



## FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2008

**Location:** Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium  
755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

**CAB Members Present:** David Hermann, Chair; Walter Wegst, Vice Chair; Kathy Bienenstein, Bob Gatliff, Robert Johnson, Bill Lindsey, John McGrail, Vernell McNeal, Ted Oom, Jackson Ramsey, Ted Schweitzer (via conference call); Herb Spiegel, Stacy Standley, Hal Sullivan, Jim Weeks

**CAB Members Not Present:** Joe Boylan, Lee Geiser, Ron Salzano

**Liaisons Present:** Bob Gamble, Nye County, Tim Murphy, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Genne Nelson, U.S. National Park Service

**Technical Support Staff:** Helen Neill, Ph.D., University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), Department of Environmental Studies; Jennifer Ward, Graduate Student, UNLV

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE):** Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO), Frank DiSanza, Federal Project Director, Waste Management Program

**CAB Facilitator:** Rosemary Rehfeldt, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

### Agenda

- Chair's Opening Remarks Dave Hermann
  - Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment
- Presentation: *DOE's Environmental Management (EM) Complex* Frank DiSanza
- Presentation: *Nevada Site Office EM Life-Cycle Baseline Status* Frank DiSanza
- Committee Updates
  - ♦ Environmental Management Public Involvement Review Effort (EMPIRE) Walt Wegst
  - ♦ Outreach Hal Sullivan
  - ♦ Transportation/Waste Ted Oom
  - ♦ Underground Test Area Bob Gatliff
- Other CAB Business
  - ♦ Membership responsibilities Dave Hermann
  - ♦ September 2008 SSAB Chairs Meeting – Washington, D.C. Dave Hermann
  - ♦ Nevada Test Site Tour – Wednesday, October 8, 2008 Dave Hermann
  - ♦ Full Board and Committee Elections Dave Hermann
    - Self-Nominations by E-Mail
  - ♦ September 2008 Board meeting location & committee meetings Dave Hermann
    - *Underground Test Area (UGTA) Update*
    - *Transuranic Sub-Project Update*
    - *Approve Committee Work Plans*
    - *Chair and Vice Chair Elections*
    - *Committee Chair Elections*

- ♦ DOE Update
  - *CAB Monthly Report*
  - *Status of new member operations*
- June and July State of Nevada Notification
  - ♦ Corrective Actions for CAU107 – submittal date 8/15/08
- Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment
  - ♦ Meeting Feedback
  - ♦ Snack Fund

Kelly Snyder

Rosemary Rehfeldt

Rosemary Rehfeldt

## Approval of Agenda

Dave Hermann asked for a motion for approval of the meeting agenda. Hal Sullivan moved for approval, seconded by Ted Oom. Motion passed unanimously.

## Public Comment

No comment.

## Committee Updates:

### Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee:

The committee is in the process of assessing how to review the EM videos. The first video viewed was entitled: *“Environmental Management: An Overview.”* Each video will be reviewed and comments will be compiled to create recommendations for DOE to consider if the videos were to be updated.

Once the video review is completed, the EMPIRE committee’s work plan is completed and the committee will dissolve. It was suggested that the EMPIRE and Outreach committees blend together, and members of the EMPIRE committee, who are not already serving on the Outreach Committee, become members of the Outreach Committee. Additionally, it may be a good idea for Outreach Committee members to attend the last few EMPIRE Committee meetings and review the EM videos as well.

### Outreach Committee:

At the last Outreach committee meeting, the committee had an opportunity to experience and review the *Operation Clean Desert* children’s display, activity book, and computer game. The group discussed possible venues for *Operation Clean Desert*, such as the Las Vegas Valley Water District’s Springs Preserve.

The committee believes that *Operation Clean Desert* will be more effective if Nevada Academic Standards were outlined for every grade level that the display is being used for. These standards give school principals and teachers as list of what must be taught during the school year. A recommendation letter will be developed regarding this. The committee also talked about the possibility of establishing an EM science fair, with agreement that discussions of outreach ideas will continue at subsequent committee meetings.

## **Transportation/Waste Committee:**

The committee was given an update on the transportation study being conducted by NSO's Waste Management team. Mr. Oom told the Board that Mr. Frank DiSanza presented the committee with methods and modeling options and that a program called RADTRAN was going to be used for the computer modeling. The committee felt that they could not give DOE NSO adequate input without having a number of questions answered beforehand. Mr. DiSanza told the committee that Dr. Ruth Weiner with Sandia National Laboratory and Lee Stevens with Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc. are responsible for the modeling for this study. He suggested Dr. Weiner meet with the committee and give a presentation on the RADTRAN modeling. This would give the committee a good opportunity to get their questions answered. Mr. Oom asked the Board for their approval of this request. Dave Hermann asked for a motion for approval of creating a letter of request. Bill Lindsey moved for approval, seconded by Jim Weeks. Motion passed unanimously, and an invitation letter will be drafted.

The Board asked about the status of the oversized boxes of Transuranic (TRU) waste stored at the NTS. Mr. DiSanza gave the Board an update, stating that the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building (VERB) modifications have been completed and National Security technologies (NSTec) is currently conducting an operations management self-assessment of the future size reduction operations. Additionally, an independent team will be brought in by DOE to conduct a performance assessment in August 2008. Once the waste has been characterized and repackaged, it will be sent to Idaho National Laboratory.

## **Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee:**

To briefly update the CAB, summary comments were given regarding recent past activities.

- ◆ Starting in December 2007, two CAB UGTA committee representatives began attending the UGTA Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) Technical Working Group (TWG).
- ◆ Six full-day meetings were attended from December 5, 2007 to April 28, 2008.
- ◆ The last meeting's purpose was to identify, position, discuss, and prioritize the well sites to be drilled and the order in which to drill them during the next drilling program.
- ◆ The drilling program is scheduled to begin in April 2009 and will span a three-year period.

Since the last CAB meeting on May 14, 2008, the CAIP TWG Chair, Gayle Pawloski with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, organized the input information obtained from the meeting attendees on the basis of preference for:

- ◆ Well location and drilling order
- ◆ Data analysis activities, which are:
  - Geology
  - Geophysics
  - Hydrology
  - Transport parameters
  - Source term
  - Flow modeling
  - Transport modeling
- ◆ Need, Topic, and Ranking by drill hole number. These hole numbers and approximate locations are shown on a map of the area of interest on Pahute Mesa at the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

The well voted top priority by the CAIP TWG is the general location that has been recommended by the CAB.

Gayle Pawloski is still gathering information from the specialists that participated in the CAIP TWG meetings and is organizing the information in a prioritized manner based on value to the groundwater study. The final report of the CAIP TWG is due in August 2008.

Genne Nelson, CAB Liaison, informed the Board that people from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. National Park Service are interested in getting a presentation from DOE on the UGTA program, with particular interest in learning what the potential is for contaminated groundwater to reach the Ash Meadows area in Death Valley, California. Mr. Bill Wilborn, NSO EM's UGTA Sub-Project Director, agreed to give a presentation. A meeting date and time is currently being coordinated. CAB members are welcome to attend and will be notified of the meeting date, time, and location.

## **Other CAB Business**

- **CAB Member Responsibilities:**
  - Dave Hermann reminded the Board that the meeting minutes from the previous Full Board meeting would no longer be in the packet for Board approval. These minutes must now be approved and certified by the CAB Chair and Vice-Chair within 45 days of the meeting date instead of 90 days.
  - Mr. Hermann also reminded the Board members to read and respond to time-sensitive e-mails from the CAB Office by the due dates requested. In the future, e-mails to the CAB will include the words "Action Required" in the subject line.
- **Top Three Issues for EM SSAB Chairs Meeting in Washington, D.C.:**
  - Dave Hermann briefed the Board on the last EM Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs conference call with EM Headquarters (HQ) on Jun 19, 2008. It was suggested by EM HQ that the SSAB Chairs do not provide an EM "product" at the September 2008 meeting.
  - The next EM Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs meeting is scheduled for September 16-17, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Dave Hermann and Walt Wegst will be attending the meeting, along with Rosemary Rehfeldt and Kelly Snyder. The Board was asked to identify its "Top Three Issues," and e-mail their suggestions to the CAB Office.
- **Nevada Test Site Tour:**
  - The CAB was given a new date for the NTS tour, which will be October 8, 2008.
- **Full Board and Committee Elections:**
  - The Board was notified of upcoming Board and Committee elections and was asked for self-nominations if anyone was interested in serving as Board Chair, Vice-Chair, or as Chair for a committee. A flyer outlining the Chair and Vice Chair's responsibilities was included in the meeting packet. Members were instructed to contact Rosemary Rehfeldt by September 1, 2008 if they would or would not like to be considered for the 2009 Chair and Vice Chair position, or a committee Chair position.
- **September 10, 2008 Full Board Meeting:**
  - The next Board meeting will be held at the Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium, located at 755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada. The agenda will include:
    - Update of Underground Test Area Sub-Project
    - Update of Transuranic Sub-Project
    - Approval of Committee Work Plans
    - Chair and Vice Chair Elections

▪ **DOE Update:**

- Kelly Snyder told the CAB that she would like to point out a few specific items in their July 2008 CAB Monthly Report, which was included in the meeting packets.
- Within the Low-Level Waste (LLW) section, bullet #6 explains a LLW incident that occurred in June.
- Kelly Snyder informed the CAB that all new member applications and reappointments have been approved by DOE HQ.

▪ **June and July State of Nevada Notification:**

Notifications for Corrective Actions, dated June 4, 2008 and July 2, 2008, were included in the Board meeting packets. The DOE will submit a final Corrective Action Decision Documents (CADDs), CADD/Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), CADD/Closure Reports (CRs), or Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Work Plans, proposing closure-in-place to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for the following Corrective Action Units (CAUs):

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 107	Low Impact Soil Sites	August 15, 2008

Comments regarding these decision documents are to be submitted to Tim Murphy (NDEP) within 30 days of the document's release. If needed, Rosemary Rehfeldt will provide the Board with additional information on the Corrective Action report.

Additionally, a list of all documents submitted to the Public Reading Room within the last 30 days is included in this Notification. These include CADDs, CAPs, CRs, SAFER Plans, and CAIPs. They are as follows:

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Document</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 545	Dumps, Waste Disposal Sites, and Buried Radioactive Materials	CADD/CR	May 12, 2008
CAU 151	Septic Systems and Discharge Areas	CR	May 12, 2008
CAU 370	T-4 Atmospheric Test Site	CAIP	May 21, 2008
CAU 234	Mud Pits, Cellars, and Mud Spills	CADD/CR	June 24, 2008
CAU 560	Septic Systems	CAIP	June 24, 2008

Requests for documents can be made to Rosemary Rehfeldt at the CAB Office.

During the meeting wrap-up and assessment, an informal survey was taken of the CAB members to gather meeting feedback, both positive and negative, in order to enhance the CAB meetings as well as create and sustain a positive working environment for the Board. Comments received were as follows:

- CAB members like the Frank Rogers Auditorium at the Atomic Testing Museum as a meeting room for Board meetings
- The location of the Atomic Testing Museum is inconvenient for some of the CAB members
- The DOE Updates are helpful and appreciated
- Instead of each CAB Committee Chair verbally giving committee updates, include written committee updates in the meeting packets, **or**
- Committee minutes can be e-mailed to the entire Board
- A good job is done with the meeting minutes; they are well-written

- The tables should be set up so that all participants can see everyone
- The Board would like to have briefings, perhaps once per year, on new technologies being developed and used throughout the DOE's Environmental Management Complex. Would like to hear about technologies being developed and used in other countries.
- Meetings have good attendance and good participation

With all CAB business concluded, Dave Hermann put forth a request for motion to adjourn. Hal Sullivan moved, seconded by Ted Oom, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.**