



Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

SEP 02 2015

Mr. Harold Simon, Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Dear Mr. Simon:

Subject: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation 331 – Improve Public Participation

Thank you for your recommendation on improving CAB public participation.

- 1. Hold SRS CAB meeting in a more geographically diverse manner to all counties affected by SRS to host more regional meetings and enable the greatest public participation. Reinstate SRS CAB meeting in Hilton Head, SC, Columbia, SC, and Augusta, GA on a frequent basis to enhance the public's opportunity to actively participate and share their concerns with the CAB.*

The Department offers the board the following options in response to this recommendation.

Option 1 – Six bimonthly full board meetings and five committee meetings: The full board meeting would be held in New Ellenton, SC (3), Augusta (2), and Hilton Head/Savannah Area (1). All committee meeting will be held in New Ellenton. This can be done within the existing budget for CAB operations and would allow for the on-line training program.

Option 2 – Four quarterly full board meetings and four committee meetings: For full board meetings two would be held in New Ellenton and two would be various locations. All committee meeting will be held in New Ellenton. This can be done within the existing budget for CAB operations and would allow for the on-line training program. If the board wants more diverse locations; DOE would need to eliminate the training program.

DOE will not take any action until DOE hears from the board on which option they prefer. Since DOE must start planning the Fiscal Year 2016 meeting schedule, the CAB support staff will plan for five meetings in New Ellenton and one in the Hilton Head/Savannah Area until DOE receives a board decision.

- 2. Maximize efforts to attract public participation in CAB meeting. This should include updated electronic/social media information, newspaper information, and enhancing ways to advertise CAB meeting through city and county council notifications. Opportunities for public participation via telephone and the internet should be enhanced.*

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The Department partially accepts this recommendation and will continue to provide information on CAB meeting to broadcast and print media outlets, along with highlighting its meetings on the SRS social media accounts. We are in the process of procuring the equipment necessary to broadcast the bimonthly full board meetings over the internet like the committee meetings. We will begin testing and implementation in 2016.

3. *Restore funding to improve advertising of full board and committee to broadly notify the public. Advertising, at minimum, should include newspaper(s) in the host city of the meeting.*

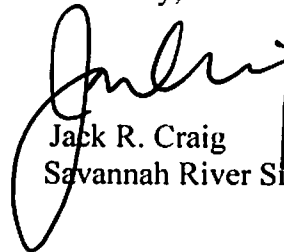
The Department partially accepts this recommendation and will fund advertising in the host city newspaper on the Sunday before the full board meetings.

4. *Enable CAB representation when planning SRS local public education and outreach events, such as Information Pods, Environmental Justice meetings, public tours of SRS, Earth Day exhibits, etc.*

The Department partially accepts this recommendation and will continue to invite the board to participate in these events but will not include CAB representation in the planning of the event.

The Department values the CAB's position on its public participation activities. If you have any questions, please contact me or my staff contact Jim Giusti, at (803) 952-7684.

Sincerely,



Jack R. Craig
Savannah River Site Manager

OEA:JRG:rrm

OEA-15-0102

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