



FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2008

Location: Bob Ruud Community Center, Pahrump, Nevada

CAB Members Present: David Hermann, Chair; Walter Wegst, Vice Chair; Bob Gatliff, Robert Johnson, Vernell McNeal, Ted Oom, Stacy Standley

CAB Members Not Present: Paul Adras, Jackson Ramsey, Hal Sullivan, James Weeks

Public Present: Richard Arnold, Pahrump, NV; Michael DiMassa, Pahrump, NV; A.J. Lang, Pahrump, NV; Bill Mangan, Pahrump, NV; Jim Petell, Pahrump, NV; T.J. Rodouck, Pahrump, NV; Mark Waite, Pahrump, NV; Lowell Wille, Knoxville, TN

Liaisons Present: Tim Murphy, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Liaisons Not Present: David Ek, U.S. National Park Service; Steve Mellington, National Nuclear Security Administration; David Swanson (Retired from Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Office)

Technical Support Staff Present: Helen Neill, Ph.D., UNLV, Department of Environmental Studies; Jennifer Ward, UNLV graduate student

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

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

Agenda

- Chair's Opening Remarks Dave Hermann
 - Explanation of the DOE Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Program and the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs
- Approval of Agenda

- Public Comment

- Briefing: *Desert Research Institute: Transportation Study* Dr. David Shafer

- Committee Updates
 - ♦ Budget Bob Gatliff
 - ♦ EMPIRE Walt Wegst
 - *Approval of November 27, 2007 Recommendation Letter*
 - ♦ Membership Bob Gatliff
 - *Update on Membership Recruitment*
 - ♦ Outreach Walt Wegst
 - ♦ Transportation/Waste Ted Oom
 - *Approval of December 10, 2007 Recommendation Letter*

- ♦ UGTA
 - *Update on December 5, 2007 and January 9, 2008 Pahute Mesa Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) Addendum Meetings*
- Other CAB Business
 - ♦ Approval of November 6, 2007 Minutes
 - ♦ March Board meeting location and committee meetings
 - ♦ SSAB Chairs Meeting – Hanford, April 23-24, 2008
 - ♦ Determine attendees
 - DOE Update
 - ♦ Revised FFACO Public Involvement Plan
- December and January State of Nevada Notification
 - ♦ Closure Report for Corrective Action Units 543 and 127
- Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment

Bob Gatliff

Dave Hermann
Rosemary Rehfeldt
Rosemary Rehfeldt

Kelly Snyder

Rosemary Rehfeldt

Rosemary Rehfeldt

Approval of Agenda

Dave Hermann asked for a motion for approval of the meeting agenda. Robert Johnson moved for approval, seconded by Vernell McNeal. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. A.J. Lang commented on three points of concern to her. They are: 1) What types of plans are in place for a spill – if a truck turns over. 2) Has a report ever been completed regarding mutated termites in the low-level waste disposal area, and if a report is available, can she receive a copy? 3) Have spot DNA tests been conducted on the flora and fauna on the NTS? Ms. Lang requested an e-mail response to her comments and questions. The CAB Chair, Dave Hermann, responded to Ms. Lang, telling her that the DOE will research the answers to Ms. Lang's requests and questions and e-mail a response to her.

Briefing: Desert Research Institute: Transportation Study

Dr. David Shafer gave a presentation on the Desert Research Institute's Transportation Study, which was sponsored by the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office. The presentation included:

- ♦ The role of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) in Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLW) disposal
- ♦ What is low-level radioactive waste?
- ♦ Where the LLW comes from
- ♦ Transport of LLW to the NTS – major public concerns
- ♦ Collection of potential exposure data from trucks traveling to the NTS
 - Stationary and automated array of four Pressurized Ion Chambers (PICs)
- ♦ Why four PICs were used to measure the trucks
- ♦ Routes used to transport LLW to the NTS
- ♦ Representative graphical data output during PIC array operations
- ♦ Major results – total net exposure frequency for all trucks
- ♦ From what trucks measurements were collected
- ♦ Cumulative exposure scenarios
- ♦ Major results – trucks getting ready to leave waste containers in disposal cell at the NTS

Dr. Shafer thanked the CAB and the audience for their time and asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation. Mr. Richard Arnold, representing the tribal nations, asked about emergency preparedness in the rural areas; if a highway accident occurred with a truck carrying LLW, and whether or not the rural counties were financially compensated for emergency response. He expressed additional concern in this matter because of the potential for Greater Than Class C radioactive waste shipments to the NTS. Dr. Shafer pointed out that the LLW was solid material, placed in tightly sealed containers. Mr. Frank DiSanza, DOE Federal Project Director for the Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Waste Management Program, explained that the rural counties were financially compensated from the DOE for emergency preparedness. The State of Nevada is responsible for management and transmittal of funds to each of the rural counties included in this program.

Budget Committee:

Due to the Committee Chair's absence, Bob Gatliff served as spokesperson for the Committee. Mr. Gatliff informed the Board that a committee meeting was scheduled for February 6, 2008 (meeting has been rescheduled for February 20, 2008) at the DOE Nevada Support Facility, Sedan Conference Room. The DOE federal project and sub-project directors will present budget information for FY 2010.

Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee:

Walt Wegst, Committee Chair, told the Board that the EMPIRE Committee met prior to the Full Board meeting to review and revise the following fact sheets:

- ♦ ***Soils Project...an approach to cleanup***
The committee met just prior to the Full Board meeting to review and revise the Soils Project fact sheet. The committee agreed to several changes. A recommendation letter to DOE, outlining the changes, will be created and given to the Full Board in March.

- ♦ ***Groundwater at the Nevada Test Site***
The committee began to review this fact sheet, but decided to postpone and complete the review and revisions until the next EMPIRE Committee meeting, scheduled for February 6, 2008.

The committee's draft recommendation letter recommending changes to fact sheets: *Transporting Low-Level and Mixed Low-Level Waste to the Nevada Test Site*, *Mixed Low-Level Waste at the Nevada Test Site*, and *Mixed Low-Level Waste Acceptance Guidelines at the Nevada Test Site* was put before the Board for approval. Stacy Standley moved, seconded by Ted Oom, to approve the recommendation letter outlining changes to the above-mentioned fact sheets. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Wegst informed the Board that the EMPIRE Committee is continuing discussion on how to review and make potential changes to Environmental Management videos.

Membership Committee:

Due to the Committee Chair's absence, Bob Gatliff served as spokesperson for the Committee. The membership recruitment drive continues. Membership applications have been distributed to the Committee for review, with recommendations to be given to the CAB Office by Monday, January 14, 2008. Interviews have been set for January 23rd and 24th at the DOE's Cheyenne Office.

Outreach Committee:

Due to the Committee Chair's absence, Walt Wegst served as spokesperson for the Committee. He informed the Board that the Committee is in a preliminary planning stage. The basic purpose is to create science-based lesson plans and the means for teachers to access these for use in their classrooms. The Committee agreed to keep its focus with 5th and 6th grade students.

The Committee would like to know what some of the other Site Specific Advisory Boards (SSAB) have done for community outreach. Dr. Wegst told the Board that he is planning to bring this subject up at the next SSAB conference call on January 31, 2008. He will request a conference call with other SSAB's so ideas can be shared about outreach strategies.

Transportation/Waste Committee:

Ted Oom, Committee Chair, asked for approval on the Committee's recommendation letter to DOE regarding an updated 2008 Waste Transportation Study. The Board agreed to revise the letter so that the study will only focus on trucks going to the NTS. Ted Oom moved, seconded by Walt Wegst, to approve the recommendation letters with the revision stated above. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Oom asked for a status report on a "TRU in the Trenches" update from Dr. Bruce Crowe. Rosemary Rehfeldt informed the Board that Dr. Crowe would be available to give the Committee an update in late February or early March.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee:

Bob Gatliff, Committee Chair, began by explaining to the meeting attendees how the CAB was given the opportunity to recommend three well sitings. The CAB recommended that DOE conduct a peer review of the UGTA's groundwater regional model. The peer review was conducted in 2002. The CAB submitted its well recommendations reports and letter to the DOE in September, 2007.

Consequently, two members of the CAB's UGTA Committee have been invited to participate with the UGTA Technical Working Group (TWG) on the Pahute Mesa Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) meetings. Both Bob Gatliff and Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen (CAB Alumni member) have been attending these meetings. The first meeting took place on December 5, 2007 and the second meeting on January 9, 2008.

The December 5th meeting was devoted to methodology used to model groundwater flow on a regional basis, at the NTS. Groundwater pathways were explored over large areas both up gradient and down gradient, from historical underground nuclear testing locations. Two approaches were followed in the modeling: geochemistry analyses and radioactive elements in the water.

The January 9th meeting objective was to identify areas and types of information where more information would be useful; brainstorm and reach consensus on whether it is realistic to expect, and be able to obtain, better information than was currently available; and thirdly, to categorize and apply a rating to information that would be sought for use in the computer modeling.

The next CAIP meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 7, 2008.

Other CAB Business

Meeting attendees were asked if they had any additional questions they would like to ask. Ms. Lang requested a copy of the Frenchman Flat Groundwater Flow Model, as well as documentation of the CAB's well recommendations for Pahute Mesa. Kelly Snyder, DDFO, told Ms. Lang that she would provide that information to her.

- **Approval of September 12, 2007 Minutes**

Ted Oom moved, seconded by Walt Wegst, to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

- **March Board Meeting Location:**

Meeting attendees were informed that the next CAB Full Board meeting will be held on March 11, 2008, in Beatty, Nevada. The meeting will take place at the Beatty Community Center, and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

- **SSAB Chairs Meeting – Hanford Site:**

Meeting attendees were informed that the next SSAB Chairs Meeting will take place at DOE's Hanford Site, near Richland, Washington. The meetings will take place April 23 – 25, 2008. The CAB Chair and Vice-Chair are invited to attend.

- **DOE Update:**

Kelly Snyder referenced the EM Monthly Report to the CAB for January 2008 and asked the Board if they had any questions on the report. There were no questions.

Ms. Snyder reminded the Board that comments were due by January 21, 2008 on the revised and updated Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) Public Involvement Plan (PIP), which was previously sent to the Board, as well as included in the meeting packets. Ted Oom and Stacy Standley commented that the PIP looked good to them. Dave Hermann suggested that the Board take this under consideration and get comments to the CAB Office by January 21st.

Included in the meeting packets were the updated, redesigned fact sheets for: *Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal* and *Nevada Test Site Community Advisory Board*, as well as the updated *Public Outreach* and *Environmental Management* brochures.

- **October and November State of Nevada Notification:**

A Notification for Corrective Actions, dated January 2, 2008, was included in the Board meeting packets. The DOE will submit a Closure Report (CR) 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>
o CAU 543	Liquid Disposal Units	January 31, 2008
o CAU 127	Areas 25 and 26 Storage Tanks	February 29, 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 Closure Report.

Dr. Wegst requested a copy of the Closure Report for CAU 543. Rosemary Rehfeldt will request the report from the FFACO, and forward to Dr. Wegst.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.