

The Board Beat Magazine

Working Together to Educate and Inform the Communities Surrounding the Savannah River Site!



*Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board
Spring 2017 Magazine*

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board is a public board and its mission is to study issues affecting the Savannah River Site in order to provide informed recommendations, from the public's perspective, to the Department of Energy concerning Environmental Management work in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Message from the Chair- Nina Spinelli



March offered the opportunity to attend the annual Waste Management Symposium in Phoenix, and present a paper on creating a dynamic advisory board. This topic sits close to home for me, as I enter my final year on the SRS CAB and first year as CAB Chair.

The board members of the SRS CAB are an amazing group of dedicated citizen volunteers who attend meetings month after month to provide topical advice and recommendations to the Department of Energy that can leave a lasting impact to their community.

This year, one of my goals as chair is to continue to build a culture of inclusiveness, making sure each member of the CAB understands the role and duty of being a member and feels knowledgeable and confident in fulfilling that role. Keeping the CAB charter as a focus is key and the SRS CAB charter is our guide.

Term limits allow the CAB to continuously bring in new community members who come to the board with their own unique viewpoints, backgrounds and ideas. While new members garner new ideas, we also lose great institutional knowledge when veteran members leave the CAB. Finding a way to keep these knowledgeable community members connected and engaged in the CAB is an excellent use of resources. My hope is to create a CAB alumni program where former members can continue to actively participate with the CAB.

The new year offers new opportunities for the SRS CAB. As a CAB, our Recommendations must continue to reflect the perspective of the communities in which we live, and must be measurable and achievable. As a group, we have the chance to engage our communities through outreach and offer the Department of Energy meaningful recommendations that will provide a lasting impact.

Please visit our website at cab.srs.gov for more information on the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nina Spinelli".

Nina Spinelli
Chair, Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board

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The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) extends a big thanks to everyone who helped make this magazine possible. To all the CAB members who submitted ideas and articles, to all the presenters and managers who make Full Board and Committee meetings meaningful, to the Board's agency liaisons, and to the Department of Energy (DOE) for continued support as we, the members of the SRS CAB, serve this very important role for DOE and our communities.

The Board Beat is published semiannually by the SRS CAB and distributed in November and May, primarily by email. Content is provided by Board members and the CAB Support Team. To subscribe to the Board Beat, submit a request with your name and email address to: srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov

SAVANNAH RIVER

The SRS CAB Reviews Internal Processes and Develops its 2017 Work Plan

On February 9, 2017, the SRS CAB hosted a Work Plan meeting and Education and Process Session. These meetings, held annually, give CAB members the opportunity to go over CAB processes and discuss topics of focus for the upcoming year. This meeting is essential for the CAB to prepare for the year ahead.



SRS CAB 2017 Work Plan

Yearly, the Savannah River Site Citizen's Advisory Board (SRS CAB), with help from the Department of Energy, composes a Work Plan. The Work Plan consists of issues and/or actions that the CAB plans to discuss and acquire more information about during the course of the year. The Work Plan helps keep the Board focused so it can provide knowledgeable and appropriate recommendations to DOE. CAB activities are designed to focus only on the subjects identified in the annual Work Plan, so it is important for the CAB to plan out what they will concentrate on. Each CAB committee has its own Work Plan put together by each committee's chair.

This year's Work Plan includes the following topics:

Strategic & Legacy Management

- I. DOE-SR Budget
- II. Integrated Priority List
- III. Natural Resources Management
- IV. Historic Preservation
- V. Community Reuse Organization
- VI. Recruitment and Retention at SRS
- VII. Continuous Improvement
- VIII. SR National Lab Update

Nuclear Materials

- I. Atoms for Peace Program
- II. Spent Nuclear Fuel Program
- III. Plutonium Program
- IV. Federal Repository Status
- V. 235-F Deactivation
- VI. Administration Priorities (State & Federal)
- VII. Update on the Strategic Nuclear Materials Plan

Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation

- I. Environmental Monitoring
- II. Final Approved FFA Appendix E
- III. Soliciting Input for Update of the Community Involvement Plan
- IV. Wounded Warrior Activities
- V. Federal & State Oversight of Cleanup
- VI. SRS Game Animal Monitoring
- VII. Annual Site Environmental Report
- VIII. Radionuclide Education, Monitoring, and Outreach Program (REMOP)
- IX. Savannah River Ecology Laboratory
- X. D Area Ash Basin Project

Waste Management

- I. Defense Waste Processing Facility Melter Change-Out
- II. Recent Liquid Waste Regulatory Decisions
- III. SDU-6 & SDU-7 Status
- IV. 3H Evaporator Status
- V. Liquid Waste Contract Status
- VI. Salt Waste Processing Facility Status
- VII. Mercury in the Liquid Waste System
- VIII. Glass Waste Storage Status
- IX. Tank Closure Cesium Removal
- X. Solid Waste Program & WIPP Update
- XI. Status of Operations

Administrative and Outreach Committee

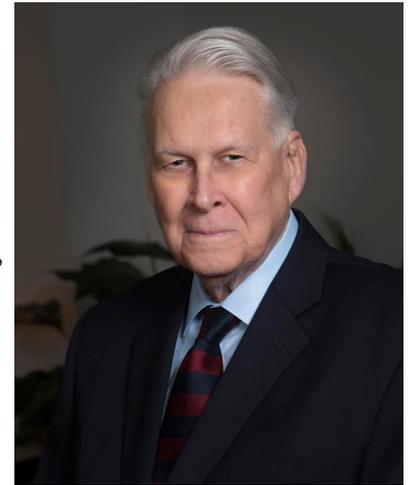
- I. Assist the Federal Coordinator with the CAB Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Chair elections
- II. Continue efforts to coordinate a Student Involvement Program
- III. Community Outreach
- IV. Member Recruitment

Taking Responsibility:

Monitoring our Nuclear Heritage

Written by: Jim Lyon, CAB Member

President Franklin Roosevelt authorized the Manhattan Project on October 11, 1939. The President's order set in motion a vast scientific and engineering effort. America's nuclear military and energy infrastructure developed as required to support sustaining nuclear dominance and this required expanding production by increasing the number of facilities supporting nuclear defense purposes. By early 1950s, a large tract of land, near the Savannah River became the Savannah River Site, with five reactors producing enriched uranium (or plutonium). Additional processes on site resulted in nuclear radiological residue buildup concurrent with accelerated demand for nuclear materials.



Treaties with former cold war adversaries have thrown nuclear weapon production into reverse but have not stopped it. Furthermore, even before the end of the Cold War, public perceptions about nuclear matters reflected apprehension regarding the state of nuclear operations. The Department of Energy began programs to ensure a clean environment on and around nuclear priority production sites. By 1972, the government gave ordinary Americans a role to guarantee stated government activities were occurring. The Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 gives citizens who could be vulnerable to accident or mismanagement a role linking communities' concerns to Department of Energy activities. Citizen participation monitoring the Department's performance and stewardship is how we know that our health and safety are being looked after. As part of the implementation of that act, there is a Citizens Advisory Board operating in conjunction with the Savannah River Site.

Through the Advisory Board, regional stakeholders witness, question and advise Department of Energy's site managers through site visits, "face to face" communication, and in writing about site operations, environmental monitoring, cleanup progress and many other related matters. That's not all. The Board is tasked to advise site managers about community concerns and make recommendations about any matter of mutual or community concern. The relationship, board to site, is not adversarial, neither is it adjunctive. We represent the people and exercise our own judgment. The Savannah River Site's Board is very active and the board's members have obtained deep knowledge about Site processes and conditions.

The Savannah River Site Citizen's Advisory Board is active and we encourage member participation. The work we do is interesting and it is important. We invite your participation either as a member or as an attendee at our meetings. The Board wants to maintain momentum and is always accepting applications. Application for membership may be found at <http://cab.srs.gov/library/application.pdf>.

2017 Waste Management Symposium

Written by: Nina Spinelli, CAB Chair



March 5-9, 2017 marked the 43rd Waste Management Symposium in Phoenix. Nearly 30 countries were represented at the symposium that was attended by over 2,000 scientists, engineers, students and administrative support. The program included 450 papers with 137 technical sessions that covered topics from clean-up to future land use.

The symposium opened with a plenary session focusing on the field of radioactive waste management, and included Sue Cange, Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management for the Department of Energy, J. Greg Myer, the Senior Vice President for Fluor Corporation and Hirohide Hiral, Director General for Nuclear Accident Disaster Response Agency for Natural Resources and Energy .

I attended the WM Symposium and presented a paper entitled “Creating a Dynamic Advisory Board at the Savannah River Site.” The paper was part of a panel session focusing on the Stakeholder’s Voice – The Impact of Citizens and Regulators on Radioactive Waste Issues. The panel was co-chaired by Kristen Ellis, DOE Public Affairs.

Other presentation included Engaging the Public on Complex Issues: Communication Challenges and Solutions by Yvonne Levardi, the US DOE Office of River Protection; Geographic Information Systems: Citizen Opportunity to Contribute to Environmental Data Analysis by Arthi Nadham from the University of Michigan, and finally, a paper on the Radiation Unit for Public Understanding by Kidoo Kang, KHNP of South Korea.



The Symposium is a great opportunity to meet from all over the world who are connected to each other by a passion for waste management, clean-up and new discoveries that help benefit everyone.

SRS Recognized for “Green” Building

Press release and picture originally posted online on srs.gov

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has formally recognized the Savannah River Site’s Tritium Engineering Building as a “green” building, awarding it High Performance Sustainable Building (HPSB) status. The HPSB designation means that the building meets 28 distinct performance requirements related to energy, waste and water reduction, and tenant health and comfort.

James McConnell, NNSA’s Associate Administrator for Safety, Infrastructure & Operations, credited the partnership between NNSA’s Savannah River Field Office (SRFO) and the Savannah River Site’s management and operating contractor, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS). “The Savannah River Field Office and SRNS continue to demonstrate excellence in facilities management by having another building earn the designation of an HPSB,” McConnell said in a letter congratulating NNSA-SRFO Manager Doug Dearolph and SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean. “These types of modern, functional buildings are great places to work, and achieve lower operating costs and reduced environmental impacts.”

One other building in the Savannah River Site’s Tritium area, the NNSA Tritium Administration Office, achieved HPSB status in 2014.

“This building’s features bring together three of our priorities,” said MacVean, “Our commitment to the environment, our constant drive to operate the site in a cost-effective manner, and our dedication to making the Savannah River Site a compelling place to work. With its natural sunlight

and improved indoor environment, this building provides an appealing space for engineers in the Savannah River Tritium Enterprise to carry out their important work in support of our nation’s defense.”



NNSA-Savannah River Field Office Manager Doug Dearolph (from left), SRNS Sr. Vice President – NNSA Operations & Programs Wallis Spangler, SRNS Program Manager Kevin Scaggs, NNSA-SRFO Ryan Cox, SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean, and NNSA-SRFO Assistant Manager for Facilities and Security Roxanne Jump with the plaque recognizing the Tritium Engineering Building. Even the plaque itself represents sustainability, being made of bamboo and aluminum.

Among the features that helped to earn the HPSB designation are large, store-front style windows that allow in natural daylight, Energy Star roofing products, and carpet and furniture that are environmentally preferable. NNSA-Savannah River Field Office Manager Doug Dearolph (from left), SRNS Sr. Vice President – NNSA Operations & Programs Wallis Spangler, SRNS Program Manager Kevin Scaggs, NNSA-SRFO Ryan Cox, SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean, and NNSA-SRFO Assistant Manager for Facilities and Security Roxanne Jump with the plaque recognizing the Tritium Engineering Building. Even the plaque itself represents sustainability, being made of bamboo and aluminum.

Approximately 35 percent of the Savannah River Site’s work is on behalf of NNSA. The largest segment of the SRS NNSA mission is the work related to tritium, the radioactive form of hydrogen used in national defense. Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science.

2017 CAB Full Board Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 22-23	Hilton Garden Inn 1065 Stevens Creek Road Augusta, GA 30907
July 24-25	Applied Research Center 301 Gateway Drive Aiken, SC 29803
September 25-26	Courtyard Charleston Historic District 125 Calhoun Street Charleston, SC 29401
November 13-14	Hilton Garden Inn 1065 Stevens Creek Road Augusta, GA 30907



Join us for a SRS CAB Committee Meeting in 2017!
Upcoming CAB committee meetings:

<u>June 6:</u> Waste Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Nuclear Materials 6:30-8:20 p.m.	<u>June 13:</u> Strategic & Legacy Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation 6:30-8:20 p.m.
<u>Aug. 8:</u> Waste Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Nuclear Materials 6:30-8:20 p.m.	<u>Aug. 15:</u> Strategic & Legacy Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation 6:30-8:20 p.m.
<u>October 17:</u> Waste Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Nuclear Materials 6:30-8:20 p.m.	<u>October 18:</u> Strategic & Legacy Management 4:30-6:20 p.m. Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation 6:30-8:20 p.m.



All committee meetings are hosted at the
DOE Meeting Center
230 Village Green Blvd.
Suite 220
Aiken, SC 29803

Can't make it to a committee meeting in person?
Consider joining us online in real time! For more
details, please visit the CAB's website: cab.srs.gov

Administrative and Outreach (A&O) News

Written by: Eleanor Hopson, A&O Committee Chair

The River Road Community Advisory Committee (RRCAC) invited the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) to attend their November 29, 2016, meeting at W. S. Hornsby School in Augusta, Georgia. The meeting was chaired by RRCAC Facilitator, Ms. Athena Freeman. The purpose of the meeting was to continuously enhance relationships with local residents, civic organizations and community leaders who are interested in the environment and businesses along Columbia Nitrogen Road in Augusta.



I presented an oral review and presentation about the work of the CAB. The meeting presented an opportunity to interact with the community while I informed the board of the SRS CAB duties. I shared that while CAB members are unpaid volunteers, being a member is an exercise in citizen participation and average citizens from diverse backgrounds have the opportunity to provide meaningful input for DOE responses. An interchange of questions and answers developed as the meeting progressed and attendees showed great interest in the SRS CAB.

The teachers of W.S. Hornsby Middle School expressed their interest in participating in the SRS tours, and plan to visit the SRS website for more information. Principal Dr. Jamie McCord and Isaac Lee applauded the work of the SRS CAB as a key component of the SRS cleanup program.

SRS Feeds ‘Bugs’ Oil to Chomp Away at Contamination

Press release and picture originally posted online on srs.gov

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is using vegetable oil as a low-cost remediation approach to accelerate chemically-contaminated groundwater cleanup at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

“We’ve been extremely pleased with the results to date, and others have noted the success of the project as well,” said Chris Bergren, an environmental stewardship manager at Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, the SRS management and operations contractor.

Workers inject highly concentrated amounts of vegetable oil into the ground, where it mixes with naturally occurring bacteria and the contamination. Unable to differentiate between the oil and the oil-coated chemicals, the voracious bacteria rapidly eat both and deplete the soil’s oxygen. The rate of cleanup increases with time because the treatment spurs bacteria growth.

The chemicals were part of organic solvents, like those used at dry cleaning shops. They were used for cleaning purposes for Cold War operations at several SRS nuclear facilities, most of which have since closed. The solvents leached into the soil from buildings that have been demolished and replaced by green fields.

“We like to call the vegetable-oil-eating bacteria bugs,” Bergren said. “When fed thousands of gallons of inexpensive vegetable oil, the bugs will destroy large quantities of organic solvents fairly quickly.”

This approach has led to cost savings over the previously used “pump-and-treat” technology involving highly mechanized air strippers, Bergren said. The system extracted sub-surface water and treated it in an above-ground system, stripping the hazardous chemicals by blowing air through the water.

“Though the method was effective, it cost about \$1 million dollars a year to operate, plus the unit had to be shut down and rebuilt about three times over the course of its lifetime,” said Bergren. “Our modeling indicated it would require 30 years to complete the cleanup process using this technology for a total cost of at least \$30 million dollars.”

Recent testing after injecting vegetable oil down multiple wells at the project site indicate the area is now approximately 98 percent free of organic solvents.

“Our desire is to avoid electrical power and move towards more natural, passive methods during environmental cleanup work,” DOE-Savannah River Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship Deputy Assistant Manager Angelia Holmes said.



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions engineering and technical support specialist Keith Hyde measures the flow of vegetable oil during an injection process. The oil encourages growth of the underground population of naturally occurring, chemical-eating bacteria at the Savannah River Site

Take a LOOK

February Education and Process Session and April Committee Meetings



New Member Orientation and March Full Board Meeting



CAB Spring Site Tour

Written by: Nina Spinelli, CAB Chair

On April 27, Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (SRS CAB) members enjoyed the opportunity to tour the site.

We began our tour at the Curation Facility, hosted by Melissa. The facility provides a home to the history spanning thousands of years, and includes the towns and residents who inhabited the land prior to the Atomic Energy Agency laying the foundation for the Savannah River Site.

Spending hours roaming through the Curation Facility building would be easy to do. CAB Members had the chance to see original supporting materials used at the site, including control desks, photographs and instruments.

After leaving M-Area, the CAB visited H-Canyon, which is on the only hardened nuclear chemical separations plant still in operation in the United States. CAB members walked-through the work flow of H-Canyon and saw how a team of 1,500 members keeps the facility running.

The next tour stop was the Defense Waste Processing Facility and a review of the ongoing melter replacement. The CAB learned about the other planned maintenance activities that are taking place. The final stop was Saltstone Disposal Unit 6. Material processed from H Canyon flows to the H Tank Farm, and the salt solution from the Tank Farm will then be processed through the Salt Waste Processing Facility. The resulting saltstone will be permanently placed in the Disposal Units. SDU-6 is made of 25 core wall panels, each nearly 48 feet wide and 43 feet tall, and holds about 30 million gallons.

The tour was an amazing overview of site activities. Getting to see firsthand the sites that are frequently discussed in CAB meetings really helped bring a broader perspective. Thank you to everyone who made the tour possible.

My First Year as a CAB Member

Written by: Cathy Patterson, A&O Vice Chair

My first year experience as a Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board member was intense, intriguing and informative.

Intense, in light of the fact that I didn't understand most of the topics we initially discussed. Position statements, recommendations and other terms were unfamiliar territory for me. I questioned how I might compose a position statement as well as draft a recommendation if I didn't understand the topics of discussion. At first I was overwhelmed; however the CAB members made me feel welcome and helped me with the acclimation process.

I was intrigued because I wanted to engage in everything that was being presented and I earned to know more. I became interested in learning more and hearing the passion and concerns that each member of the CAB has and had about environmental issues. I ended up noticeably keen on adapting increasingly and hearing the enthusiasm and concerns that every individual from the CAB has and had about ecological issues. Likewise, I became noticeably inspired by and still appreciate listening to the concerns of the public.

Lastly my first year was informative. Despite the fact that I have been employed at Savannah River Site for 26 years, I understood that there was and is limitless measures of information that I didn't know and as a result I am constantly learning more. I believe that the SRS CAB has given an outlet to me to voice my opinion and I am grateful for it. The CAB has been a source of information that has been helpful to me as well as to my family, friends and community.



Double Stacking Update

SRS CAB Commends Originators of “Double Stacking” Plan

Written by: Chelsea Gitzen, CAB Support Team

During the CAB full board meeting March 27, DOE SR Manager Jack Craig joined George Matis, Savannah River Remediation’s Defense Waste Processing Facility & Saltstone Operations Manager to present awards to three SRR employees for the innovation they demonstrated in creating “double stacking.” These awards were a result of Recommendation 340, which the CAB created to commend the originators of the double-stacking idea.

This idea came to fruition after discussions began plans to create a third Glass Waste Storage Building, which would cost about \$130 million. A GWSB 3 would have been needed to store canisters containing waste.

“Starting in September 2016, 188 canisters have been double stacked as of April,” said Charles Comeau, PMP Waste Disposition Programs Division. “Crossbar cutting, removal, clearance by RADCON, and cleanup takes approximately half of a shift. Two crossbar removals are completed per day for a normal shift.”

Thanks to double stacking, GWSB 1 capacity for canisters will increase from 2,254 to 4,508. Combined with GWSB 2, the total capacity for canisters will be 6,848, providing space through FY 2029. The three award winners and their coworkers have not stopped at GWSB 1, and have moved on to try to devise methods to double stack in GWSB 2.

In the event of double stacking not being a possibility in GWSB 2, the waste disposition teams at SRS are exploring other options for storing canisters above ground without having to build another GWSB (which would be “well in the future” thanks to double stacking). Regardless of what is determined as the best path forward, safety is and will remain a top priority for all waste disposition employees.



DOE-SR Manager Jack Craig alongside SRS engineers Jeff Lita, Dan Iverson, John Owen and DWPF & Saltstone Operations Manager, George Matis.

“As with everything we do at SRS, safety is first and foremost. The documented safety analysis (DSA) was updated and approved prior to the start of canister double stacking.” said Comeau. “The DSA addresses the potential hazards and associated accidents related to the interim canister storage double stacking and identifies appropriate safety basis controls. A formal implementation verification process was also conducted to ensure these safety basis controls were properly in place to protect the onsite workers, the general public, and the environment prior to double stacking the first canister

The team plans to modify 2,262 positions in GWSB 1 to allow for double stacking, including recover of eight abandoned positions. As of April 17, they have completed 298 positions.

Welcome Aboard!

The SRS CAB welcomes the newest members of the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board.



Eric R. Crossan (Columbia County)

Mr. Crossan is the chief executive officer for the Health South Walton Rehabilitation Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration. He has an expressed interest in economic development issues and healthcare issues related to the Environmental Management site missions. He is committee chair of the Boy Scouts of America and on the Executive Leadership Board of the American Heart Association. Mr. Crossan resides in Evans, Georgia.



Rose Dobson-Elliott (Hampton County)

Ms. Dobson-Elliott serves as chief administrative officer for Hampton County and oversees daily operations of County government. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She is interested in business and economic development issues. She is a member of the Hampton County Chamber and Southern Carolina Economic Development Alliance. Ms. Dobson-Elliott resides in Hampton, South Carolina.



Thomas J. French (Aiken County)

Mr. French retired from Savannah River National Laboratory in 2011. He has over 40 years of experience in knowledge-based industries. Mr. French has expressed interest in environmental and economic development issues. Mr. French holds a Master of Science in Marine Science, and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from North Carolina State University. Among his numerous professional societies, he is chairman of the South Carolina Biomass Council and chairman of the Savannah River Site (SRS) Retirees Association. Mr. French resides in Aiken, South Carolina.



Douglas Howard (Columbia County)

Mr. Howard retired in 2012 after 28 years in the U.S. Army. He enjoys serving the public and volunteers at the Veterans Administration Hospital and a local youth detention center. Mr. Howard is a member of numerous organizations, including the Retired Sergeants Major Association and the Augusta Youth Development Advisory Council. He has expressed an interest in environmental issues. Mr. Howard resides in Evans, Georgia.



Narinder P.S. Malik (Columbia County)

Mr. Malik retired in 2013 from SRS, where he worked in the field of environmental compliance and quality assurance. He is interested in maintaining the quality of the environment and public and worker safety. Mr. Malik holds a Master of Science in Environmental Science and Ecology, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Chemistry. He volunteers for the Sikh Temple and is a representative for the Interfaith Fellowship of Augusta. Mr. Malik resides in Martinez, Georgia.



Robert A. Smith (Aiken County)

Mr. Smith is a self-employed sales consultant for an Italian infiltration company. He is interested in civic and environmental issues. Mr. Smith would like to enhance his knowledge of SRS activities as well as voice the concerns of the community. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. Mr. Smith resides in Aiken, South Carolina.



David W. Vovakes (Aiken County)

Mr. Vovakes retired in April 2015 as a senior budget analyst from the Social Security Administration. He has had many years of financial management experience in both private and public sectors and has in depth knowledge of the federal budget. Mr. Vovakes has volunteered to mentor students and feels a need to serve others in his community. He has a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Finance. Mr. Vovakes resides in Aiken, South Carolina.



Bobbie J. Williams (Barnwell County)

Ms. Williams retired in July 2016 as a nuclear materials control and accountability specialist from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, the management and operation contractor at SRS. She has expressed interest in educational and public health and health care issues. Ms. Williams holds a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management. She is a member of the Barnwell County Career Center Board of Trustees and volunteers at the Red Cross and the United Way. Ms. Williams resides in Blackville, South Carolina.

Recommendation Writing Advice

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board Mission Statement details that the CAB provides the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM), Field Managers and other designated DOE officials with information, advice, and recommendations concerning issues affecting the EM program at SRS. The CAB relays this information and advice in the form of recommendations.



While CAB members agree that recommendations are important, some CAB members have expressed reluctance to draft recommendations because they didn't feel capable to do so. They also agreed that training on how to write recommendations would be helpful to members, especially newly appointed members. David Hoel, a CAB member who has authored many recommendations, volunteered to provide a brief training session for new CAB members. DOE provides all new CAB members an orientation workshop where they learn how the CAB operates.

Section IX of the CAB Standard Operating Procedures describes requirements for a CAB recommendation and Mr. Hoel provided the new members with a few tips on getting started.

Mr. Hoel expressed that the CAB provides DOE with an independent viewpoint that stems from the concerns of average citizens in the communities surrounding the Savannah River Site. He emphasized that DOE wasn't seeking advice and recommendations from experts; rather, DOE wants advice from the citizen's perspective. He also highlighted that no technical expertise or experience is required to become a CAB member.

He advised the members to plan ahead and research their issues of concern to find out if the topic has already been tackled in a previous CAB recommendation and whether it has been adequately addressed by DOE. He noted that the key to writing a good recommendation is to keep the recommendation to one to two pages and provide a background section that concisely provides information in simple language.

Mr. Hoel emphasized that the recommendation is the core of the document and it should focus on specific desired DOE actions. He recommended that the new members avoid using recommendations to ask DOE for information or briefings, since the CAB can do that in its work plan.

The presentation motivated new member, David Vovakes, to draft his first recommendation on DOE-SR's strategic plan. The recommendation was approved by the Strategic & Legacy Management Committee and will be presented at the May CAB meeting.

The SRS CAB Has Gone Green!



Please help the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) “Go Green” by sending us your email address to add to our CAB database. By receiving email notifications, rather than paper notifications, you will be reducing the CAB’s environmental footprint, and helping to save a tree!

Just send us your name, email address and the mailing address currently in our database to:

srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov

Not currently on the CAB’s distribution? Send us your email address and we will add you to our list of concerned citizens who receive routine updates on the CAB that include newsletters, CAB Recommendations, DOE Responses, and more.

Stay Informed With Online Meetings!

With online meetings, we can reach a larger audience.

Online meetings are a viable option for you when coming in person to a meeting is not possible.

Just go to the CAB’s website, click on “Meeting Recordings,” find the appropriate meeting date and join us. Visit the CAB online at: cab.srs.gov

Call us at 803-952-7884
(800-249-8155) for more information!

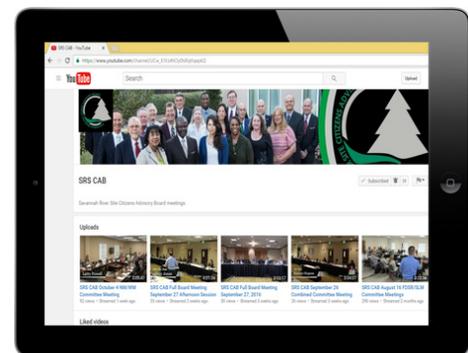


The SRS CAB is always looking for new members to join the Board!

Do you live in an area affected by cleanup activities at SRS? Would you be interested in learning about SRS and working as a team to help inform local communities? If the answer is “yes,” you would be perfect for the SRS Citizens Advisory Board. We are currently recruiting new members to the CAB for the next term.

Please fill out an application at <http://cab.srs.gov>
You can email us at: srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov

Or you can give us a call at : 803-952-7884 or (800-249-8155)



Check us out online!

Everything you need to help you understand the issues being reviewed by the SRS CAB can be found on the Board's website:

cab.srs.gov

The CAB's website has copies of recommendations, DOE correspondence, dates of SRS tours, CAB biographies, meeting schedules, position statements and more.

Search for #SRSCAB on any of these social media networks:



Instagram



You can sign up for text message reminders for upcoming meetings!

Text "@cabm" to "81010".



Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board

Key criteria for Board membership includes a time commitment and the willingness to study the issues and work toward clear, implementable recommendations.

To apply for membership to the Citizens Advisory Board, please call 1-800-249-8155, or visit the CAB website and complete an application at:

cab.srs.gov

Please call, mail, fax, or email your comments and suggestions to:

de'Lisa Carrico

Assistant Federal Coordinator

SRS Citizens Advisory Board

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