



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting  
July 27, 2011  
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting Location: Holiday Inn and Suites  
Los Alamos, 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, NNM CAB Chair**
  - 2. Robert Gallegos, NNM CAB Vice Chair**
  - 3. Pam Gilchrist, EMSR Committee Co-Chair**
  - 4. Deb Shaw, EMSR Committee Co-Chair**
  - 5. Lawrence Garcia, WM Committee Vice Chair**
  - 6. Lawrence Longacre**
  - 7. Mike Loya**
  - 8. Caroline Mason**
  - 9. Carlos Valdez**
  - 10. Manuel Pacheco, WM Committee Chair**
  - 11. Bob Villarrael, WM Committee**
  - 12. Nick Maestas**
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- Excused Absences**
- 1. Jacquelyn Gutierrez**
  - 2. Gerry Maestas**
  - 3. Nicole Castellano**
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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. Douglas Sayre, Sayre Engineering**
  - 2. Michele Jacques Ortiz, Senator Tom Udall's Office**

- 1 3. Lorrie Bonds Lopez, LANL
- 2 4. John Heaton
- 3 5. Nona Girardi
- 4 6. Dave McInroy, LANL Corrective Actions Program Director
- 5 7. Thurman Tallez, Rotary
- 6 8. Harry Fugate, Portage
- 7 9. Annette Russell, DOE
- 8 10. Kim Granzow, NMED DOE Oversight Bureau
- 9 11. Steve Yanicak, NMED DOE Oversight Bureau
- 10 12. Pete Maggiore, DOE LASO

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13 **AGENDA**

- 14 I. Call to Order
- 15 II. Establishment of Quorum (8 needed)
  - 16 a. Roll Call
  - 17 b. Excused Absences
- 18 III. Welcome and Introductions
- 19 IV. Approval of Agenda
- 20 V. Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2011
- 21 VI. Public Comment Period
- 22 VII. Old Business
  - 23 a. Written Reports
  - 24 b. Items from NNMCAB Members
- 25 VIII. New Business
  - 26 a. Report on Semi-Annual Chairs' Meeting
  - 27 b. Consideration and Action on Products from Chairs' Meeting
    - 28 i. "Asset Retention"
    - 29 ii. "Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste"
    - 30 iii. Authorizing Funds for Movement of Historic/Cultural Artifacts"
  - 31 c. Report from Nominating Committee (Section V, F. of NNMCAB Bylaws)
  - 32 d. Items from NNMCAB Members
- 33 IX. Update on Las Conchas Fire – Dave McInroy
- 34 X. Presentation on Waste Isolation Pilot Plant – John Heaton
- 35 XI. Discussion on Draft Recommendations to the DOE
- 36 XII. Public Comment Period
- 37 XIII. Consideration and Action on Draft Recommendation to the DOE
  - 38 a. Draft Recommendation 2011-06
  - 39 b. Draft Recommendation 2011-07
  - 40 c. Draft Recommendation 2011-08
  - 41 d. Draft Recommendation 2011-09
- 42 XIV. Wrap-up Comments
- 43 XV. Adjournment

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1 **MINUTES**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board  
4 (NNMCAB or CAB) meeting was held on July 27, 2011 at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Los  
5 Alamos, New Mexico. Mr. Worth, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO), stated that on  
6 behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), the regular bi-monthly meeting of the NNMCAB was  
7 called to order at 1:00 p.m.

8 Mr. Worth recognized Mr. Phelps as NNMCAB Chair. The Chair presided at the meeting.  
9 The regular meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in **The Federal Register**  
10 in accordance with **The Federal Advisory Committee Act**.  
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12 **II. Establishment of a Quorum (8 needed)**

13 **a. Roll Call**

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

16 **b. Excused Absences**

17 Mr. Worth and Mr. Bishop, Co-DDFOs, had previously approved excused absences for  
18 Ms. Jacquelyn Gutierrez, Mr. Gerry Maestas, and Ms. Nicole Castellano.  
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21 **III. Welcome and Introductions**

22 Mr. Phelps welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated his appreciation for  
23 everyone's attendance. Mr. Phelps asked for introductions from the members and guests in  
24 attendance.  
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27 **IV. Approval of Agenda**

28 The board reviewed the July 27, 2011 CAB meeting agenda. Mr. Phelps called for any  
29 comments or additions to the agenda. The board would hear a presentation by Dave McInroy  
30 on the Las Conchas Fire. The board would also consider four draft recommendations for  
31 submittal to DOE.  
32

33 **Mr. Gallegos moved to approve the agenda as amended and Mr. Pacheco seconded**  
34 **the motion. The meeting agenda was approved.**  
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36 **V. Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2011**

37 The board reviewed the minutes from the May 12, 2011 CAB meeting. By ongoing  
38 instructions from DOE Headquarters, the minutes were previously reviewed and certified by the  
39 NNMCAB Chair, Mr. Ralph Phelps. Mr. Phelps stated that the May minutes were included in the  
40 board packets and presented at this meeting for board approval.  
41

42 **Mr. Gallegos moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Shaw seconded the**  
43 **motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.**  
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2 **VI. Public Comment Period**

3 No one signed up for the first public comment period.  
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6 **VII. Old Business**

7 **a. Written Reports**

8 ➤ **NNMCAB Chair's Report**

9 A printed copy of the Chair's Report was included in the meeting packet and a copy may  
10 be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662. Mr. Phelps asked for questions  
11 or comments on the written reports; the intent was for the reports to be submitted in writing  
12 but questions could be brought up in this section or later. Mr. Phelps briefly reviewed the main  
13 points in the Chair's report:  
14

15 **1. Routine Chair Activities since last NNMCAB meeting on May 12, 2011**

- 16 a. Executive Committee met on June 8, 2011 (Chair on vacation; attended  
17 and reported on by Vice Chair, Robert Gallegos):
- 18 • Spent time discussing findings of the Risk Analysis,  
19 Communication, Evaluation, and Reduction (RACER) database  
20 audit. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) received a Notice Of  
21 Violation (NOV) from the New Mexico Environment Department  
22 (NMED) on this issue.
  - 23 • In preparation for the afternoon committee meeting, reviewed  
24 and discussed three draft recommendations (RACER, transuranic  
25 waste [TRU] shipments, and Greater Than Class C [GTCC] waste  
26 DOE).
  - 27 • Discussed nominating committee assignments and timeframes.
  - 28 • DDFOs provided updates to:
    - 29 ○ CAB office move and reading room
    - 30 ○ Corrective Measure Evaluations (CMEs) for H, G, and L
    - 31 ○ Consent Order discussion with NMED
  - 32 • Executive Committee met on July 20, 2011.

33 b. Supported the Waste Management (WM)/Environmental Monitoring,  
34 Surveillance, and Remediation (EMSR) Joint Committee meetings on June 8,  
35 2011 (Vice Chair) and July 20, 2011. Details are in the committee meeting  
36 minutes. The main activities from the June 8, 2011 meeting were discussing  
37 recommendations, the Ad Hoc Committee on officer elections, interest in giving  
38 a WM 2012 paper, and a presentation by LANL's Phil Fresquez on Wildlife  
39 Studies.

40 **2. SSAB Related Chair Activities since last NNMCAB meeting on March 30, 2011:**

- 41 a. The Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Meeting at the Nevada  
42 Nuclear Security Site (NNSS) (formerly Nevada Test Site (NTS) was held June 14-  
43 16, 2011 in Las Vegas, NV. Highlights were a tour of the NNSS, a discussion of  
44 the site specific priorities, and discussion of two Chair's proposed

1 recommendations to DOE, which require approval by each CAB. Trip report and  
2 presentation slides link are available on the CAB website.

3 **3. Other Related Chair Activities**

4 a. On June 22, 2011, the NNMCAB sponsored a Water Quality Forum in  
5 cooperation with LANL personnel at Santa Fe Community College. Videotaped  
6 copies of the forum will be made available for member and public viewing.

7 b. Chair and Vice Chair addressed the New Mexico State Radioactive and  
8 Hazardous Waste Interim Legislative Committee on July 18, 2011. Committee  
9 members expressed interest in the volunteer status of the NNMCAB,  
10 membership, GTCC position, RACER draft recommendation, and some of the  
11 CAB's successful activities.

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13 ➤ **NNMCAB Executive Director's Report**

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

17 1. Board Membership Update:

18 The NNMCAB is currently comprised of 15 members, eight of whom are up for  
19 reappointment in November: Nicole Castellano, Lawrence Garcia, Jacquelyn Gutierrez,  
20 Lawrence Longacre, Caroline Mason, Manuel Pacheco, Carlos Valdez, and Robert  
21 Villarrael. Two other nominees were included in the nomination package and we hope  
22 to make site appointments for Mayor Lucero's nominees. The updated CAB Directory  
23 was included in meeting packets; members were asked to be sure that their contact  
24 information was correct.

25 2. Executive Committee Meetings:

26 The committee met on June 8, 2011, and July 20, 2011. The committee heard  
27 reports from the Chair, Committee Chairs, Co-DDFOs, and Executive Director. The  
28 committee finalized the agenda for this meeting and discussed draft recommendations  
29 for future CAB consideration as well as the NNMCAB office move and the reorganization  
30 of DOE.

31 3. Board Meeting Preparations:

32 Ms. Santistevan prepared and submitted agendas for this meeting and the notice  
33 to **The Federal Register**, in compliance with **The Federal Advisory Committee Act**.

34 Meeting materials were copied and collated by Ms. Roybal and meeting packets  
35 were mailed out on July 21, 2011.

36 Advertisements for the meeting were placed in *The Los Alamos Monitor* and *The*  
37 *Albuquerque Journal* by Ms. Roybal and on the NNMCAB website by Ms. Novak.

38 4. EM Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs' Meeting:

39 Ms. Santistevan and Mr. Phelps served on the planning committee for the spring  
40 meeting of the Environmental Management (EM) SSAB Chairs in Las Vegas. Ms.  
41 Santistevan also attended the Federal/Administrator staff meeting following the Chairs'  
42 meeting. This meeting included a half-day workshop on the Federal Advisory  
43 Committee Act and the requirements for advertisement of meetings and transparency  
44

1 in all deliberations of the CAB.

2 5. Summer NNMCAB Newsletter:

3 Ms. Novak prepared the NNMCAB's summer newsletter. She and Ms. Roybal  
4 prepared approximately 300 copies for distribution.

5 6. Public Outreach:

6 The NNMCAB sponsored a public forum on Surface and Ground Water at LANL  
7 on June 22, 2011 at Santa Fe Community College. Highlights included a poster session  
8 with DOE Oversight Bureau, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS), NNMCAB,  
9 and LANL; presentations by LANL subject matter experts; and comments from DOE. The  
10 panel included representatives from DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),  
11 NMED, LANL, and the counties of Los Alamos and Santa Fe. Approximately 65  
12 individuals attended.

13 Mr. Phelps, Mr. Gallegos, and Ms. Santistevan attended the Legislative Interim  
14 Committee on Radioactive and Hazardous Waste meeting on July 18, 2011 at the State  
15 Capitol. Mr. Phelps and Mr. Gallegos presented on the mission and scope of the  
16 NNMCAB.

17 7. Facilitator Training:

18 Ms. Santistevan completed Advanced Facilitator Training at the Leadership  
19 Strategies Institute in Atlanta and will submit her application for certification. She is  
20 now available to assist DOE's Los Alamos Site Office (LASO) with facilitator services.

21 8. Office Management:

22 Office space in Pojoaque has been identified for the new NNMCAB office and  
23 LANL reading room. Ms. Roybal and Ms. Santistevan have been working on cost  
24 projections. Staff supported all committee meetings, website updates. Members were  
25 reminded to refer to the website for questions on meeting dates, recommendations,  
26 etc. at [www.nnmcab.energy.org](http://www.nnmcab.energy.org).

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28  
29 Mr. Valdez asked about the legislative hearing presentation. Mr. Phelps said the  
30 meeting schedule was accelerated and the committee appeared to be open and interested.  
31 Slides were folded into their library of outreach materials on CAB direction and how the  
32 membership was set up, and there was a lot of interest and questions from the committee on  
33 GTTC waste, Area G TRU, membership setup, and budget. He asked Mr. Gallegos to add. Mr.  
34 Gallegos said they let the Hazardous Waste Interim Committee know we would be traveling to  
35 the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) site. Jim Hall, former Los Alamos County Council, wanted  
36 some follow-up of the RACER recommendation from the CAB. Mr. Gallegos stated this was  
37 really a good introduction to the CAB. The CAB has presented to the Legislature, but it was the  
38 legislative finance committee regarding the budget. Mr. Phelps thanked Ms. Santistevan for  
39 arranging this.

40  
41 Ms. Santistevan was asked if Espanola Mayor Alice Lucero had submitted names of prospective  
42 members and how that was going. Ms. Santistevan stated that Mayor Lucero had nominated  
43 two persons from Espanola to serve on the NNMCAB. Ms. Santistevan will finalize and follow  
44 up on that action with the mayor.

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➤ **Items from NNMCAB Members – Open Forum for the CAB Members**

CAB members were asked to work with their committees to make sure the work plans are in good shape and they are comfortable with them. Ms. Novak mentioned that the committee has worked with the Fiscal Year (FY)12 work plan drafts.

Mr. Gallegos said the committee meeting last week was very good and Mr. Pacheco was good at chairing. They did work on the work plans and it was a good meeting.

Ms. Novak announced that she has given notice and is leaving. She was given a very nice plaque. She said that the board is very close to her heart and offered to help in the transition.

Mr. Bishop stated that Dr. Ines Triay resigned as EM-1 due to personal reasons. She is transitioning to Florida, staying in a government role, and may come back in the future.

Tom D’Agastino moved to EM-1. Congress wants the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA) and EM to remain separate. Tom is acting within, and a deputy will come on board, after which there will be some changes. EM and NNSA will remain separate. This will not affect the CAB. This may be an opportunity for the CAB to extend its mission more into long-term stewardship.

Mr. Villarrael mentioned that he wrote an email on forest fires and Mr. Bishop had a good suggestion to look at fire prevention as long-term stewardship. He thinks that is a good idea; on the other hand, it seems to be a stretch, and Mr. Villarrael wants to know what could be done with that. Mr. Phelps opened up the floor.

Ms. Shaw wants to clarify whether we add forest fire awareness as waste disposal long-term management. Mr. Villarrael said we used to have a forest, but no longer – now it is a scattered forest. This fire has affected everything that has been done, including wildlife. It will impact on managing their legacy of what is done in the laboratory regarding clean-up. It is hard to grasp what impact it will have. It is hard to quantify. This will go on and he wonders what the board has to say about it.

Ms. Shaw said proclivity to fires and even volcanic eruptions, Mother Nature’s impact, must be considered in regard to waste management and remediation. Mr. Villarrael asked, do we think there should be some new methodologies in the way we respond to forest fires? He said to have 160,000 acres just destroyed is a true tragedy. He is at odds as to what the board should do to respond to this. He thinks funding has an impact, as it could have been prevented.

Mr. Gallegos said this could be under our scope in terms of long-term stewardship. He is concerned with the watershed for the city and the county, and this is something they could be involved in. Ultimately the canyons will have to be protected. There is waste in the canyons, and damage to the canyons could make the waste move.

1 Mr. Bishop was asked as the DDFO, if there is some way we can do this within the CAB's  
2 scope of work. He talked about National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) work in which he is  
3 involved with George Rael.

4  
5 Mr. Bishop continued: emergency response comes first, but then comes the  
6 documentation process. The forest service took serious action to prevent the forest fire. This  
7 was done without an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) because of an emergency situation.  
8 The emergency plan was based on a mitigation plan. They are currently drafting a letter to  
9 NMED to outline the actions they are taking. The public will be able to give comments in the  
10 special environmental analysis—so yes, they could add Mr. Villarrael's comments to a  
11 mitigation action plan—this is what Mr. Villarrael is looking for. Mr. Villarrael thought the  
12 response was slow—in a dry climate the response should be much faster, within 2 hours, and  
13 he listened carefully to the person who was involved in the beginnings of the fire and he said  
14 quicker response could have prevented this terrible fire. Mr. Villarrael said a lookout tower  
15 would have prevented 160,000 acres from being burned up. It takes money to have lookout  
16 station and guard but much less loss than 160,000 acres. Certainly he thought there could have  
17 been a much better response in terms of heliports, towers (see his long email).

18  
19 Mr. Villarrael worked on forest fires for 9 years and thinks this preventative approach is  
20 possible, and he talked about ways to prepare and improve this process. Time from smoke  
21 detection to first response is critical!

22  
23 Mr. Pacheco and his father both fought fires, his father long-term and he for 3 seasons.  
24 What is the mechanism that triggers response? What Mr. Villarrael said hit home; he supports  
25 Mr. Villarrael's opinion of the response to the fire.

26  
27 Ms. Shaw thinks trees may have to be stepped on. She was 15 years in electric utilities;  
28 trees caused problems with the lines and now there is an ordinance to keep the trees away  
29 from the lines.

30  
31 Mr. Phelps brought the discussion to a close, adding that he thinks there is a way to  
32 bring this to the CAB formally, possibly drafting a recommendation.

33  
34 Mr. Bishop said they will pass along the special environmental assessment and give a  
35 presentation to the CAB in the fall.

36  
37 Mr. Garcia asked for the regulations on the jurisdiction on properties. How is the  
38 jurisdiction of the properties, and how does that come into play? Mr. Phelps said we must  
39 approach this through the mission of the SSAB.

40  
41 Burnt Area Emergency Recovery (BAER) team: Mr. Bishop and Mr. Worth are on this  
42 team.

43  
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1 **VIII. New Business**

2 **a. Report on Semi-Annual Chairs' Meeting**

3 Mr. Phelps reported, going over the great response to the SSAB meeting in Mr.  
4 Gallegos's and Mr. Valdez's reports. Mr. Phelps and Ms. Santistevan also attended. Mr.  
5 Garcia said it seemed to all come down to funding.

6  
7 Mr. Valdez stated that the tour of the NNSS was awesome. They saw many  
8 things, and 93 900 nuclear tests were completed. The SSABs got to see this. He  
9 explained that the water table is closer and many of the tests were conducted  
10 underground (refer to Mr. Valdez's report). He thought that they did not see "massive"  
11 contamination" in the groundwater. Rev. Gilchrist asked, how much distance is there  
12 from groundwater contamination and the area? Mr. Valdez said that the NNSS is so  
13 large it could possibly encompass all the other sites combined.

14  
15 Mr. Bishop talked about the possibility of more waste going to Nevada.  
16 Explosions from testing like craters could be used for waste storage. He said there are  
17 several aquifers. Tritium was and is one of their main problems.

18  
19 Mr. Phelps said the next meeting will be a video conference meeting October  
20 20<sup>th</sup>. This might be more of an opportunity for members to participate. Mr. Bishop can  
21 set up the meeting at the LASO office with 5 CAB members and staff.

22  
23 **b. Consideration and Action on Products from Chairs' Meeting**

24 Mr. Phelps reviewed the Chairs' Meeting Products. The rules are that the  
25 recommendations can't be amended. They can only be voted on, up or down. The  
26 products were open for discussion.

27  
28 • **Asset Retention**

29 Mr. Gallegos talked about asset retention. Example: Nevada has a rocket  
30 for a museum; other sites wanted their sites included in the historic  
31 register.

32  
33 Mr. Valdez talked about the tests and what was brought in to measure –  
34 railroad tracks, trees – and some of these items may still have value to  
35 the community. It was discussed how a federal agency would turn over a  
36 train? This related to the authorizing of funds to transport some of these  
37 items. The first step would be making a list of what is beneficial.

38  
39 Mr. Bishop mentioned government property regulations. There are  
40 regulations that come into play here. It's up to the board to vote. How  
41 does the government determine who gets the assets? Mr. Bishop said  
42 museums can compete to get them.

43

1 Mr. Phelps said these SSAB recommendations try to stay somewhat  
2 generic.

3  
4 **Vote on Asset Protection: Passed, all in favor.**

5  
6 • **Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste**

7  
8 **Vote on Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste: Passed, all in favor.**

9  
10 • **Authorizing Funds for Movement of Historic/Cultural Artifacts**

11 Mr. Valdez said we are giving away assets that are on a fixed assets  
12 inventory and using taxpayer dollars to move something that will benefit  
13 others. He thinks they should pay for the item. The issue went forward  
14 as approved.

15  
16 Mr. Pacheco offered a rebuttal regarding in-kind services as an economic  
17 opportunity. Mr. Valdez asked, what about the cradle to grave theory?  
18 Mr. Bishop answered with an example about excess paint donated to a  
19 sovereign nation. It leaked and caused a solvent contamination, for  
20 which the DOE was responsible for coming back in and cleaning up. The  
21 DOE is not absolved from liability.

22  
23 **Vote on Authorizing Funds for Movement of Historic/Cultural Artifacts:**  
24 **Passed, 10 in favor, 1 opposed.**

25  
26 **c. Report from Nominating Committee (Section V, F. of NNM CAB Bylaws)**

27 Ms. Shaw provided the report. An email requesting nomination went out in July,  
28 and she will re-send it to the staff to forward, asking everyone to make a nomination for  
29 chair and vice-chair via telephone or email. Responses will be anonymous. Election will  
30 be on September 28, 2011.

31  
32 Ms. Santistevan stated the CAB bylaws require a report at this meeting, "the  
33 meeting before the September meeting." Ms. Shaw will go around at the break and will  
34 report after the break.

35  
36 **d. Items from NNM CAB Members**

37 Mr. Valdez asked, how did we get that generator donated to a hospital? Mr.  
38 Bishop said they screened that through the federal agencies first. Yucca Mountain  
39 donated to schools in Nevada. There are regulations; the equipment was screened for  
40 radioactivity. Yes, it does cost, but to sell it to a company with a Nuclear Regulatory  
41 Commission (NRC) license, they bear the cost.

1           Mr. Phelps mentioned that the executive committee has added to its ongoing  
2 agenda on how to handle future recommendations that are made with a split vote.  
3 Ideas included minority opinions, or temporary tabling, to strengthen the CAB.  
4

5           Discussion:

6           Mr. Garcia has been on jury duty. He said split votes go out for further  
7 discussion. Ms. Shaw said we already do this with our draft recommendation process.  
8 They effectively hash out the conflicts through the editing process. The draft  
9 recommendation process works for us. Ms. Mason thinks minority opinions are  
10 important. Ms. Santistevan went over the bylaws. Recommendations pass with a 75%  
11 vote; minority reports are attached to the recommendation going to DOE. DOE stresses  
12 that unanimity is what to strive for; consensus is the goal.  
13

14           It was announced that Michael Graham was scheduled to present an update on  
15 the Las Conchas Fire. Dave McInroy will present in his stead.  
16

17           Mr. Valdez asked about the NNMCAB office relocation. Mr. Worth mentioned  
18 that in the processes of moving an office, getting leases, subcontractor hurdles, they  
19 have picked Pojoaque, a space with a large room layout big enough to accommodate 40  
20 people. They are looking at an October timeframe for the move to take place.  
21

22           Northern New Mexico College in Espanola wanted the LANL Reading Room, but  
23 DOE decided that Pojoaque was the choice and they will have a mirror facility to be in  
24 Espanola, a kind of compromise. CAB staff will oversee the library. Mr. Worth said that  
25 the mirror facility would be in the science wing of Northern New Mexico College.  
26

27           Mr. Valdez talked about the site that recruits students, and Mr. Worth said they  
28 will pursue this. Ms. Santistevan will see if students can get college credit for serving on  
29 the NNMCAB.  
30

31           Ms. Mason said that LANL had been fined for not updating RACER. Ms. Bonds  
32 Lopez said that some data did not go into RACER on time. They met the letter of the  
33 racer, but not the spirit, so this has been fixed.  
34

35           DOE reading room in Espanola and Pojoaque: Mr. Garcia asked if this is  
36 approved. Mr. Bishop went over the floor plan.  
37

38 **IX. Presentation on Las Conchas Fire Update: Presentation by Dave McInroy, Subject**  
39 **Matter Expert (See PowerPoint and handout of map, LA-UR-11-11124)**

40           Questions were taken throughout the presentation. Mr. McInroy talked about the  
41 reasons for the fire, including dry wind and overgrown forests. He mentioned a nice point of  
42 view that cleared trees in some areas will make “park-like” areas.  
43

1 People in the emergency operations center were safe. Some surface water sampling  
2 locations were damaged.

3  
4 Mr. Longacre asked, what lessons were learned from Cerro Grande? Mr. McInroy said  
5 he would get into it later, but he stressed multi-agency cooperation with fire protection, forest  
6 control, and erosion control. Mr. Longacre said nuclear stuff should be far away from the  
7 forest.

8  
9 Interagency cooperation at the federal, state, and local levels was stellar.

10  
11 He talked about waste nearby at Area G. For the last 10 years, the lab has been clearing  
12 lab property, clearing debris, thinning, hauling things out of the canyon system. The lab was all  
13 over preemptive fire mitigation.

14  
15 Air samples were taken, which showed no lab contamination.

16  
17 The Cerro Grande and Las Conchas fires were compared, showing that lessons learned  
18 during the Cerro Grande paid off. Multi-agency teams were involved, such as the Interagency  
19 Flood Risk Assessment Team (IFRAT) and Risk Assessment Corporation. Mr. McInroy displayed  
20 a long list of fire and erosion management actions taken since 2000.

21  
22 Watershed damage occurred. Questions were asked about this. Los Alamos wells get  
23 water from underground, but Albuquerque and Santa Fe get their water from the Rio Grande,  
24 which can be affected by runoff.

25  
26 DOE is part of the BAER Team, which includes hydrologists, soils scientists, engineers,  
27 biologists, vegetation specialists, and archeologists.

28  
29 The top 5 priorities: Safety, Remove risk material, Protect infrastructure, Water quality  
30 testing, Information sharing.

31  
32 Preventative catchments were cleaned out, rather than seeing storm water runoff push  
33 these soils. Mr. McInroy said there will be higher concentrations on contaminants from the  
34 fire, but he said it does not incriminate the lab, as typical stuff one sees coming out of forest  
35 fires may also include cyanide and chromium.

36  
37 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) that are in soils or from uptake put dioxin in the soil.  
38 The source is from human activity, and this contaminant is ubiquitously in the environment and  
39 has been taken up in the soil.

40  
41 Buckman Direct Diversion Project and San Ildefonso Pueblo allowed LANL to place an  
42 early notification system on tribal land. This allowed helpful real-time data that helped monitor  
43 the fire.

44

1 Summary: Direct impact to LANL was minimal to none.

2  
3 Storm water runoff evaluation has been coordinated and is underway, with cooperation  
4 with other agencies. Questions were answered.

5  
6 BAER has a rain notification system.  
7

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8  
9 **X. Presentation on Waste Isolation Pilot Plant – John Heaton**

10 Mr. Heaton presented on proposed Salt Disposal Investigations with a field scale heater  
11 test at WIPP. Highlights included: salt as an ideal disposal medium, a description of the salt  
12 disposal investigation testing, and the importance of the testing.

13  
14 Mr. Heaton also presented an overview of WIPP. Highlights included: types of waste,  
15 features of the site that make it ideal for waste isolation, transportation safety, and shipment  
16 and disposal summaries.

17  
18 A printed copy of the presentation was included in the meeting packet and a copy may  
19 be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662.  
20

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21  
22 Deb Shaw reported on the nominees for CAB Chair and Vice Chair:

23 Preliminary Slate:

24 Chair: Robert Gallegos  
25 Vice-Chair: Carlos Valdez  
26 Deb Shaw  
27 Manuel Pacheco  
28 Caroline Mason  
29 Lawrence Garcia  
30

31 Mr. Longacre said he wanted to see a campaign statement. Mr. Phelps agreed that a  
32 brief candidate statement would be recommended. Mr. Phelps declined to be nominated. Mr.  
33 Phelps believes the officer positions should be rotated around.  
34

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35  
36 **XI. Public Comment Period**

37 No one signed up for the second opportunity for public comment.  
38

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39  
40 **XII. Consideration and Action on Draft Recommendations to DOE**

41 **a. Draft Recommendation 2011-07**

42 **Mr. Pacheco moved to approve Draft Recommendation 2011-07; Rev. Gilchrist**  
43 **seconded the motion.**  
44

1 Discussion:

2 The additional funding could go to Los Alamos to increase shipment. Mr. Villarrael  
3 wants a reference to the reduction of shipment of TRU from Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
4 (ORNL) – Mr. Bishop suggests listing as an example.

5  
6 **Mr. Pacheco moved to approve the amended recommendation. Rev. Gilchrist**  
7 **seconded the motion. Vote: all in favor; recommendation approved.**

8  
9 **b. Draft Recommendation 2011-08**

10 Discussion:

11 The chair called for discussion or a motion. Mr. Villarrael asked if anyone knows what  
12 RACER means? Mr. Villarrael and Ms. Mason want the acronym spelled out. Others agreed.

13  
14 **Mr. Valdez moved to approve the recommendation. Mr. Pacheco seconded the**  
15 **motion as amended. Vote: all in favor; recommendation approved.**

16  
17 **c. Draft Recommendation 2011-09**

18 **Mr. Valdez moved to approve the recommendation. Ms. Shaw seconded the motion.**  
19 **Vote: all in favor; recommendation approved.**

20  
21 Mr. Bishop said the passage of these recommendations is very timely. Mr. Worth will  
22 forward them to George Rael, who is at DOE Headquarters. He may have time to discuss them  
23 with senior management at Headquarters.

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24  
25  
26 **XIII. Wrap-up Comments**

27 Board members held a brief round-robin discussion. Comments are summarized below:

28  
29 Mr. Garcia: Productive meeting.

30 Mr. Gallegos: Thanked Lorelei for her service.

31 Mr. Nick Maestas: Thanked Lorelei.

32 Rev. Gilchrist: Was upset by two-thirds of what Mr. Heaton said.

33 Mr. Valdez: Appreciated the WIPP presentation.

34 Ms. Shaw: Regarding having two reading rooms within a few miles of each other, why spend  
35 money for this duplication when college students can go online to use electronic reading room?

36 Ms. Shaw thanked the staff.

37 Ms. Novak: Offered to help with transition.

38 Ms. Santistevan: Thanked Ms. Novak for her work, asked for patience in the transition.

39 November 7-8 WIPP tour will be a two-day overnight trip. Combined committee meeting  
40 August 10 at Cities of Gold Hotel. September meeting to be held in Taos. Thanked Eddie and  
41 Grace Roybal. Thanked everyone. Board is developing!

42 Mr. Pacheco: Great meeting. Ms. Novak will be greatly missed. Food was great.

43 Ms. Mason: Thanked Ms. Novak for working with her on her poster and new programs.

1 Mr. Loya: Personally thanked Ms. Novak, said she is a good person. Liked the WIPP  
2 presentation. Wants us to press ahead on moving the waste, even accepting new types of  
3 waste.

4 Mr. Villarrael: Passed.

5 Mr. Phelps: Thanked to everyone. See you in Taos in a couple of months.  
6

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7  
8 **XIV. Adjournment**

9 **With no further business to discuss, Mr. Bishop, Co-DDFO, adjourned the meeting at**  
10 **7:00 p.m.**

11  
12 **Respectfully submitted as a draft for review,**



13  
14 **Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNMCAB**

15  
16 *\*Minutes prepared by Karen Erickson, NNMCAB Technical Writer*  
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18 **Attachments:**

- 19 1. **Final 7-27-11 CAB Meeting Agenda.**
- 20 2. **Report from Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNMCAB.**
- 21 3. **Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director.**
- 22 4. **Report from Robert Gallegos, NNMCAB.**
- 23 5. **Report from Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB.**
- 24 6. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Las Conchas Fire Runoff Mitigation at Los Alamos National**  
25 **Laboratory," LA-UR-11-11124, presented by Dave McInroy, Program Director, Corrective**  
26 **Actions Program, LANL.**
- 27 7. **Map, Las Conchas Fire Burn Severity, July 18, 2011.**
- 28 8. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Salt Disposal Investigations," presented by John Heaton.**
- 29 9. **PowerPoint Presentation, "WIPP Overview," presented by John Heaton.**
- 30 10. **NNMCAB Recommendation 2011-07, "Maximum Utilization of WIPP by Increasing MDA G**  
31 **TRU Shipments."**
- 32 11. **NNMCAB Recommendation 2011-08, "Restore Confidence in the RACER Database."**
- 33 12. **NNMCAB Recommendation 2011-09, "New Urgency for Increased TRU Shipments from**  
34 **MDA G."**
- 35 13. **EM-SSAB Recommendation on Asset Retention.**
- 36 14. **EM-SSAB Recommendation on Authorizing Funds for Movement of Historical/Cultural**  
37 **Artifacts.**
- 38 15. **EM-SSAB Recommendation on Using Rail Transport for Moving Waste.**  
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40  
41 **Public Notice:**

- 1  \*All NNM CAB meetings are recorded. Audiotapes have been placed on file for review at  
2 the NNM CAB Office, 1660 Old Pecos Trail, Suite B, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505.  
3  \*Reference documents listed in the Appendix section of these minutes may be requested  
4 for review at the CAB office in Santa Fe. (505) 989-1662.
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