



**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting**

**January 26, 2011**

**1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Location: Homewood Suites**

**Pojoaque, New Mexico**

**MINUTES**

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**Meeting Attendees:**

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**Department of Energy-**

**Lee Bishop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)**

**Ed Worth, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)**

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**NNMCAB Members-**

- 1. Ralph Phelps, NNMCAB Chair**
  - 2. Robert Gallegos, NNMCAB Vice Chair**
  - 3. Pam Henline, EMSR Committee Chair**
  - 4. Gerry Maestas**
  - 5. Nicole Castellano**
  - 6. Lawrence Garcia**
  - 7. Deborah Gill**
  - 8. Pamela Gilchrist**
  - 9. Lawrence Longacre**
  - 10. Caroline Mason**
  - 11. Carlos Valdez**
  - 12. Bob Villarreal**
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**Excused Absences-**

- 1. Mike Loya, WM Committee Vice Chair**
- 2. Manuel Pacheco, WM Committee Chair**
- 3. Deb Shaw, EMSR Committee Vice Chair**

**Absent-**

- 1. Jacquelyn Gutierrez**
  - 2. John Lujan**
  - 3. Michelle Medinsky**
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**NNMCAB Staff-**

**Menice Santistevan, Executive Director**

Lorelei Novak, Technical Programs and Outreach  
Grace Roybal, Office Administrator  
Edward Roybal, Sound Technician

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**Guests-**

1. Kathy Fierro, Pueblo of Pojoaque, Treasurer
  2. JD Campbell, Public
  3. Nick Maestas, CAB Nominee
  4. Fred DeSousa, LANS
  5. Suzanne Schulman, DOE
  6. Pat Nakagawa, LANS
  7. Jarrett Rice, LANS
  8. Kate Lynnes, LANS
  9. Tori George, LANS
  10. Fred De Sousa, LANS
  11. Tom Starke, LANS
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**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Introductions  
Welcome to Pojoaque Pueblo, Ms. Kathy Fierro on behalf of Governor George Rivera
- III. Establishment of Quorum (10 needed)
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Excused Absences
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2010
- VI. Public Comment Period
- VII. Old Business
  - a. Written Reports
- VIII. New Business
  - a. Report on Long Term Surveillance Conference
  - b. Other Items
- IX. Items from DOE/Co-DDFO
- X. Presentation on Los Alamos National Laboratory's Presentation on Corrective Measures Evaluations for Material Disposal Areas G and H, with SMEs Mr. Jarrett Rice and Mr. Patrick Nakagawa
- XI. Public Comment Period
- XII. Consideration and Action on Draft Recommendations to the DOE

- a. Draft Recommendation 2011-01, "FY 2012 Budget Request for LANL EM Work"
- b. Draft Recommendation 2011-02 "Accelerating TRU Waste Shipments from Area G to WIPP"
- c. Draft Recommendation 2011-03 "Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste"

XIII. Open Forum for Board Members and Wrap-up

XIV. Adjournment

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## **MINUTES**

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### **I. Call to Order, DDFO Introductions**

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB or CAB) meeting was held on January 26, 2011, at the Homewood Suites, 18 Buffalo Trail, Pojoaque, New Mexico. Mr. Bishop Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO) stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), the regular bi-monthly meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Phelps as NNMCAB Chair. The Chair presided at the meeting. The regular meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in **The Federal Register** in accordance with **The Federal Advisory Committee Act**.

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### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Phelps welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated his appreciation for everyone's attendance. He introduced Ms. Kathy Fierro, Treasurer, Pueblo of Pojoaque, who welcomed the Board to the Pueblo. She said if there was anything the CAB needed to just let her know. Mr. Phelps asked for introductions from the members and guests in attendance. Mr. Phelps went over the public comment process and he mentioned there were two public comment periods scheduled for the meeting. The board would hear presentations from Subject Matter Experts (SME) Mr. Jarrett Rice and Mr. Pat Nakagawa on Corrective Measures Evaluations for Material Disposal Areas G and H. The board would also consider three draft recommendations for submittal to the Department of Energy (DOE).

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### **III. Establishment of a Quorum (10 needed)**

#### **a. Roll Call**

Ms. Novak conducted roll call as the members arrived. Twelve members were present at the meeting, which comprised a quorum for conducting business.

#### **b. Excused Absences**

Mr. Worth and Mr. Bishop, Co-DDFOs, had previously approved excused absences for Dr. Deb Shaw, Mr. Manuel Pacheco and Mr. Mike Loya. Ms. Jackie Gutierrez, Ms. Michelle Medinsky and Mr. John Lujan were marked absent.

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#### **IV. Approval of Agenda**

The Board reviewed the January 26, 2011 CAB meeting agenda. Mr. Phelps called for any comments or additions to the agenda. Ms. Henline asked the Chair to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to work on planning a CAB hosted educational forum. Mr. Longacre requested time to make comments. **Mr. Longacre made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Ms. Castellano seconded the motion. The meeting agenda was approved.**

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#### **V. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2010**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the November 17, 2010 CAB meeting. By ongoing instructions from DOE Headquarters, the minutes were previously reviewed and certified by the NNM CAB Chair, Mr. Ralph Phelps. Mr. Phelps stated that the November minutes were included in the mailed meeting packets and were presented at the meeting for Board approval.

**Ms. Henline made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Valdez seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.**

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#### **VI. Public Comment Period**

Mr. Phelps opened the floor for public comment. Dr. J.D. Campbell, former CAB member and Chair from Taos signed up for public comment. During his tenure with the board, he and Ms. Pam Henline (current Board member) were interested in the topic of Long Term Stewardship (LTS). He encouraged the board to learn more about requirements, checklists, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and DOE's roles in the program. Also, he thought it was valuable to get informed as to the current status. Dr. Campbell also expressed interest in hearing DOE speak about time schedules for the remediation of the 33 shafts at Material Disposal Area G (MDA-G).

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#### **VII. Old Business**

##### **a. Written Reports**

##### **Ø NNM CAB Chair's Report**

A printed copy of the Chair's Report was included in the meeting packet and a copy may be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662. Mr. Phelps asked for questions or comments on the written reports; the intent was for the reports to be submitted in writing but questions could be brought up in this section or later. Mr. Phelps briefly reviewed the main points in the Chair's report:

**Routine Chair Activities since last NNM CAB meeting on November 17, 2011--**

a. Executive Committee met on January 12, 2011:

- CAB Attendees at the Long Term Surveillance conference (R. Gallegos and R. Villarreal) provided brief summaries of the meeting, which was reported as very informative and beneficial.
- Co-DDFOs reported that the CAB budget would be supported under an existing contract the Los Alamos Site Office (LASO) has with the Army of Corps of Engineers. The current staff will remain the same. DOE is also establishing a reading room/library for the EM remediation documents and the Consent Order public documents, which will be co-used by CAB. This may involve a relocation of the current CAB office, but has not been finalized.
- Reviewed and Approved the Agenda for the January 26, 2011 CAB meeting.
  - Discussed the scope, direction and content of the three recommendations, to be voted on at the January 26, 2011 CAB meeting. The Executive Committee and the Co-DDFOs concur that the scope of the recommendations was very appropriate for the CAB, and that they were well written. He congratulated the authors for a job well done!

b. Supported the Waste Management Committee meeting on January 12, 2011. Details are in the committee meeting minutes. The main activity was a LANL guided tour of Technical Area 54 (TA-54), with emphasis on Material Disposal Area G (MDA-G). As always, this was a quality Subject Matter Expert (SME) Presentation, with updated information provided on waste shipments and corrective actions.

c. A reminder from the EMSR Committee-- they will be sponsoring a LANL Surface and Groundwater Quality Educational Event this spring. This effort will require support from all CAB members.

**2. Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Related Chair Activities since last NNM CAB meeting on September 29, 2010:**

a. SSAB Chairs bi-monthly update conference call was held on December 2, 2010 with DOE/EM managers and SSAB staff. The call provided updates on budget strategy and other EM status information, and news from the other SSAB sites.

b. The next SSAB Chairs Meeting Ad Hoc Planning Committee conference call has been scheduled for January 20, 2011. The draft agenda for the next SSAB Chairs Meeting was in a final stage, and has been emailed to NNM CAB members for review and any last comments requested prior to this call. The next Chairs meeting is at the Nevada Nuclear Security Site on April 12-14,

2011.

### **3. Other Activities:**

a. On December 1, 2010, Mr. Phelps participated in a conference call with Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) on High Level Waste (HLW) Policy. The objective was to have an integrated ECA recommendation for long-term disposition of this waste that incorporated a central repository, on-site remediation and reprocessing that communities near nuclear facilities can discuss with their representatives.

b. On December 20, 2010, Mr. Phelps participated in a conference call with ECA Executive Committee to discuss issues related to waste disposition issues at the weapons complex sites.

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### **Ø NNM CAB Executive Director's Report**

A printed copy of Ms. Santistevan's report was included in the meeting packet and a copy may be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662.

Ms. Santistevan's report included:

#### **Information about Board Membership:**

- The NNM CAB currently consisted of 18 members. The next nomination package for new appointments and reappointments was submitted December 2010. One nominee was included in the packet: Nick Maestas from Santa Fe, who was present at the CAB meeting and introduced himself to the board. Robert Gallegos, Ralph Phelps and Gerry Maestas were re-nominated to serve another term. Pam Henline is term limited on May 3, 2011.
- The updated CAB Directory was included in meeting packets; members were asked to be sure that their contact information was correct.

#### **Next CAB Meeting:**

- The next regular CAB meeting was scheduled for March 30, 2011 at the Santa Fe Courtyard, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

#### **Board Meeting Preparations:**

- Ms. Santistevan prepared and submitted draft agendas for this meeting and the notice to **The Federal Register**, in compliance with **The Federal Advisory Committee Act**.
- Meeting materials were copied and collated by Ms. Roybal and meeting packets were mailed out on January 19, 2011.
- An advertisement for the meeting was placed in *The Santa Fe New Mexican* by Ms. Roybal and on the NNM CAB website by Ms. Novak.

#### **EM Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs' Meeting:**

Ms. Santistevan's report noted that the Spring Chairs' Meeting has been scheduled for April 12-14, 2010 and would be hosted by the Nevada CAB in Las Vegas. Ms. Santistevan and Mr. Phelps agreed to serve on the planning committee for the spring meeting of the EM SSAB Chairs in Las



Vegas. They have participated in the conference call planning process.

### **Executive Committee Meetings:**

The Committee met on January 12, 2011 at the Bradbury Museum in Los Alamos. The committee heard reports from the Chair, Committee Chairs, Co-DDFOs and Executive Director. The committee finalized the agenda for this meeting and discussed draft recommendations for future CAB consideration.

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## **VIII. New Business**

### **a. Report on Long Term Surveillance (LTS) Conference**

Mr. Gallegos and Mr. Villarreal attended the Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance Conference. This conference provided technical information, education, and networking opportunities for representatives from government agencies, regulatory agencies, political offices, tribal groups, and other stakeholders involved in long-term surveillance and maintenance of remediated sites and facilities. Mr. Villareal and Mr. Gallegos provided written reports for board review. Mr. Gallegos' and Mr. Villarreal's written report were included in the meeting packets.

Mr. Bishop reiterated that CAB member attendance at this type of meeting provided an excellent educational opportunity for board members. He encouraged board members to submit requests for other conferences germane to the board's scope through the Executive Committee, and if there were approval and budget, members would be welcomed to attend. For example: Ms. Mason has been working on a paper that she planned to present at the Waste Management Conference in March 2011. Ms. Mason's attendance and travel has been pre-approved by the Executive Committee and the DOE.

In addition to their written reports, Mr. Phelps asked Mr. Gallegos and Mr. Villarreal to talk to the board about the LTS Conference. 2010 Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance Conference – Grand Junction Colorado – November 15-18, 2010 – A copy of the presentations can be obtained at: [http://www.lm.doe.gov/ltsm\\_conference/index.htm](http://www.lm.doe.gov/ltsm_conference/index.htm)

### **Robert Gallegos Summary—**

Mr. Gallegos thanked the Co-DDFOs for approving his trip. He really appreciated being able to go. **From the conference, Mr. Gallegos gathered some possible ideas on board recommendations on Long Term Stewardship, (1) "Establish a separate organization to manage and be the advocate for the LTS program," and (2) "Direct fund LTS activities, if possible, identify the LTS activities in a separate funding account within the budget."**

Mr. Gallegos referred to his written report, which has been summarized below.

Conference focus:

- Foot Print Reduction and Energy Parks
  - Executive Order 13514 signed October 2009 - integrated plan toward sustainability. Could be a driver for Energy Parks Initiative

- Energy Parks may work at sites with ongoing mission (Los Alamos), as the energy was needed. The sites are studied and characterized which can help with permitting and licensing
- Foot Print reduction means that the active DOE-EM mission is complete within a particular area in terms of decontamination and decommissioning, waste disposition, groundwater remediation, soil removal, etc.
- Beneficial Reuse
  - The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) <http://www.nrel.gov> screened all current and transitioning Legacy Management (LM) sites for solar and wind energy potential. The report can be found at <http://www.nrel.gov/fy08osti/41673.pdf>
  - Wind is feasible at two LM sites and future sites in Wyoming.
  - Solar is most feasible in western states: New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Wyoming.
- Continuing Mission Sites
  - Los Alamos is a continuing mission site. In 2006 the decision was made that LTS at continuing mission sites is the responsibility of the NNSA once the EM cleanup is complete. The NNSA Office of Environmental Projects and Operations (EPO) provides direct HQ oversight of EM funded legacy environmental cleanup activities at NNSA sites (LANL, NV), under the authority of the NNSA Act Section 32201.
- NNSA Long Term Stewardship
  - Environmental Projects and Operations (EPO) is responsible for the planning, execution and management of activities at NNSA sites where the Office of Environmental Management (EM) legacy remediation project scope is complete. Mission:
    - § Ensure protection of human health and the environment
    - § Primarily regulatory driven (i.e., per cleanup agreements, state and federal laws)
    - § Required to continue to reduce risks to human health and the environment at NNSA Sites until "Contaminants of Concern" are shown to have been brought within regulatory cleanup requirements
  - LTS Implementation at NNSA Sites
    - § Includes a "warranty" clause unanticipated scope and cost clause
    - § Ensure details of the LTS transfer are documented and agreed to by both organizations
    - § Establish a separate organization to manage and be the advocate for the LTS program (*possible recommendation*)



- § Direct fund LTS activities, if possible, identify the LTS activities in a separate funding account within the budget (*possible recommendation*)
- § Negotiate a "funding target" to be transferred to the receiving program (i.e., from EM to NNSA)
- § Recognize there is always the possibility that LTS requirements may need to be revised; if regulations change, technology improvements are identified, or if there are problems/concerns (i.e., failure) in the cleanup remedy selected
- § Involvement during the legacy cleanup allows early knowledge and understanding of the LTS requirements

### **Bob Villarreal Summary—**

There were 300 attendees at the well-organized Long Term Stewardship Conference. Mr. Villarreal mentioned there was a booklet issued that listed all the attendees from the conference that he found helpful. The conference was well coordinated with lots of great discussions that took place with a diversity of people.

The conference reflected that DOE works closely with the NNSA to improve safety, effectiveness and cost.

Mr. Villarreal asked questions about the hot cells and using them to remediate the 33 shafts at Technical Area G at LANL. He found out that Mr. Tom Longo, DOE, was the correct person to ask questions regarding the 33 shafts.

Mr. Bishop added that with regards to the 33 shafts that Mr. Tom Longo and Mr. Bob Fleming, DOE were good contacts for questions. Mr. Bishop stated that the current hot cells are not long enough to accept the 33 shafts. As Federal Project Director, Mr. Bishop has planned to address the waste contained in the 33 shafts last in line in the remediation process at Area G. If not left in place, the waste would be transported to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

### **Summary Comments on LTS Conference Reports:**

- The cleanup has been fast paced at Technical Area 21 (TA-21) due in part to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funding. Questions were raised about how ready NNSA was to transfer the land back to Los Alamos County? Mr. Bishop answered that there was special congressional legislation to allow DOE to transfer the land back to Los Alamos County. TA-21 would go through a formal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Facility Closure.
- Mr. George Rael, DOE and Mr. Kevin Smith, DOE have a 50-year Long Term Stewardship Plan in development for the Los Alamos area, which looked at each canyon by watershed, air, water and soil to determine what needed to happen to make these canyons accessible and clean for the public.
- The Mound Site was mentioned as an example, remediation was conducted in accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability

Act (CERCLA) and/or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations. The Mound Site transferred to the the Office of Legacy Management in 2010, yet the site would require operation and maintenance of remedial action systems, routine inspection and maintenance, records-related activities, and stakeholder support. In the TA-21 case, the title would be transferred to Los Alamos County but, as in the case with the Mound Site, TA-21 would still have monitoring and remedial actions systems in place.

- LTS was considered an excellent and highly appropriate topic for further board study.

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### **b. Other Items**

Other Item #1- Mr. Longacre requested time in the "Other Items" section to make comments. Mr. Longacre's comments are summarized:

The level of education that exists among the board members was amazing. It bothered him that he has to "butt heads" occasionally. He preferred to think of it as offering a difference of opinion. Mr. Lawrence has had medical procedures relating to his being diagnosed with cancer. After treatment, his cancer was now in remission. As a retired Lab employee, he submitted a claim to which he was awarded a settlement. He became interested in the CAB after seeing an advertisement calling for new board member prospects to submit applications. He submitted an application and was appointed to serve on the NNM CAB. He joined the CAB to "do his part" although so far it has not been what he expected. He remains skeptical when he hears Subject Matter Expert (SME) presentations from LANL and DOE given to the board and committees. He still doesn't "buy it" but he was not looking to apologize for his skepticism about why he was "down" on the Lab. He was "down" on the Lab for what they put down in the Los Alamos canyons.

Other Item #2- Mr. Ralph Phelps appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to work on planning the spring 2011 CAB hosted Surface and Groundwater Quality Public Update. The following members volunteered to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee:

- Pam Henline, lead
- Deb Gill
- Robert Gallegos
- Bob Villarreal
- Pam Gilchrist
- CAB Staff Support: Menice Santistevan and Lorelei Novak

Mr. Phelps thanked the members for agreeing to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. The board briefly discussed the forum goals and draft agenda process with more details to be developed. It was suggested that any interested members could sign up to attend the February 23, 2011 Espanola Valley Basin Technology Advisory Group Annual meeting to hear relevant presentations for planning the CAB hosted forum.

## **IX. Items from DDFOs**

Mr. Worth discussed a late breaking issue with MDA-A and the plan to excavate and cleanup the site, which was due to be completed by May of 2012. Initially, there was a plan in place to utilize workers from MDA-B. However, the process has taken longer then expected because of an unexpected find at TA-21 at B. Hotter waste was found and prompted a pause/slow down while more investigations were conducted in a safe manner. A request was made for an extension for the MDA-A due date so that the experienced workforce could be smoothly transitioned from one project to the next. The request for an extension was denied by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). Mr. Worth agreed to keep the CAB updated on this issue.

Mr. Worth announced arrangements were on schedule for a LANL site tour to observe a well sampling event and a SME presentation on the life cycle of the sample.

Mr. Bishop has good news to announce; that the current CAB staff would become new employees of Project, Time and Cost, Inc. (PT&C). The CAB was changing and will grow to accommodate the new DOE reading room. He wanted to thank members for taking educational trips this year. As new mission related opportunities come up they wanted to sponsor more trips for members. He stated that Headquarters was very happy with this CAB and that it was becoming a model for the SSAB.

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## **X. Presentations on Corrective Measures Evaluations for Material Disposal Areas G and H**

Mr. Jarrett Rice and Mr. Pat Nakagawa provided the board with a Subject matter Presentation entitled, "Material Disposal Areas G and H- Status of the Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) Process" for LANL Technical Area 54 (TA-54). The presentation has been briefly summarized below. Complete copies of the Power Point Presentations are available at the CAB Office for review.

Background Information:

Location:

- TA-54 contains 4 Material Disposal Areas (MDA)
  - MDA-G, MDA-H, MDA-L and MDA-G
- 0.3-acre RCRA-permitted disposal site used from 1960-1986 consisting of 9 inactive 6ft by 60ft disposal shafts
- Site is located on the East side of the Laboratory

- Adjacent to Native American Lands
- Used for disposal of Radioactive Waste since 1957
- 1.3 miles from White Rock

#### Presentation Overview:

- Discussed TA-54 Material Disposal Areas
- Outlined the Consent Order Path to Remedy
- Reviewed the Corrective Measures Evaluation Process

#### Objectives of CME:

- Provide stakeholders and regulators with an evaluation of corrective measure alternatives expected to be protective of human health and the environment.
- Describe how alternatives will be monitored to ensure the effectiveness of the corrective measure implemented.
- Identify the recommended corrective measure to the regulators.
- Conceptual Site Model (CSM)
- Developed to evaluate primary and secondary release mechanisms from the source areas.
- Screening Process
  - Threshold criteria screen, which evaluates technologies for applicability, feasibility to implement, ability to perform satisfactorily, or achieve corrective action objectives within a reasonable timeframe.
  - Technologies that passed the original applicability screen were screened against the balancing criteria
  - Technologies were ranked and grouped into alternatives to address source areas

## Explained Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for MDA G & MDA-H:

- CSM describes problems in terms of sources, transport and exposure pathways, receptors and risk
- Protectiveness is achieved by identifying technologies to break pathways or to reduce risk

## Technologies employed to break pathways:

- Administrative Controls
- Breaks exposure pathways (ex. Institutional Controls)
- Containment
- Breaks exposure pathways (ex. ET cover, vegetative cover, asphalt cover)
- In Situ Treatment Technologies
- Reduces risk by reducing source toxicity, mobility or volume (ex. Soil Vapor Extraction [SVE])
- Excavation / Removal Technologies
- Reduce risk by removing the source material
- Ex Situ Treatment Technologies
- Reduces risk by reducing source toxicity, mobility or volume (ex. wastewater treatment, cement stabilization, vitrification)

## Technology Evaluation Process based on the following Threshold Screening Criteria:

- Be protective of human health and the environment
- Attain media cleanup standards
- Control the source

- Comply with applicable standards for management of wastes

Also consider Balancing Criteria:

- Long-term reliability and effectiveness
- Reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume
- Short-term effectiveness
- Cost

Background Information on MDA-G:

Site description:

63-acre Radioactive Waste Management Facility for LANL derived radioactive waste consisting of 35 Waste Disposal Pits, 294 Waste Disposal Shafts, and 4 Waste Disposal Trenches

Current Operations include disposal of Low-Level Radioactive Waste, storage of Mixed Low-Level Waste, and storage of Transuranic Waste

CME Specific to Area-G:

(Corrective Measures Evaluation, Revision # 2 was submitted November 2010)

Options Evaluated:

1. Vegetative Cover
2. ***Evapotranspiration Cover (Recommended Alternative for Pits and Shafts)***
3. Excavation of Pits and Shafts with On-Site Disposal in a CAMU or RCRA Landfill
4. Excavation of Pits and Shafts with Off-Site Disposal
5. Excavation of Pits and Shafts and Overcoring Retrieval of Shafts with On-Site Disposal in a CAMU or RCRA Landfill
6. Complete Excavation, On-Site Waste Treatment, Disposal in a RCRA Subtitle C landfill, SVE
7. Complete Excavation, On-Site Waste Treatment, Disposal in a RCRA Corrective Action Management Unit, SVE
8. Monitored Natural Attenuation



## 9. Soil-Gas Venting

### ***10. Soil Vapor Extraction (Recommended Alternative for Vadose Zone)***

Recommended Alternative for MDA-G included:

- ***ET Cover to prevent human and ecological exposure***
- ***SVE to reduce VOC source contamination in the vadose zone to protect groundwater***
- ***Administrative (institutional) controls are also included***

Background Information on MDA-H:

Site description:

- Nine disposal shafts, six ft in diameter and sixty ft deep
- Shafts 1-8 filled with waste to 6 ft of the surface and then 3 ft of concrete and 3 ft of crushed tuff. Shaft 9 filled with waste to 6 ft of the surface and then 6 ft of concrete.
- Received solid-form waste materials, including classified materials. Liquids were prohibited from disposal.
- Due to the nature of the material disposed in the shafts, disruption of the waste by sparks, heat, or physical impacts should be avoided.

CME Specific to Area-H:

1. Prevent exposure through excavation
2. Prevent disruption of the waste
3. ***An Evapotranspiration Cover was selected as the recommended alternative***
4. Administrative (institutional) controls are also included

Additional Information provided for MDA-L and MDA-J:

MDA- L:

2.5-acre RCRA-permitted site used from the early 1960s to 1986 consisting of 3 inactive surface

impoundments, 1 inactive sub-surface disposal pit, and 34 inactive disposal shafts

MDA-J:

Closure Report with NMED (not included in Consent Order)

Corrective Measures Evaluation submitted December 2010 recommended

- Vegetative Cover
- Evapotranspiration Cover (Recommend to address Source)

Presentation included discussion of TA-54 Groundwater Wells:

MDA H

- R-51, up-gradient well – completed February 2010
- R-52, down-gradient well – completed April 2010
- MDA L
- R-53, down-gradient well – completed March 2010
- R-54, down-gradient well – completed January 2010
- R-56, down-gradient well – completed July 2010
- MDA G
- R-55, down-gradient well – completed August 2010
- R-57, down-gradient well – completed June 2010

Remedies discussion included the following cost considerations:

- Direct Costs & Indirect Costs
- Direct O&M Costs
- Indirect O&M Costs

Mr. Nakagawa and Mr. Rice answered questions from the board.

## **XI. Public Comment Period**

No one signed up for the second opportunity for public comment.

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## **XII. Consideration and Action on Draft Recommendations to DOE**

- **Draft Recommendation 2011-01, "FY 2012 Budget Request for LANL EM Work"**
- **Draft Recommendation 2011-02 "Accelerating TRU Waste Shipments from Area-G to WIPP"**
- **Draft Recommendation 2011-03 "Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste"**

The following final draft NNM CAB Recommendations to DOE were placed before the board for consideration and action. Each of the drafts were previously vetted and approved for final board action at the sub-committee level.

**—Draft Recommendation 2011-01, "FY 2012 Budget Request for LANL EM Work"** was drafted by the Waste Management Committee. The primary author, Mr. Carlos Valdez, led the discussion with the board. The draft recommended:

1. Headquarters/DOE continue to provide full baseline funding for FY 2012 to LANL EM, in order to continue the progress on the scope of work included in the Consent Order.
2. Headquarters/DOE research the possibility of increasing the baseline funding to LANL EM, such that when the ARRA funding is completely spent, continued successful cleanup efforts will be able to take advantage of the trained workforce and the improved procurement and project management skills developed under ARRA and thus not compromise or jeopardize the schedule commitments of the Consent Order.

The board discussed the draft. No changes were noted. **Ms. Henline made a motion to approve draft Recommendation 2011-01. Ms. Gill seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the board approved Recommendation 2011-01 for submission to the DOE.**

**—Draft Recommendation 2011-02, "Accelerating TRU Waste Shipments from Area G to WIPP"** was drafted by the Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation (EMSR) Committee. The primary author, Ms. Pam Henline, reviewed the draft with the board. The draft recommended:

1. DOE should perform a review of the current shipping schedules for the shipment of Transuranic Waste from Area G to WIPP to determine the effect on the scheduled 2015 Order on Consent cleanup completion date.
2. The realistic shipment dates of Transuranic Waste from LANL Area G consistent with DOE national priorities should be included in the calculation of cleanup milestones of the 2005 Order

on Consent.

3. Regarding Area G, DOE should provide targeted funds so that waste collection, characterization, repackaging, loading and shipping can be accomplished on an accelerated schedule. This may include funding WIPP workers onsite at LANL.

4. DOE should provide funding to meet the Consent Order completion dates. If this is not possible, DOE should closely review the Consent Order milestones and schedules consulting with LANL and NMED.

The board discussed the draft. **Mr. Gallegos made a motion to approve draft Recommendation 2011-02, as amended. Ms. Mason seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the board approved Recommendation 2011-02 for submission to the DOE.**

**—Draft Recommendation 2011-03, “Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste”** was drafted by the Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation (EMSR) Committee. The primary author, Ms. Pamela Henline, led a discussion of the draft with the board. The draft recommended:

1. DOE should identify movement of waste that could use rail rather than all waste being transported on roadways.
2. Prior to any shipments, DOE should consult with all involved local communities where loading and unloading may occur, providing information and education about all aspects of the shipments. Concurrence of local communities should be sought before any shipments begin.
3. DOE should provide benefits to local communities involved – such as jobs, rental of facilities, improvement of transfer site, and improvement of local roads.

The board discussed the draft. Ms. Henline mentioned that the CAB Executive Committee discussed this draft as a possibility for a site wide Chairs' Product for the next Semi-Annual Site-Specific Advisory Board meeting. Board Comments are summarized:

- Concerns regarding the press being pre-deposition against this type of waste transport; this would be an issue for more public education to inform citizens regarding actual statistics. A general public perception of “not in my backyard” would need to be addressed through education and outreach.
- It was asked if the recommendation was redundant and outside the mission of the CAB? Too many recommendations might ‘inundate’ DOE. The CAB needed a ‘quality over quantity’ approach to submitting recommendations.
- There was a general consensus that waste transport by rail was safer than highway transport based on actuary data.

- Questions were asked about the truck drivers, highway worker's jobs; would there be a gain or loss in employment, what were the statistical predictions for job creation and loss for the two types of transport?
- It was stated that regardless of how this waste was transported, rail or highway, there were still risk factors involved.

Co-DDFO, Mr. Bishop provided his perspective. He stated that rail transport verses highway/truck transport has been a much-discussed national waste issue within the DOE. He considered this a relevant and timely topic for this CAB and all of the SSAB's to discuss.

**The Board took action on the draft. Ms. Castellano made a motion to approve draft Recommendation 2011-03 as amended. Mr. Valdez seconded the motion. With nine votes in favor and two opposed, the board approved Recommendation 2011-03 for submission to the DOE.**

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### **XIII. Open Forum for Board members and Wrap-up**

Board members held a brief wrap-up round-robin discussion. Topics discussed are summarized below:

- CAB Offices to eventually expand to include space for a DOE public reading room.
- CAB meetings offer a great venue for learning; members appreciate the exchange of information.
- Members were happy to see the current staff continue with the new contract.
- Good comments about the meeting venue at Homewood Suites in Pojoaque.
- Co-DDFO's thanked the Board members for their commitment; appreciated the difference in opinion that allowed for a good exchange of information.
- Ms. Santistevan thanked the Co-DDFOs; stated we have very good support from DOE, she also thanked the CAB staff.
- Mr. Phelps planned to work with Ms. Santistevan to arrange a meeting with the new Secretary of the Mexico Environment Department.

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### **XIV. Adjournment**

Mr. Phelps thanked everyone for their participation. With no further business to discuss, Mr. Worth, Co-DDFO adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNM CAB**

*\*Minutes prepared by Lorelei Novak, NNM CAB Technical Programs and Outreach*

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**Attachments:**

1. Final 1-26-11 CAB Meeting Agenda.
  2. Report from Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNM CAB.
  3. Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director.
  4. PowerPoint Presentation, "Corrective Measures Evaluations for Material Disposal Areas G and H, with Mr. Jarrett Rice, LANS and Mr. Pat Nakagawa, DOE.
  5. Long Term Surveillance Conference, Grand Junction, Colorado, summary reports from attending board members, Robert Gallegos and Bob Villarreal.
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**Public Notice:**

☞ **\*All NNM CAB meetings are recorded. Audiotapes have been placed on file for review at the NNM CAB Office, 1660 Old Pecos Trail, Suite B, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505.**

1 **\*Reference documents listed in the Appendix section of these minutes may be requested for review at the CAB office in Santa Fe. (505) 989-1662.**

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