carolina. It was also streamed online via Google Hangouts and posted to the CAB website and YouTube page. The purpose of this meeting was to receive an update on the Saltstone Disposal Units (SDU). There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

CAB:
Earl Sheppard – WM Chair
Virginia Jones – WM Vice Chair
David Hoel
John McMichael
Susan Corbett

DOE/Contractors/Others:
Jean Ridley, DOE-SR
de’Lisa Carrico, DOE-SR
Michael Mikolanis, DOE-SR
Carl Lanigan, DOE-SR
Jeff Allender, SRNL
James Tanner, Time Solutions
Tina Watson, Time Solutions

Stakeholders:
Joe Ortaldo
Tom Clements, SRS Watch
Rose Hayes

Agency Liaisons:
Tom Rolka, SCDHEC
Taylor Stow, SCDHEC

Welcome and Introduction:

Committee Vice Chair Virginia Jones welcomed everyone. She reviewed the agenda, committee focus, and stated the WM Committee had no open recommendations. She introduced Ms. Jean Ridley, DOE-SR, to provide the DOE Point of Contact update. Ms. Ridley provided a brief verbal update of ongoing DOE-SR activities related to the WM Committee. Committee Vice Chair Jones then introduced Mr. Carl Lanigan, DOE-SR, to begin his presentation.

Presentation: Saltstone Disposal Unit Update – Carl Lanigan, DOE-SR

Mr. Lanigan began his presentation by stating this was to fulfill a 2015 Waste Management Committee Work Plan element. He presented the acronym page and went into the diagram of the DOE-SR Liquid Waste System overview. He focused his presentation on the Saltstone Production Facility which takes decontaminated salt and combines it with a cement mixture to create a grout, which then becomes a stable waste form for permanent disposal. Mr. Lanigan explained that 99% of treated tank farm waste will be in the form of low level salt waste and the disposition of this waste is fundamental to emptying the liquid waste tanks at SRS. He then discussed the evolution of the Saltstone Disposal Unit (SDU) design from rectangular structures to the new circular design. The new design is widely used in commercial drinking/waste water facilities. This design was adapted for saltstone disposition. Mr. Lanigan explained the safety measures put into place to detect any unlikely leaks from the liner. He discussed the 2011 study that dealt with economies of scale which determined that approximately $300M could be saved by using larger “mega” cells rather than multiple smaller ones. Mr. Lanigan explained the Balance of Plant which includes remote cameras, passive ventilation, drainwater return system, thermocouple trees, grout line, and power. He stated that the current status of SDU6 was completed in September of 2015; the concrete has set and they are now in the process of filling with water to do a water tightness test. Mr. Lanigan then showed a schematic of the final closure cap that will cover the cells once all the saltstone operations have been completed. Mr. Lanigan ended his presentation with a summary and took questions from the audience. He responded to a question from
CAB Member Jones regarding the trueness of a test using water. A question was asked from Rose Hayes about the seismic load the unit can withstand. Mr. Lanigan explained that it was built to withstand the typical SRS seismic load. Michael Mikolanis, DOE-SR, followed-up by stating it was designed to withstand the Charleston earthquake. Joe Ortaldo asked whether these structures were built and used for any length of time. Mr. Lanigan responded that these units are built and used all around the world. CAB Member Hoel asked several questions concerning leak detection systems, leaks detected, epoxy coating, SDUs in active operation, the percent completeness of SDU6, plans to build next SDU, level of water in leak test, earth placed around new design SDUs, permit renegotiation, use of single path system. Mr. Lanigan, Mr. Mikolanis, and Mr. Ortaldo responded to Mr. Hoel’s questions. This presentation can be found at the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Committee Discussion:

Committee Chair Sheppard opened the committee discussion time with the draft recommendation, “Prepare a Lessons Learned Report on the Contract Failure for Manufacturing ASME Vessels for SWPF.” Committee Chair Sheppard gave the floor to CAB Member Hoel to present his draft recommendation. CAB Member Hoel summarized his recommendation and discussion was held. CAB Member Hoel indicated his desire to make some modifications to the recommendation as it stood and move it forward to the Full Board at the November Full Board meeting. This discussion can be found on the CAB website at: cab.srs.gov

Public Comments:

There were no public comments, but a lengthy discussion was held regarding award fee and subcontractor compensation.

Committee Chair Sheppard adjourned the WM Committee meeting.

The next WM Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, from 4:30-6:20 p.m., at the New Ellenton Community Center in New Ellenton, SC.

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