



**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board**  
**Combined Committee Meeting**  
**August 24, 2016**  
**1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**NNMCAB Office**  
**94 Cities of Gold Road**  
**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506**  
**Minutes**



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**Meeting Attendees**

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**Department of Energy**

1. Lee Bishop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer
  2. Michael Gardipe, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer
  3. Jennifer Hackett, DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos
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**NNMCAB Members**

1. Stephen Schmelling, EM&R Committee Chair
  2. Diahann Lopez-Cordova, EM&R Committee Vice-Chair
  3. Nona Girardi
  4. Doug Sayre
  5. Irene Tse-Pe
  6. Danny Mayfield
  7. Joshua Madalena
  8. Carlos Valdez
  9. Alex Puglisi
  10. Gerard Martínez y Valencia
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**NNMCAB Members Excused Absences**

1. Mona Varela
  2. Robert Gomez
  3. Angelica Gurulé
  4. Tessa Jo Mascareñas
  5. Joey Tiano
  6. Angel Quintana
  7. Ashley Sanderson
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**NNMCAB Member Absences**

1. Michael Valerio
  2. Max Baca
  3. Rod Sanchez
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1 **NNMCAB Staff**

- 2 1. Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
- 3 2. Bridget Maestas, Administrative Assistant
- 4 3. William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach

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6 **Guests**

- 7 1. Peter Hyde, Los Alamos National Security
- 8 2. Butch Tongate, Secretary Designate, New Mexico Environment Department
- 9 3. Allison Scott Majure, New Mexico Environment Department
- 10 4. Katie Roberts, New Mexico Environment Department
- 11 5. Steven Horak, Project Time and Cost, LLC.
- 12 6. Scarlet Rendleman, Regional Coalition of LANL Communities
- 13 7. Vince Rodriguez, Atkins
- 14 8. Mr. David Bruggeman, Los Alamos National Security
- 15 9. Mr. Richard Middleton, Los Alamos National Security

16 **\*All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audio CD's have been placed on file for review at the NNMCAB**  
17 **office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a**  
18 **synopsis of the meeting**

1 **Minutes**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The Bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board  
4 (NNMCAB) Waste Management (WM) and Environmental Monitoring & Remediation  
5 (EM&R) Committees was held on August 24, 2016 at the NNMCAB Office in Pojoaque, New  
6 Mexico.

7 Mr. Lee Bishop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer stated that on behalf of the  
8 Department of Energy (DOE) the meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 1:10 p.m.  
9 Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Stephen Schmelling, EM&R Committee Chair, Mr. Schmelling  
10 presided at the meeting.

11 The meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in The Federal Register  
12 in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

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13 **II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 Needed)**

14 **a. Roll Call**

15 Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived. At the call  
16 to order 10 members were present. Mr. Alexander recorded that at the call to  
17 order, a quorum was not present.  
18

19 **b. Excused Absences**

20 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had an excused absence:  
21 Ms. Mona Varela, Mr. Robert Gomez, Ms. Angelica Gurulé, Ms. Tessa Jo  
22 Mascareñas, Mr. Joey Tiano, Ms. Ashley Sanderson, and Ms. Angel Quintana.  
23

24 **c. Absences**

25 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Mr.  
26 Michael Valerio, Mr. Max Baca, and Mr. Rod Sanchez.  
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28 **III. Approval of Agenda**

29 The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the Agenda for the August 24, 2016 meeting.  
30 Mr. Schmelling asked for a motion.  
31

32 Mr. Valdez made a motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Sayre seconded the motion. The  
33 motion to approve the agenda passed.  
34

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35 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

36 Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for questions or comments on the minutes from the  
37 June 15, 2016 CC meeting.  
38

39 Mr. Sayre made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Martínez y Valencia  
40 seconded the motion. The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve the minutes  
41 as presented passed.  
42

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43 **V. Introductions**

44 Mr. Schmelling asked for introductions from the board members and all attending  
45 guests.  
46

47

1       **VI.     Old Business**

2               **a.   Topics for Future Recommendations**

3                       Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for discussion on possible future  
4                       recommendations.

5  
6                       Mr. Sayre stated that Ms. Gurulé is in the process of drafting a  
7                       recommendation on “Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Priority for LANL,” he  
8                       noted that it would go out for the members to review in September.

9  
10                      With no additional comments, Mr. Schmelling moved on to topics for  
11                      presentations.

12  
13               **b.   Requests for Future Presentations**

14                      Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for discussion on possible topics for  
15                      presentations at future meetings.

16  
17                      Mr. Bishop noted that the NNM CAB Staff keeps a list of topics for upcoming  
18                      meetings, he gave an overview of the upcoming presentations through December  
19                      2016. Additionally, Mr. Gardipe noted that the topics for the September Board  
20                      meeting are an: Update on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Recovery and an  
21                      Update on the Request for Proposals for the Follow-on Contract.

22  
23                      Mr. Puglisi asked if the presentation on the Annual Surveillance Report would  
24                      include sampling data.

25  
26                      Mr. Bishop responded that the members would be provided a hard copy of  
27                      the report and that the presentation would include a discussion on data.

28  
29                      Mr. Sayre asked about a presentation on the remediation of the nitrate salts.

30  
31                      Mr. Bishop responded that a presentation on the nitrate salts is scheduled for  
32                      April of 2017, but could possibly be moved to a different time, depending on the  
33                      availability of sampling data.

34  
35                      Mr. Schmelling asked if it would be possible to have a WIPP update at each  
36                      meeting.

37  
38                      Mr. Bishop responded that if someone is not available from WIPP for an  
39                      update that the DDFOs would cover that as part of the DDFO update.

40  
41                      Mr. Puglisi asked if DOE would provide the NNM CAB with a detailed  
42                      presentation on aggregate areas and what locations are included within each.

1  
2 Mr. Bishop responded that DOE would be happy to provide a presentation on  
3 the aggregate areas.  
4

5 **c. Upcoming Member Travel**

6 Mr. Schmelling stated that the NNM CAB travel for September included the  
7 following: Mr. Sayre, Mr. Martínez y Valencia, and Mr. Valdez would be attending  
8 the Chairs meeting in Las Vegas, NV., Mr. Mayfield and Ms. Quintana would be  
9 attending the Rad Waste Summit in Las Vegas, NV., and that he would be  
10 attending the National Clean-up Workshop in Washington, D.C. He asked if there  
11 was any other travel that the members should be aware of.  
12

13 Mr. Bishop noted that the next travel opportunities for the members would  
14 be in March 2017, for the Environmental Justice Conference in Washington, D.C.  
15 and the Waste Management Symposia in Phoenix, AZ.  
16

17 Mr. Schmelling noted that members who would like to travel to one of these  
18 conferences, should let the Executive Committee know.  
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20 **VII. New Business**

21 **a. Election of Waste Management Committee Vice-Chair**

22 Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for nominations for Waste Management  
23 Committee Vice-Chair.  
24

25 Mr. Alexander noted that at the July 15, 2016 meeting, Mr. Mayfield had been  
26 nominated for the position.  
27

28 Mr. Mayfield stated that at this time he had elected to run for Vice-Chair of  
29 the NNM CAB and noted that he would like to nominate Ms. Mona Varela for Vice-  
30 Chair of the Waste Management Committee; Mr. Puglisi seconded the  
31 nomination.  
32

33 Ms. Varela was not present to accept the nomination.  
34

35 Mr. Schmelling noted that the current nominee would only be filling the  
36 remainder of the previous Vice-Chair's FY'16 term, stating that elections for FY'17  
37 officers would take place at the October 26, 2016 meeting.  
38

39 Mr. Valdez stated that he would volunteer to fill in as Vice-Chair for the Waste  
40 Management Committee.  
41

1 Mr. Sayre made a motion to nominate Mr. Valdez as Vice-Chair for the  
2 remainder of FY'16; Mr. Martínez y Valencia seconded the motion. The members  
3 voted all in favor, the motion to elect Mr. Valdez as the Waste Management  
4 Committee Vice-Chair passed.

5  
6 **b. EM-LA Lifecycle Update**

7 **1. "EM-LA Life Cycle Costs and Risks"**

8 Ms. Genna Hackett, DOE EM-LA, gave a presentation entitled, "EM-LA Life  
9 Cycle Costs and Risks." An electronic copy of the presentation may be  
10 obtained from the NNMCAB website;  
11 <http://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab>.

12  
13 **2. Questions**

14 Mr. Valdez asked if the new Lifecycle Estimate covers the possibility of  
15 undiscovered items, or items that are not currently included in the new  
16 2016 Consent Order.

17  
18 Ms. Hackett responded that the Lifecycle Estimate only covers known  
19 projects, with a small contingency for unknowns.

20  
21 Mr. Martínez y Valencia asked if the contingency is ever adjusted.

22  
23 Ms. Hackett responded that the contingency is adjusted every time an  
24 unknown risk/discovery is encountered.

25  
26 Mr. Mayfield asked if employee turnover and attrition had been factored  
27 into the Material Disposal Area G waste removal.

28  
29 Mr. Bishop responded that the Lifecycle assumes that at the restart of the  
30 Material Disposal Area G waste removal, that there will already be a new  
31 contractor on board and that the EM-LA office will be fully staffed.

32  
33 Mr. Puglisi asked how EM-LA factors contingency into its contracts.

34  
35 Ms. Hackett responded that contingency is DOE only and DOE does not  
36 factor contingency into its contracts. Additionally, noting that contractors  
37 have a management reserve that is factored in as a part of their contract.

38  
39 Mr. Puglisi asked if contingency is planned, before or after the  
40 Congressional Appropriations are released.

41

1 Ms. Hackett responded that contingency planning is done both before and  
2 after Congressional Appropriations are released.

3  
4 **c. Other Items**

5 Ms. Santistevan asked Mr. Peter Hyde if he could go over the tour Agenda.

6  
7 Mr. Hyde stated that a tour of Los Alamos National Laboratory had been  
8 planned for September 15, 2016. He noted that the members would be meeting  
9 at the Bradbury Museum at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Hyde advised the members that the  
10 tour would be covering: Material Disposal Area G, the Radiological and Neutron  
11 Test Facility, the Actinide Research Training and Information Center, Upper Los  
12 Alamos Canyon, and White Rock Overlook. Additionally, it was noted that the  
13 members had a draft of the tour agenda in today's packet.

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14  
15 **VIII. Update from Department of Energy**

16 Mr. Bishop stated that DOE Environmental Management had recently undergone a  
17 reorganization. He noted that the new organization has three offices: Corporate Services,  
18 Field Operations, and Regulatory and Policy Affairs. He advised the members that Candice  
19 Trummell is in charge of Corporate Services, Stacy Charboneau is in charge of Field  
20 Operations, and Frank Marcinowski is in charge of Regulatory and Policy Affairs. Mr. Bishop  
21 noted that the operations at Los Alamos will have interaction with each of the three offices.  
22 Additionally, noting that the Citizens' Advisory Boards fall under the Regulatory and Policy  
23 Affairs office.

24  
25 Mr. Valdez asked if quality control for TRU waste would fall under Safety and Security or  
26 the National TRU Waste Office.

27  
28 Mr. Bishop responded that those two groups would work in conjunction to develop  
29 quality and safety regulations.

30  
31 Ms. Tse-Pe asked if the new organizational chart was permanent or if it was subject to  
32 change.

33  
34 Mr. Bishop responded that with this being an election year there could be changes in  
35 personnel after the new President is sworn into office. Additionally, noting that if a new  
36 individual is put into the EM-1 role there could be some changes to the organization.

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37  
38 **IX. Presentation**

39 **a. Los Alamos National Laboratory Meteorological Group**

40 Mr. David Bruggeman, LANL Meteorological Group, gave a presentation  
41 entitled, "Effects of Climate Change on the Southwest." An electronic copy of the

1 presentation may be obtained from the NNMCAB website;  
2 <http://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab>.

3  
4 **b. Questions**

5 Mr. Valdez asked if the shift in polar systems had anything to do with climate  
6 change.

7  
8 Mr. Bruggeman responded that the polar vortex systems do effect  
9 temperature, however; are considered to be short term effects.

10  
11 Dr. Girardi asked if the severe drought in the 1930's corresponded with the  
12 dust bowl.

13  
14 Mr. Bruggeman responded that yes it correlates with the dust bowl.

15  
16 Dr. Girardi asked how the number of years included in the average is derived.

17  
18 Mr. Bruggeman responded that the number of years included in averages for  
19 climatological data is always 30.

20  
21 Mr. Puglisi asked if LANL had thought of using rain gauges at different  
22 altitudes.

23  
24 Mr. Bruggeman responded that the lab has multiple rain gauges and each is at  
25 a different altitude.

26  
27 **c. Los Alamos National Laboratory Earth Sciences**

28 Mr. Richard Middleton, LANL Earth and Environmental Sciences Group, gave a  
29 presentation entitled, "Climate Change: Understanding the Impact of Drought,  
30 Wildfire, and Infestation." An electronic copy of the presentation, may be  
31 obtained from the NNMCAB website; <http://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab>.

32  
33 **d. Questions**

34 Mr. Valdez asked if the bark beetle had anything to do with pinion mortality  
35 rates.

36  
37 Mr. Middleton responded that yes the bark beetle infestation had played a  
38 role in the mortality rate of the Pinion Pines.

39  
40 Mr. Mayfield asked about the effect of erosion on areas that store legacy  
41 waste.

1 Mr. Bishop responded that the legacy waste storage areas are on top of the  
2 mesa in areas that are less subject to erosion. Additionally, noting that the  
3 disposal areas are in volcanic tuff which is relatively solid.  
4

5 Mr. Schmelling asked if any of the models show how long the recovery of the  
6 eroded/fire damaged areas will take.  
7

8 Mr. Middleton responded that a few of the models do look at how long it will  
9 take from an observational standpoint, however, to date no one has created a  
10 dynamic model for estimated time to recovery.  
11

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12 **X. Public Comment**

13 Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for public comment at 3:40 p.m., with no members of  
14 the public present to address the board, Mr. Schmelling closed public comment at 3:41 p.m.  
15

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16 **XI. Adjournment**

17 Mr. Schmelling noted that the next NNM CAB CC Meeting would be held on October 26,  
18 2016 at the NNM CAB office from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
19

20 With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Schmelling adjourned the meeting at 4:42  
21 p.m.  
22

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23 **Respectfully Submitted,**

24 **William Alexander,**  
25 **Technical Programs and Outreach**  
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27 **Attachments:**

- 28 **1. Final Combined Committee Meeting Agenda for 08/24/2016**
- 29 **2. Final Combined Committee Meeting Minutes for 06/15/2016**
- 30 **3. Presentation DOE EM-LA, Hackett, "EM-LA Lifecycle Costs and Risk"**
- 31 **4. Environmental Management Organizational Chart**
- 32 **5. Presentation LANL, Bruggeman, "Effects of Climate Change on the Southwest"**
- 33 **6. Presentation LANL, Middleton, "Climate Change: Understanding the Impact of Drought,**  
34 **Wildfire, and Infestation"**

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