



MEETING MINUTES

Transportation/Waste Committee

October 21, 2009

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

Members Present: Robert Johnson (Chair), Bob Gamble (Nye County),
Jack Ramsey, Herb Spiegel

Members Absent: Helen Neill (UNLV)

U.S. Dept. of Energy: Gary Pyles

National Security Technologies, LLC: Pat Arnold, Syd Gordon, Carl Soong, John Wrapp

Facilitator: Denise Rupp, Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.

Chairman Robert Johnson complimented the Environmental Management (EM) team on a job well done on the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B Low-Level Waste Cell Application. After review, the Committee will decide what, if any, recommendation to make to the CAB Full Board regarding the application.

The Committee had received and reviewed copies of the RCRA Part B application prior to today's meeting. Carl Soong reviewed the details of the application process. The DOE team then provided additional information in response to questions from the Committee.

- If approved, construction of the new low-level waste cell would begin in June or July 2010 with five months construction followed by quality assurance checks and final approval from the State of Nevada
- The current waste cell requires closure upon reaching maximum capacity or December 2010, whichever comes first
- It is anticipated the current waste cell will be at 60% capacity upon closure
- EM held a public meeting in Pahrump, Nevada to provide information and request public comment regarding submission of the application
- While the new cell is designed in the same way as the new Beatty waste cell, it is on a much smaller scale
- The application was sent to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) the end of September 2009
- NDEP is responsible for addressing the public comments
- Volume projections for FYs 2010-11 are significantly greater than those for FYs 2012-15 as a result of increased activity made possible by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding
- There has been a recent shift in policy regarding waste disposal; previously, priority was given to on-site disposal, Department of Energy regional disposal (which includes the NTS), and finally to commercial disposal; priority is now on-site disposal, commercial disposal, then Department of Energy regional disposal
- In deciding on disposal, waste generators must consider the best interest of the government as well as cost; any decision other than least cost must be justified
- Generator costs for disposal include packaging, transportation, and the cost assessed by the disposal facility
- NTS currently charges \$14.51 per cubic foot for mixed waste disposal, based on targeted funding rate for continuous operation

- The new commercial waste disposal facility in Texas will be accepting class A, B, and C waste, but not Classified
- The Texas facility will be an option for DOE consideration

After review of the application and considering the information provided, the Committee agreed with DOE's application for a new mixed low-level waste cell. The project is needed by the EM complex and the location within the NTS is appropriate. Mr. Johnson will provide Denise Rupp with a draft recommendation letter. Ms. Rupp will forward the draft to the Committee for review and comment. The resulting draft recommendation letter will be presented to the CAB's Full Board at the November 16, 2009 meeting.

The Committee agreed to continue meeting at 2:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of even months. However, there will be no meeting December 16. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2010 at a location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.