

Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting
November 17, 2010
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: The Lodge, Santa Fe, New Mexico
MINUTES

Meeting Attendees:

Department of Energy-

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

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

NNMCAB Members-

- 1. Ralph Phelps, NNMCAB Chair**
 - 2. Pam Henline, EMSR Committee Chair**
 - 3. Gerry Maestas, WM Committee Chair**
 - 4. Mike Loya, WM Committee Vice Chair**
 - 5. Nicole Castellano**
 - 6. Pamela Gilchrist**
 - 7. Lawrence Longacre**
 - 8. Manuel Pacheco**
 - 9. Deb Shaw, EMSR Committee Vice Chair**
 - 10. Carlos Valdez**
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Excused Absences-

- 1. Robert Gallegos, NNMCAB Vice Chair (attending LTS Conference)**
- 2. Lawrence Garcia**
- 3. Deborah Gill**
- 4. Jacquelyn Gutierrez**
- 5. Caroline Mason**
- 6. Bob Villarreal (attending LTS Conference)**

Absent-

- 1. John Lujan**
 - 2. Michelle Medinsky**
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NNMCAB Staff-

Menice Santistevan (attending training)

Lorelei Novak, Technical Programs and Outreach

Grace Roybal, Office Administrator

Edward Roybal, Sound Technician

Guests-

- 1. Kevin Smith, Manager, LASO**
- 2. George Rael, DOE/LASO**
- 3. Fred DeSousa, LANS**

4. Scott Kovac, Nuclear Watch New Mexico
5. Denise Gonzales, New Mexico Community Foundation
6. Pete Maggiore, Edgewater
7. Susan Wolters, New Mexico Community Foundation
8. Philip Fresquez, LANS, Presenter
9. Bill Eisele, LANS, Presenter
10. Jean Dewart, LANS
11. David Rogers, LANS

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Introductions
- III. Establishment of Quorum (10 needed)
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Excused Absences
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2010
- VI. First Public Comment Period
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Written Reports
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Report from Nominating Committee
 - b. Consideration and Action on Annual Evaluation
 - c. Report from New Mexico Community Foundation
- IX. Items from DDFOs
 - a. Introduction of Mr. Kevin Smith, Manager of the Los Alamos Site Office
- X. Presentation on Los Alamos National Laboratory's Environmental Surveillance Report for 2009
- XI. Second Public Comment Period
- XII. Open Forum for Board members and Wrap-up
- XIII. Adjournment

MINUTES

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 November 17, 2010, at the Lodge, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Worth, 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**.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Phelps welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated his appreciation for everyone's attendance. 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 (SMEs) on the 2009 Environmental Surveillance Report (ESR) for LANL. The board would also hear comments from Mr. Kevin Smith, Manager, LASO.

III. Establishment of Quorum (10 needed)

a. Roll Call

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

b. Excused Absences

Mr. Worth and Mr. Bishop, Co-DDFOs, had previously approved excused absences for Lawrence Garcia, Robert Gallegos, Deb Gill, Jacquelyn Gutierrez, Bob Villarreal and Caroline Mason.

It was noted that Mr. Gallegos and Mr. Villarreal were in Grand Junction Colorado attending the 2010 Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance Conference. This conference would provide 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. Bishop mentioned CAB member attendance at this type of meeting provided a quick education for board members. He encouraged board members to submit request for other conferences germane to the board's scope through the Executive Committee, and if there was approval and budget, members would be welcomed to go.

Ms. Mason has been working on a paper that she planned to present at the Waste Management Conference in 2011. Ms. Mason's attendance and travel has been approved by the Executive Committee and the DOE.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The Board reviewed the November 17, 2010 CAB meeting agenda. Mr. Phelps called for any comments or additions to the agenda. **Ms. Henline made a motion to approve the agenda and Dr. Shaw seconded the motion. The meeting agenda was approved.**

V. Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2010

The Board reviewed the minutes from the September 29, 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 September 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. Pacheco seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

VI. Public Comment Period

Mr. Phelps opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

VII. Old Business

a. Written Reports

➤ 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 held on September 29, 2010:

- a. Executive Committee meeting on October 12, 2010, chaired by Robert Gallegos
 - Discussed NNM CAB inputs for the Long Term Surveillance Conference.
 - DDFOs planned to administratively close all old CAB recommendations.
 - Formed Ad-hoc committee for the annual CAB evaluation.
 - Executive Committee meeting on November 3, 2010:
 - Reviewed final agenda for November 17, 2010 CAB meeting.
 - Discussed current issues on land transfers, TRU waste, recommendations, etc.
 - Discussed topics for Kevin Smith, Manager, LASO at the November 17, 2010 CAB meeting.
- b. Supported EMSR and WM Committee meetings on October 20, 2010 and November 3, 2010. (Details are in the committee meeting minutes.) The report noted that the EMSR Committee has agreed to sponsor a Water Forum with LANL on April 27, 2011.

2) SSAB Related Chair Activities since last NNM CAB meeting on November 29, 2010:

- a. SSAB Chairs conference call on October 5, 2010 with DOE on budget strategy and information.
- b. Chairs planning conference call on November 2, 2010 to discuss agenda for next Chairs meeting at the Nevada Nuclear Security Site to be held on April 12-14, 2011.

3) Other Activities:

- c. October 1, 2010 conference call with Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) on energy parks.
 - d. October 8, 2010 conference call with ECA Executive Committee.
 - e. Attended the Weapons Complex Monitor's Decisionmaker's Conference on October 12-14, 2010 as an invited panelist for the SSABs. Five SSAB chairs discussed their roles in the EM remediation process for DOE.
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➤ 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 scheduled to be submitted late 2010. Two nominees will be included in the packet: Nick Maestas from Santa Fe and George Martinez from Espanola. Robert Gallegos, Ralph Phelps and Gerry Maestas will be 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.

Executive Committee Meetings:

- The Committee met on October 14, 2010 and November 3, 2010 at the NNM CAB Office. The committee heard reports from the Chair, Committee Chairs, Co-DDFOs and Executive Director. The committee finalized the agenda for this meeting and discussed meeting dates and locations for 2011, as well as the nomination package and draft recommendations for future CAB consideration. The Executive Committee also discussed the annual survey, the mission of the NNM CAB and the caliber of DOE responses to CAB recommendations. The Executive Committee (including Co-DDFOs) approved out of state travel for an additional CAB member to attend the EM SSAB Chairs meeting in Nevada in April.

Next CAB Meeting:

- The next regular CAB meeting was scheduled for January 26, 2011 to be held at the Homewood Suites, Pojoaque, 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 November 10, 2010.
- 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 one conference call and another was scheduled for January 20, 2010.

➤ EMSR Committee Chair Report

Ms. Henline, Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation (EMSR) Committee Chair, provided a written report, which was included in the meeting packet. A copy of Ms. Henline's report may be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662.

The EMSR Committee met on October 14, 2010.

Ms. Henline was elected Chair of EMSR, with the notation that she can hold this position until her NNM CAB term ends in May 3, 2011. Dr. Shaw was elected Vice Chair. The Committee would hold a midterm election in April 2011 to elect new officers for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Meeting Topics Discussed:

1. Long-term stewardship was added to the 2011 Work plan. Two CAB members would be attending a seminar on this topic in November.
2. Various topics for upcoming meetings were discussed.
3. The major decision was to plan a Water Workshop for Spring 2011.

The EMSR Committee met on November 3, 2010

To help accommodate the schedule of the new Chair and Vice Chair of the WM Committee, it was decided that the Executive Committee and WM meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the week. **The EMSR meeting will now meet on the third Wednesday of the month.**

Meeting Topics Discussed:

- Discussed 3 potential new recommendations for January 2011.
 - (1) Urge use of railroad in Colorado. The committee planned to make this a general recommendation about the good/safe use of rail over the life of LANL cleanup.
 - (2) Point out the problem of finishing in 2015 when the shipment of barrels at Area G to go to WIPP will not yet be completed.
 - (3) With the new Governor's administration, have LANL and NMED look at ways to schedule or reschedule pieces of the Consent Order cleanup to make best use of insufficient budgets.
- The main topic of discussion was a Water Workshop. Tentative dates of April 6 or 27 were picked. Time approximately 4:30 to 7 p.m. Format was a lively topic and seems to have settled on 3 distinct parts:
 - (1) Posters
 - (2) Continuous showing of a short movie on water
 - (3) Panel consisting of various knowledgeable authorities, such as LANL, city of Santa Fe, Buckman, EPA, city of Espanola and NMED. Panel discussion to be preceded by a short geology presentation.

Announced meeting date and time for the next regular committee meeting:

Next EMSR Committee meeting will be held on January 19, 2011 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the CAB Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

➤ **WM Committee Chair Report**

Mr. Maestas, Waste Management (WM) Committee Chair provided a written report, which was included in the meeting packet. A copy may be obtained by request from the CAB office at (505) 989-1662.

Events since the last WM Committee Chair's Report include the bi-monthly CAB meeting held in Taos, the Executive Committee meeting and the regular WM Committee meeting both held in Santa Fe. A summary of the WM Committee Chair's report follows:

Attended September 29, 2010 CAB meeting in Taos:

Michael Graham described remediation progress in FY 2010. Mr. Graham stated that efforts to increase productivity would be made to mitigate past funding shortfalls. A question remains regarding determining what is the "right" amount of groundwater data required.

Mr. Graham also stated yearly expenditure on environmental surveillance by the remediation program is \$25M. Institutional expenditures are in addition and we asked for the actual figure but unofficially the figure is around \$300M.

Presentation on air monitoring by LANL was also made and bottom line is that no contamination has been detected offsite.

Attended October 14, 2010 Executive Committee meeting in Santa Fe:

The most significant item from WM perspective is the 40,000 drum equivalents of Transuranic (TRU) Waste remaining to be transferred to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

before the Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) options can be implemented. Further information from Chairman Phelps' meeting in Florida is that DOE HQ expects 90% of the TRU to be gone by 2015. Transfers have been at a rate of 2000 drums per year.

Attended October 20, 2010 WM Committee meeting in Santa Fe:

LANL subject matter presentation involved the revised Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) for Material Disposal Area L (MDA-L). The revised version differs only slightly from the one previously delivered to NMED. The essence of the report was to leave the waste in place coupled with vapor extraction and an engineered cover. Revised CMEs are due at the end of October

The WM Committee also elected new officers. Manuel Pacheco was elected Chair and Lawrence Garcia was elected Vice Chair.

Announced meeting date and time for the next regular committee meeting:

The next WM Committee meeting has been scheduled for January 12, 2011 with a tour of TA-54 in Los Alamos.

Board Comments on the Written Reports-

Mr. Phelps asked for questions regarding the reports. Comments brought up related to the written reports are listed below:

- Concerns were raised as to what would happen to EM funding for LANL if there is a 5% across the board reduction as referenced in Dr. Triay's letter to Mr. Phelps dated November 1, 2010. The letter was included in the mailed meeting packet.
- Discussed the continued use of tent cards according to "Robert's Rules" for board discussion. The consensus was to continue using tent cards for discussion.
- The CAB Office Location Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation to keep the office location in Santa Fe was re-stated.
- Mr. Bishop discussed the possibility of utilizing the CAB offices with a second function as a reading room library in accordance with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) guidelines.
- Suggestions were made for public to also utilize the CAB's website for information/documents.
- Concerns were raised over the volume of TRU Waste in drums remaining at LANL and how this project would be completed within the current time constraints of the New Mexico Order on Consent (the Consent Order or Order) in consideration of the current budget.

VIII. New Business

a. Report on Decision Makers Forum

Attending board members, Ralph Phelps and Nicole Castellano, provided summary reports from the Weapons Complex Monitor Decisionmaker's Forum. Written reports were included in the meeting packet and can be reviewed at the CAB office.

Ralph Phelps Summary:

"This was a very informative meeting, with good support from DOE leaders and from industry contractor groups. Especially interesting were sessions on project management, and involvement of the DOE offices for project assurance and for procurement and contracting. The lessons learned from ARRA work have been applied to baseline work, and performance measures are being used to communicate to the public and to track work by earned value.

DOE/EM has renewed emphasis on schedule acceleration (noting the potential to save considerable money) and on footprint reduction to lower long term maintenance costs."

Nicole Castellano Summary:

"The Conference and Forum Discussions was a great insight to see a TOP DOWN Strategy with these Principles. Communication and Expectations from INES' direction look to be Clear and Concise, given the limited funding and an uncertain future for any increases. I believe the DOE is maximizing and using BEST PRACTICES from past Site Cleanup Experiences to effectively manage ongoing Projects and Programs for Waste Management/Cleanup."

Comments on Reports:

- Mr. Phelps appreciated Ms. Castellanos' perspective and her summary report. Mr. Phelps also thanked the Co-DDFO's, Mr. Bishop and Mr. Worth, for working out the budget to allow CAB members to attend more of these types of meetings. Mr. Phelps considered these board mission related conferences and meetings to be very beneficial to educate the board and broaden its perspective.
- Members who did not attend the meeting also benefited from reading Mr. Phelps and Ms. Castellano's excellent and thorough summary reports.

a. Consideration and Action on Annual Evaluation

Mr. Phelps reminded the board of the CAB's Annual Evaluation process, which has primarily been in the form of a survey, created last year by Ms. Henline. The board has completed the survey and the Ad Hoc Committee and Ms. Henline, lead, has compiled the results. Mr. Phelps thanked the members for volunteering for this project and Ms. Henline for taking the lead.

Ms Henline provided the board with a verbal summary of the evaluation. Ms. Henline stated that 15 members returned the survey form. Ms. Santistevan was working with Ms. Henline to summarize the results to be submitted to Headquarters at the end of the year. Ms. Henline stated that generally the CAB was in agreement on everything, which was a positive finding in the survey. Overall, members had the following observations:

- The CAB was working with the appropriate issues.
- The CAB spent the right amount of time on recommendations.
- The members were spending more time in committee discussing draft recommendations and this was working quite well. When the drafts are considered for board action, most of the discussion and revision has already been successfully completed in committee.
- Most people are participating and this group of CAB members has been working well together.
- Members think they get enough information to make informed decisions.

- Members were neutral about public outreach.
- Members like the office location, and the meeting locations.
- Everyone stated they get great technical and administrative support.
- Most people think the DOE's responses to CAB recommendations have been pretty good; responses were getting better but could be even more in depth.
- Members agreed that the LANS Subject Matter Expert information was excellent and shared in a timely way.

Ms. Henline read a few of the written responses included in the survey:

"If I could make one change to the CAB—continue to not have a facilitator."

"Find ways to make the committee more visible."

"Keep the CAB staff and the DOE/Co-DDFOs."

"Likes the smiles and greetings from the CAB staff!"

Overall, Ms. Henline stated this was a very comprehensive survey and the results were very good. They showed a cohesive board working together well with the DOE, LANS and the CAB administrative staff, all good indicators of a healthy and productive group.

Mr. Phelps entertained a motion to approve the report as summarized by Ms. Henline and Ms. Santistevan for submission to DOE/HQ. The motion was so moved by Reverend Gilchrist and Dr. Shaw seconded the motion. As all were in favor, the motion was approved.

b. Report from New Mexico Community Foundation

Ms. Denise Gonzales, Grants Administrator/Community Involvement Fund Manager, dgonzales@nmcfc.org, provided the board with information on the Department of Energy's Community Involvement fund. She explained that the New Mexico Community Foundation (NMCF) has officially received a \$1 million grant from the US DOE Office of Environmental Management to launch a Community Involvement Fund (CIF) intended to increase public participation in the DOE's environmental cleanup efforts at nuclear waste sites nationwide. Ms. Gonzales stated this grant was expected to continue on a yearly basis for five years.

An integral part of this fund was to include a Selection Committee, comprised of individuals from various environmental management stakeholder groups who have experience and programmatic knowledge of cleanup sites. This committee was appointed to create criteria for annual grants; review applications and select proposals for grant recommendations.

Ms. Gonzales read aloud the selected members of the 2010-2011 Community Involvement Committee. She stated this committee is comprised of individuals from various environmental management stakeholder groups who have experience and programmatic knowledge of cleanup sites. They have been appointed to create criteria for annual grants, review applications and select grantees. Below is a list of the selected committee:

1. Ms. Beatrice Brailsford, Pocatello, ID (a, d)
2. Ms. Deohn Ferris, Washington, DC (e, d, a)
3. Ms. Susan Gawarecki, Andersonville, TN (b, a,c)
4. Ms. Susan Gordon, Santa Fe, NM (c, b)
5. Ms. Pamela Kingfisher, Moodys, OK (e, a)
6. Ms. Kathleen Peterson, Las Vegas, NV (b, c, d)
7. Mr. Gerry Pollet, Seattle, WA (a, c)
8. Mr. Seth Tuler, Shutesbury, MA (c, b)
9. Ms. Jennifer Viereck, N. Bennington, VT (a, c)

10. Mr. Thomas Winston, West Chester, OH (d, b)

The CIF Committee has been comprised of no fewer than nine, and no more than eleven, individuals with qualifications to include:

- a) At least three individuals from grassroots stakeholder groups/organizations from communities near EM sites with a history of significant public participation in EM site decisions and a familiarity with the work of, and obstacles faced by, community groups
- b) Two individuals with technical expertise pertaining to major EM programmatic issues resulting from experience at different EM sites, and who have experience in public involvement efforts from a not-for-profit public interest organization or academic institution, or who are retired from a regulatory program with EM oversight and have familiarity with current major EM issues (e.g., hydrogeology or risk models at EM sites, RCRA permitting, etc.)
- c) An individual with significant communication and/or public involvement or "EM Openness" issue experience, and communication expertise regarding technical government decisions and regulatory processes
- d) An individual with experience in relevant regulatory decision processes for EM sites (this person may also be serving another qualification)
- e) An individual representing an organization involving traditionally underrepresented individuals for EM program decisions or representing an organization with a significant focus on environmental justice at cleanup sites (this person may also be serving another qualification)

Ms. Gonzales agreed to keep the board apprised of information resulting from this committee and to inform the board of upcoming due dates for the next year's applicant selection process. Ms. Gonzales answered questions from the board.

IX. Items from DDFOs

a. Introduction of Mr. Kevin Smith, Manager of the Los Alamos Site Office

Mr. Worth was pleased to introduce Mr. Kevin W. Smith, the National Nuclear Security Administration's new Manager for the Los Alamos Site Office (LASO), who was in attendance at the board meeting and provided comments to the group. Mr. Worth provided a snapshot of Mr. Smith's distinguished career with the U.S. Air Force and DOE. A recipient of exceptional service awards and a bronze star, Mr. Smith was also a U.S. Air Force pilot and is an academically qualified leader. Mr. Smith grew up in Olympia, Washington, and after high school was selected to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy. After graduating with a degree in physics, he was selected for undergraduate pilot training. Selected to fly fighters, Mr. Smith ended up flying most of his career in F-4 Phantom IIs, F-16 Falcons, and F-117 Stealth Fighters. In addition to training Egyptian pilots and leading a number of organizations, including an F-16 Fighter Squadron and the 49th Operations Group at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, New Mexico, he earned a degree in mathematics and a master's degree in management. He was also selected for a yearlong research fellowship at the Center for Aerospace Research & Education while attending the Air Force's senior service school.

After the Air Force, Mr. Smith started his DOE career as the assistant manager for the Nuclear Materials Stabilization Project with the Environmental Management branch of DOE at the Savannah River Site; a great way to 'cut his teeth' in the nuclear business. He transferred to Y-12 when NNSA selected him to serve as the deputy manager for the Y-12 Site Office. Now at LASO, Mr. Smith says he is honored to be here. As a resident of Los Alamos, his wife asked him when they moved here if the water was safe to drink and he said, "yes." Mr. Smith commented on the diversity he has observed with this board. As a former DDFO, he pledged to see that the Lab continued to provide

good and timely information to the board. His staff worked to over see the clean-up work at the site but he also has a stewardship role at LANL for which he was a strong advocate. The site office also has a regulatory role and he wanted to mention Mr. Michael Graham and the LANS contractor, who has had much success with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulus project work, that they were working at an excellent pace but with safety as a top priority. Mr. Smith expressed that Los Alamos team was a wonderful group with opportunities for greater teamwork between the contractor and federal oversight. He view's his role with the site as the "best team mate and the harshest critic."

Mr. Smith answered questions from the board.

X. Presentations on Los Alamos National Laboratory's Environmental Surveillance Report for 2009

LANS Subject Matter Experts provided a four-part Presentation on LANL's Environmental Surveillance Report. The presentations are briefly summarized below. Complete copies of the Power Point Presentations are available at the CAB Office for review.

"Soil, Foodstuffs and Biota (SFB) Monitoring in 2009," with Mr. Philip Fresquez, LANS Presentation Number: LA-UR-10-7626

The report's objective was to determine whether LANL operations are impacting human health via the food chain and the environment

1. Determine concentrations and distribution of:

- Radionuclides, hazardous metals, and organic compounds from potential impacted areas and compare them to:
 - Regional Background (world wide fallout and natural sources)
 - Screening Levels (LANL, NMED)
 - Standards (DOE, EPA, FDA)

2. Trends over time

3. Dose and Risk

In summary, 2009 SFB Monitoring Shows:

1. Most parameters measured in SFB collected within and around LANL were either not detected or similar to background.
2. The few parameters that were above background were far below screening levels.
3. Constituents are not increasing over time.
4. Based on crayfish and benthic macro invertebrates (and water, fish, and sediments, LANL is not significantly impacting the Rio Grande.

Mr. Fresquez, answered questions from the board.

"Watershed Monitoring at Los Alamos During 2009," with Mr. Steven Reneau, LANS Presentation Number: LA-14427-ENV

Outlined Regulatory Drivers for Watershed Monitoring at Los Alamos:

- DOE Order 450.1A, Environmental Protection Program
 - Main driver for annual sediment sampling

- Important driver for snowmelt and storm water sampling at gaging stations
- Interim Facility-Wide Groundwater Monitoring Plan
 - Includes sampling of base flow and persistent surface water
 - Approved annually by NMED under the Compliance Order on Consent
- Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)
 - Storm water sampling at EPA-permitted sites
- MOU between DOE and Pueblo de San Ildefonso
 - Modified annually by LANL, DOE, and the pueblo
- Other drivers
 - Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyons Monitoring Plan; new in 2010, through NMED under Consent Order; intensive storm water sampling at 13 gaging stations
 - Individual Permit (IP) effective in 2011, through EPA; storm water sampling at solid waste management units (SWMUs)

Presentation Summary:

- Background and baseline conditions have a major impact on analyte concentrations in sediment and surface water, and standards and screening levels are often exceeded in background and baseline areas for some constituents
- Comparison of sediment concentrations along the Rio Grande above and below Los Alamos Canyon indicate little LANL impact on the river, although transport of small quantities of various analytes certainly occurs
- Long-term trends, particularly in sediment, indicate low contaminant concentrations in recent years compared to the period of active releases

Similar or lower concentrations generally expected in the future, and continued monitoring provided confirmation of expected trends

Mr. Reneau answered questions from the board.

“Groundwater Monitoring at Los Alamos during 2009,” Mr. David B. Rogers, LANS
Presentation Number: LA-14427-ENV

Outlined Regulatory Drivers for Groundwater Monitoring at LANL:

Groundwater Monitoring Drivers:

- **Interim Sitewide Monitoring Plan**
 - Approved annually by the New Mexico Environment Department under the Compliance Order on Consent
- **DOE Orders**
- **MOU between DOE and Pueblo de San Ildefonso**
 - Modified annually by LANL, DOE, and the Pueblo

Discussed Regulatory Standards- Groundwater:

- Under the Atomic Energy Act, DOE regulates nuclear materials used by the military
- NMED regulations cover groundwater quality
- Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA regulates quality of public water supplies
- EPA provides risk values for other compounds
- In 2009 LANL sampled 244 wells, well ports, and springs

- 599 separate sampling events
- Samples analyzed for about 158,700 separate results
 - About 0.2% of these results exceeded some regulatory standard or screening level
 - Some reflect well conditions
 - Most from known contamination
- Another 78,700 results for field parameters, field QC blanks, or analyzed by in-house laboratories

Summary of Groundwater Impact at LANL in 2009:

- For shallow groundwater, reduction of discharges resulted in rapid groundwater quality improvements
 - Regional aquifer was largely unaffected
 - LANL has characterized much of the groundwater system and delineated contaminant extent
- Mr. Rogers answered questions from the board.

“Radiological and Non-Radiological Dose Assessment,” with Mr. Bill Eisele, LANS Presentation Number: LA-UR 10-7707

Discussed Radiological Pathways from LANL to Public:

- **Direct radiation: 1 mrem/year near TA-54.**
- **Airborne radioactivity: 0.55 mrem/year at East Gate.**
- **Most radionuclides in known or potential drinking water sources are naturally occurring - Uranium.**
 - Highest concentration of potential Laboratory-associated radionuclide in recognized drinking water source was 17 pCi/L of tritium (limit of 20,000 pCi/L) in Otowi-1 well (currently not used by county). Would result in < 0.1 mrem/year.
 - Highest concentration of potential Laboratory-associated radionuclide in offsite spring was 67 pCi/L of tritium in Basalt Spring (Pueblo de San Ildefonso). Would result in < 0.1 mrem/year.
- **2009 surveillance program soil concentrations:**
 - No regional sample concentrations exceeded regional values.
 - Some perimeter Pu-239/240 and tritium samples exceeded regional levels (0.035 pCi/g for Pu), but annual doses < 0.1 mrem/year for residential scenario (33 pCi/g screening level for Pu).
- **Food Ingestion Pathway (deer, crayfish, alfalfa)**
 - Consistent with previous years' results.
 - Dose < 0.1 mrem/year.
 - Much less than dose constraint of 25 mrem/year.
- **Release of Items/Real Property**
 - No salvage items had contamination approaching DOE's release limits, thus public dose is negligible.
 - Performed environmental dose assessments for several future land tract transfers and conveyances. All less than authorized release limit of 15 mrem/year for residential scenario.

Presentation Conclusions:

The environmental data collected in 2009 show that there is no current public health risk from radiological and non-radiological materials released from LANL. The potential for hexavalent chromium and perchlorate entering the drinking water supply in the future is being evaluated. Models to calculate future risks were being developed.

Mr. Eisele answered questions from the board.

XI. Public Comment Period

Mr. Phelps announced the board was prepared for public comment. No one signed up for the second opportunity for public comment.

XII. Open Forum for Board Members and Wrap-up

Board members held an open discussion. Topics discussed are summarized below:

- Reviewed draft recommendation ideas-
 - a. Recommendation to utilize the Railroad to ship waste (Ms. Henline and Mr. Garcia to take the lead.)
 - b. Funding for FY'2012 Budget Request for LANL EM Work (Mr. Valdez agreed to take the lead.)
 - c. Expediting TRU Waste Shipments (Mr. Garcia previously agreed to take the lead in committee.)
 - d. Recommending DOE invite a New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Liaison to participate with the CAB.
- All were in favor of keeping the CAB Administrative Staff.
- Interest in exploring the possibility of expanding the purview of the CAB.
- Great food, good meeting, many thanks from the members!
- Positive comments were heard about the people who work at LANS and DOE that do the actual "on the ground" remediation work, respect for the work they do was expressed.
- ESR presentation showed the risk to the public from LANL was "negligible."
- Heard several comments on extending deadlines in the Consent Order to be more practically aligned with the actual EM budget.
- Focus CAB efforts on getting the newspapers to provide a more neutral accounting of LANL impacts to the environment.
- Pointed out the dichotomy of the TRU Waste schedule and budget reality.

Mr. Phelps provided the Chair's perspective:

A number of years ago he felt that 2015 Consent Order deadline was unrealistic—Now Mr. Phelps supported pushing for 2015 because it was probably the right thing to do and there seemed to be a lot of energy out there to clean- up to industrial standards, but even with that said, he would like to see the Lab get out from under the specter of the monetary penalties.

Mr. Worth thanked everyone for their patience with the in-depth presentations. He wanted to continue to refine the length and technical level of the presentations to what would work best for the board's needs. He stated the nature of the material was very technical and they would consider breaking up the ESR presentations over two meetings next time.

Mr. Bishop noted that one area that Mr. Smith was very interested in was Long-Term Stewardship and this would be a very appropriate area for the CAB to focus on.

Mr. Bishop also noted that the ESR was a report card for 2009 but did it not take into consideration any accidental release scenarios. A catastrophic event would increase the releases significantly. He offered to arrange a presentation on release scenarios to provide a full picture to the board.

Mr. Worth and Mr. Bishop thanked the members for their service on the board.

XIII. Adjournment

Mr. Phelps thanked everyone for their participation. With no further business to discuss, Mr. Bishop, 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***

Attachments:

1. **Final 11-17-10 CAB Meeting Agenda.**
2. **Report from Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNM CAB.**
3. **Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director.**
4. **Report from Gerry Maestas, Chair, WM Committee.**
5. **Report from Pam Henline, Chair, EMSR Committee.**
6. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Radiological and Non-Radiological Dose Assessment," LA-UR 10-7707, with Mr. Bill Eisele, LANS.**
7. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Groundwater Monitoring at Los Alamos during 2009," LA-14427-ENV with Mr. David Rogers, LANS.**
8. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Watershed Monitoring at Los Alamos During 2009," with Mr. Steven Reneau, LANS.**
9. **Weapons Complex Monitor Decisionmaker's Forum, summary reports from attending board members, Ralph Phelps and Nicole Castellano.**
10. **PowerPoint Presentation, "Soil, FoodStuffs, and Biota Monitoring: 2009," with Mr. Philip Fresquez, LANS.**
11. **Community Involvement Fund (CIF) Handouts from New Mexico Community Foundation.**
12. **Summary Handout from the NNM CAB Annual Survey (CY 2010)**
13. **Summary Reports Attending board members, Ralph Phelps and Nicole Castellano, from the Weapons Complex Monitor Decisionmaker's Forum.**
14. **Letter to Mr. Phelps, NNM CAB CAB Chair, dated November 1, 2010 from Dr. Inés Triay.**

Public Notice:

 ***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.**

 ***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.**
