



**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board**

**Combined Committee Meeting**

**February 18, 2015**

**2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**NNMCAB Office**

**94 Cities of Gold Rd.**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506**



**Minutes**

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**Meeting Attendees**

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**Department of Energy**

1. Michael Gardipe, Co Deputy Designated Federal Officer (CDDFO)
2. David Rhodes, Los Alamos Field Office

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**NNMCAB Members**

1. Stephen Schmelling, Environmental Monitoring & Remediation Committee Chair
2. Manuel Pacheco, Waste Management Committee Chair
3. Carlos Valdez
4. Doug Sayre
5. Ashley Sanderson
6. Danny Mayfield
7. Irene Tse-Pe
8. Alex Puglisi
9. Allison Majure

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**NNMCAB Student Members**

1. Alyssa Schreiber

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**NNMCAB Member Excused Absences**

1. Mary Friday
  2. Mona Varela
  3. Nona Girardi
  4. Michael Valerio
  5. Bonnie Lucas
  6. Savannah Martinez
  7. Deidre Roybal
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**NNMCAB Absences**

1. Gerard Martinez
  2. Joey Tiano
  3. Tessa Jo Mascareñas
  4. Joseph Viarrial
  5. Angel Quintana
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**NNMCAB Staff**

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

1. Kaitlin Martinez, Los Alamos National Security
2. Patti Jones, Los Alamos National Security
3. Scott Kovac, Nuke Watch New Mexico

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

1 **Minutes**2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB)  
4 Waste Management (WM) and Environmental Monitoring & Remediation (EM&R)  
5 Committees was held on February 18, 2015 at the NNMCAB office in Pojoaque, New Mexico.

6 Mr. Michael Gardipe, CDDFO stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE)  
7 the meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 2:06 p.m. Mr. Gardipe recognized Mr.  
8 Stephen Schmelling the EM&R Committee Chair, who presided at the meeting.

9 The 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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**II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 Needed)**12 **a. Roll Call**

13 Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived. At the call  
14 to order 7 members were present. Ms. Majure called into the meeting at 2:40  
15 p.m. and Mr. Puglisi arrived at the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

16 **b. Excused Absences**

17 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had an excused absence:  
18 Dr. Nona Girardi, Ms. Mary Friday, Mr. Michael Valerio, Ms. Mona Varela, Ms.  
19 Savannah Martinez, Ms. Deidre Roybal, and Ms. Bonnie Lucas.

20 **c. Absences**

21 Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Mr. Gerard  
22 Martinez, Ms. Tessa Jo Mascareñas, Mr. Joseph Viarrial, Ms. Angel Quintana, and  
23 Mr. Joey Tiano.

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**III. Approval of Agenda**

25 The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the Agenda for the February 18, 2014 meeting.  
26 Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for comments.

27 Mr. Sayre made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mr. Pacheco seconded  
28 the motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented passed.

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**IV. Approval of Minutes**

30 Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for discussion on the minutes from November 12, 2014  
31 CC meeting.

32 Mr. Pacheco made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Sayre seconded  
33 the motion. The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve the minutes as  
34 presented passed.

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**V. Introductions**

36 Mr. Schmelling asked for introductions from the board members and all attending  
37 guests.

1       **VI. Old Business**

2           Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for Old Business, He asked the recommendation ad-hoc  
3 committee for an update.

4  
5           Mr. Puglisi noted that he had not had time to work on the draft recommendation  
6 concerning fines and fees. He also stated that he had not had an opportunity to contact the  
7 other committee members, Mr. Martinez and Mr. Pacheco. Additionally, he stated that he  
8 would have a draft ready for consideration and action at the March 25, 2015 board meeting  
9 at La Fonda.

10  
11           Ms. Santistevan stated that for the recommendation to be on the agenda for  
12 consideration and action, it would need to be submitted no later than March 11, 2015 for  
13 distribution to the members.

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15       **VII. New Business**

16           **a. Consideration and Action on Draft Recommendation 2015-01**

17           Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for discussion on Draft Recommendation 2015-  
18 01 "Identification and Preparation of Disposition Site(s) to Enable LANL Transuranic  
19 Disposal Operations and Nation's Other Sites' Waste Disposal Operations to Remain  
20 Continually Operational." Mr. Schmelling provided an overview of the Draft  
21 Recommendation and the history behind it in addition to what the recommendation  
22 was proposing.

23  
24           The committee discussed the changes to the recommendation that were  
25 proposed. After discussion, the members accepted the following changes to the  
26 draft recommendation.

- 27           1. On line 31, add "NNMCAB and Public."
- 28           2. Consideration of a shorter title for the recommendation.
- 29           3. On line 17, approved addition of "to reduce distributed risk."
- 30           4. Approved addition of "2014" to line 5 of paragraph numbered 23.

31  
32           Mr. Schmelling noted that without a quorum of the board present, voting on the  
33 recommendation would be postponed to the March 11, 2015 CC meeting.  
34 Additionally, he noted that the changes would be incorporated before the next  
35 meeting.

36  
37           **b. Discussion on Draft Recommendation 2015-02**

38           Mr. Schmelling asked Mr. Valdez if he would provide a brief overview of the Draft  
39 Recommendation 2015-02 "Budget Priorities for FY 2016 for LANL EM Cleanup  
40 Work." Additionally, he noted that the recommendation was only on the agenda  
41 today for discussion purposes.

42  
43           Mr. Valdez stated that he had written this budget recommendation to address the  
44 priorities for EM cleanup. He noted that the recommendation resembled some of  
45 the previous year's budget recommendations.

46  
47           Mr. Mayfield asked if the TRU waste program is on hold, what the TRU waste  
48 budget would be spent on.

1 Mr. Rhodes responded that the money could be spent on Consent Order  
2 programs. He noted that progress could be made on the aggregate areas and  
3 Material Disposal Areas (MDA).  
4

5 The committee discussed the changes to the recommendation that were  
6 proposed. After discussion, the following points were listed for consideration and  
7 incorporation in the draft recommendation.

- 8 1. Consider the list of recommendations, are they in a priority order or only a list  
9 of priorities for the year.
- 10 2. In lieu of WIPP being opened does the priority list change, should other  
11 remediation projects be moved up.  
12

13 Mr. Schmelling noted that this recommendation was for discussion only, voting on  
14 the recommendation would take place at the March 11, 2015 CC meeting.  
15 Additionally, he asked that changes be submitted to Ms. Santistevan or Mr. Valdez  
16 for incorporation before the next meeting.

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18 **VIII. Update from Executive Committee**

19 Mr. Sayre noted that the Executive Committee had discussed the possibility of a  
20 presentation by DOE/LANL on future campaigns and prioritization for future budgets.  
21

22 Mr. Rhodes responded that DOE had a similar request from NMED to discuss campaigns  
23 and DOE would be happy to discuss the campaigns with the NNMCAB also.  
24

25 Mr. Sayre advised the members that Ms. Varela would be attending the Waste  
26 Management Symposia March 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> in Phoenix, Arizona. Additionally, he  
27 noted that Ms. Majure would be serving as a backup. He noted that the NNMCAB would be  
28 presenting a paper at the conference on "Diversity of Membership." Mr. Sayre also noted  
29 that Carlos Valdez and Danny Mayfield would be attending the Environmental Justice  
30 Conference in Washington, D.C. March 12<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>.  
31

32 He advised the members that the spring chairs meeting would be held in Savannah River  
33 April 20<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the members attending the meeting would be Ms.  
34 Tse-Pe, Ms. Majure, and Mr. Sayre. He asked the members to provide input to the Executive  
35 Committee on the three topics that the NNMCAB should present at the meeting.

36 Mr. Valdez stated that one topic that could be presented is finding a different pot of  
37 money to pay fines from, instead of paying it out of clean-up funds. Additionally, he noted  
38 that information on DOE's plan for storage of TRU waste over the next two years would be  
39 helpful.  
40

41 Ms. Santistevan responded that she would forward those questions on to DOE HQ for  
42 possible inclusion in the agenda at the spring chairs meeting.  
43

44 Mr. Sayre advised the members that the next NNMCAB Board meeting would be at La  
45 Fonda, March 25, 2015.  
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1 **IX. Update from DDFO**

2 Mr. Gardipe noted that he did not have anything official for the update today. He noted  
3 that currently the DOE Los Alamos Field Office is focused on the transition of clean-up work  
4 from National Nuclear Security Administration oversight to the Office of Environmental  
5 Management. He advised the members that Project Reach at WIPP had been completed.  
6 Additionally, he stated that DOE/EM is planning an Industry Day for March 3, 2015.  
7

8 Mr. Rhodes stated that the Industry Day is being run through HQ; he noted that the  
9 March 3, 2015 date is tentative until the post appears in FedBizOps. Mr. Rhodes stated that  
10 a website is being stood up that will have all the relevant information regarding Industry  
11 Day. He also stated that a general announcement will be sent out to all known contractors  
12 across the complex. Mr. Rhodes advised the members that the purpose of the meeting is to  
13 get input from the interested parties on how the work may be contracted. Additionally,  
14 noting that DOE is hoping for input on how the contracts could/should be split up.

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15 **X. Presentation**

16 **a. FY'15 Annual Work Plan**

17 Mr. David Rhodes, DOE Los Alamos Site Office, gave a presentation entitled "Fiscal  
18 Year 2015 Annual Work Plan Update." An electronic copy of the presentation may  
19 be obtained from the NNMCAB website; [http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-](http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm)  
20 [presentations/presentations.htm](http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm).  
21  
22

23 **b. Questions**

24 Mr. Sayer asked why there is a difference in the budget; \$185 Million down to  
25 \$171 million, what happened to the rest.  
26

27 Mr. Rhodes noted that it is a little bit off, stating that there are associated costs  
28 that roll over from the previous year and the hold backs, known as set asides for  
29 federal activities.  
30

31 Mr. Schmelling asked if the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) relates  
32 to the TRU waste program and is there a way the NNMCAB could learn more about  
33 it.  
34

35 Mr. Rhodes responded that it does not specifically relate to the TRU program;  
36 however, it does relate to all of the LANL clean-up. He noted that it would be  
37 possible to provide the NNMCAB with a presentation on that at a future meeting.  
38

39 Mr. Sayre asked if the money for the airport landfill was for the runway or just the  
40 storage units.  
41

42 Mr. Rhodes responded that currently that money is for the concrete pads that are  
43 crumbling; he noted that the pads are on the opposite side of the runway.  
44

45 Ms. Tse-Pe asked if the set-asides are above the \$185 million or if they come out  
46 of the \$185 million.  
47

48 Mr. Rhodes responded that the federal set-asides come out of the \$185 million.

1  
2 Mr. Sayre asked how much the annual cost is for the base programs.  
3 Mr. Rhodes stated that the approximate cost is \$25 million for the base programs.

4  
5 Mr. Puglisi asked if the groundwater discharge plan was for re-injection or for  
6 surface disposal.

7  
8 Mr. Rhodes responded that for now it is for surface water disposal with the  
9 surface water bureau. Additionally, he noted that a comprehensive plan is with the  
10 office of the State Engineer and is necessary for the move to re-injection.

11  
12 Mr. Valdez asked why MDA's C, G, A, H, or T are not listed.

13  
14 Mr. Rhodes responded that the MDA's are all covered with operational covers  
15 that are between 2 to 3 feet thick. He stated that there are 4 Corrective Measures  
16 Evaluation Reports that have been submitted to NMED. Mr. Rhodes noted that until  
17 a statement of basis is received back from NMED, DOE/LANL cannot proceed on the  
18 MDA's. Additionally, he stated that at this point the timing is likely not right for  
19 NMED to discuss whether or not there is an appropriate remedy for those MDA's.

20  
21 Mr. Schmelling noted that the NNMCAB members and DOE should consider how  
22 we get input into the longer term priorities, before the budget for that year is rolled  
23 out.

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24  
25 **XI. Public Comment Period**

26 Mr. Schmelling opened the public comment period at 3:37 p.m.

27  
28 Mr. Scott Kovac from Nuke Watch New Mexico (NWNM) noted that he did not have a  
29 lot of information today; however, he did want to pass out the NWNM's Los Alamos  
30 National Laboratory Budget sheet for FY'16. Mr. Kovac noted that the budget is at 8.4% of  
31 the annual budget request for 2016 and we need to work on that number if we can. Mr.  
32 Kovac stated that we are always told that there is only a certain pot of money for clean-up;  
33 however, if we were to work on the budget a bit sooner it could be a bigger pot of money.

34  
35 With no additional public comment, Mr. Schmelling closed the public comment period  
36 at 3:39 p.m.

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38 **XII. Subcommittee Break Out Session.**

39 Due to the limited time remaining in the agenda the committees voted to defer the  
40 breakout session to the next NNMCAB Committee Meeting. Mr. Schmelling noted that the  
41 next Committee meeting would be March 11, 2015.

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43 **XIII. Adjournment**

44 With no additional business to discuss Mr. Schmelling adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

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45 **Respectfully Submitted,**  
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1 **William Alexander**  
2 **Technical Programs and Outreach**

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4 **Attachments:**

- 5 1. **Final Combined Committee Meeting Agenda for 02/18/2015**
- 6 2. **Final Combined Committee Meeting Minutes for 11/12/2014**
- 7 3. **Draft Recommendation 2015-01 "Identification and Preparation of Disposition Site(s) to**  
8 **Enable LANL Transuranic Disposal Operations and Nation's Other Sites' Waste Disposal**  
9 **Operations to Remain Continually Operational," Author, Executive Committee**
- 10 4. **Draft Recommendation 2015-02 "Budget Priorities for FY 2016 for LANL EM Cleanup Work,"**  
11 **Author, Mr. Valdez**
- 12 5. **Presentation by David Rhodes, DOE, " Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Work Plan Update"**
- 13 6. **Public Comment Material Submitted by Nuke Watch New Mexico, "Los Alamos National**  
14 **Laboratory FY 2016 Congressional Budget Request."**
- 15 7. **Committee Rosters**

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17 **Public Notice:**

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19 **office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a**  
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