

Summary Notes – August 14th, 2018
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)
Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FDSR) Committee Meeting

The SLM Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, August 14th, 2018, from 4:30 – 6:20 pm, at the Department of Energy Meeting Center in Aiken, SC. It was also streamed online via YouTube and posted to the CAB website and YouTube channel. The purpose of this meeting was to receive updates on the Point of Contact status. There was also time set aside for committee discussion and public comments.

Attendees:

<u>CAB:</u> Betty Cook Eleanor Hopson Doug Howard Daniel Kaminski Joyce Underwood	<u>DOE/Contractors/Others:</u> Michael Mikolanis, DOE-SR Avery Hammett, DOE-SR Karen Adams, DOE-SR James Tanner, S&K Federica Staton, S&K Chelsea Gitzen, S&K Kristin Huber, SRNS	<u>Agency Liaisons:</u> None <u>Stakeholders:</u> Nina Spinelli
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Committee Welcome: Joyce Underwood, Chair

Ms. Underwood welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Point of Contact Status Update: Avery Hammett, DOE-SR

Ms. Hammett reviewed the current projects related to the committee purview.

Q&A Session

Mr. Howard asked if the inspection on the water tanks was done before and what were the repairs done to them. Ms. Hammett answered yes, they're inspected every two to three years depending on the type of lining and on a rotating basis. She added that the spot corrections made were fixed under water with epoxy, and she committed to providing more details after the meeting.

Mr. Kaminski asked if Dunbarton Bay will be capped. Ms. Adams replied that they're excavating the ash and will transport & dispose of it at the Three Rivers Landfill.

Ms. Underwood asked if this is the same place as the other ash basins' ash was taken to. Ms. Adams responded that it's the same place, but a different type of ash.

Mr. Kaminski asked if this information is in regular reports which the CAB or public could access. Ms. Hammett answered that it's provided to DOE-SR through a monthly report from SRNS and it can be added to the DOE-SR remarks given at the upcoming September full board meeting or whenever pertinent as updates occur.

Ms. Hopson asked if there had been any changes in the wetlands because of the recent increase in rain. Ms. Hammett answered that she didn't know the answer for this year, but would provide specifics after the meeting.

Mr. Kaminski asked if there are any areas on site at risk for contamination due to increased water from rain. Mr. Mikolanis replied that they do study the effects of rain because they do

monitoring on site related to ground and surface water. Ms. Hammett added that she will talk to SREL and acquire studies related to the effects of rainwater on site.

Committee Discussion: D Area Ash Project

Mr. Kaminski asked regarding the previous full board meeting when someone asked for the lifespan of the material used in the caps if the answer given was, “greater than 30 years.” Mr. Tanner responded that responses from unanswered questions from the previous full board meeting are being generated and will be circulated to the CAB when they are provided. Mr. Kaminski then asked if the type of grass used in caps is indigenous and how high as well as deep does it grow. Ms. Adams answered yes, it is coastal Bermuda grass and it will usually get at least two feet tall. She added that she doesn’t know how far the roots go. Mr. Kaminski continued by asking if we harvest it as hay. Ms. Adams replied that she doesn’t know if we’ve considered that as an option.

Ms. Underwood asked why the grass is cut. Ms. Adams responded that it’s due to maintenance in order to prevent burrowing animals, ant beds, trees growing and hogs rooting – all of which can affect the cap permeability. Ms. Underwood then asked if the site has any gopher turtles. Ms. Adams answered that there are more armadillos.

Mr. Howard asked how hogs and moles are kept away. Ms. Adams replied that “moles don’t burrow so deep and they used to fence in the caps,” but there is a fence around SRS making it secure so that was deemed unnecessary. She further added that the last few years the hog damage has been costly so they’re back to installing fences which have barbed wire on the top and bottom called “hog fences.” Mr. Howard then asked if there are deer who affect the caps. Ms. Adams responded that they don’t seem to affect them much.

Ms. Cook asked if hunts help with keeping animals off of the caps. Ms. Adams answered that all hunters are able to hunt hogs, but there is no hog hunt. She added that they also set traps which is usually not that effective. Ms. Cook then asked if they would consider a hog hunt if it got bad enough. Mr. Mikolanis replied that hunters do come in to hunt hogs, and different hunters manage different areas but overall they’re barely treading water with regards to population control.

Ms. Underwood asked why there isn’t a hog hunt. Mr. Mikolanis responded that the hog situation is nation-wide and SREL is contributing to find technology to help. He also added that the population is not hazardous right now.

Draft Recommendation: Pollinator Management Plan

Ms. Underwood read the draft recommendation in its entirety and provided background information on why the recommendation was formed as well.

Mr. Tanner suggested discussing both draft recommendations together.

Draft Recommendation: Plant Indigenous Flowering Plants on Industrial Landfills to Enhance Pollination

Mr. Kaminski read this draft recommendation in its entirety and provided background information on why the recommendation was formed as well.

Ms. Underwood asked how far the roots go. Mr. Kaminski answered that he didn’t know, but there are geological surveys to provide information regarding what amounts of sand and clay there are, and he pointed out that the sand is naturally occurring. Mr. Kaminski added that the

CAB needs DOE-SR to find out what can be planted on the caps instead of just grass, since flowers can be cut and grow back.

Mr. Howard asked if the committee could combine the two draft recommendations. Mr. Tanner replied that it is up to FDSR. Ms. Underwood asked if they are combined can they be voted on at the next full board meeting. Mr. Kaminski responded that the background information and discussion sections would be too long if the two drafts were combined, and they don't conflict while addressing different specifics. Ms. Underwood noted she wants to keep them separate but she's also worried the full board will want to combine them, but suggested the titles to be changed in order to emphasize the difference between the two. Mr. Kaminski accepted this change and dropped the phrase, "to enhance pollination" from his draft recommendation.

Ms. Underwood noted a minor change to the second draft recommendation and asked for a motion to vote on these drafts in order to send them to the next full board meeting for approval. This motion was accepted and seconded. Both drafts passed with 5 yay.

Public Comment

None.

~Meeting Adjourned