



NNMCAB Newsletter

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Summer 2014

Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Newsletter

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National Chairs Meeting-Pasco, Washington

This past April, NNM CAB Chair Carlos Valdez, Vice-Chair Doug Sayre, and member Allison Majure attended the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM-SSAB) National Chairs meeting held in Pasco, Washington at the Hanford Site. The members started the week with a bus tour of the Hanford Site, which included: the cold test facility, waste tank farm which houses 56 million gallons of radioactive waste in 177 tanks, C-Farm Tank Waste Storage Area, Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (currently under construction), and the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility. The members were also able to tour the historic B-Reactor; the first

reactor built on the Hanford Site. After a day of touring the site the members attended a two day meeting session at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco. Day one was an introduction by the Designated Federal Officer Dave Borak, and a program and budget update from Jack



Hanford Chairs Meeting at the Red Lion April 2014.

Craig, Acting Associate Principal Assistant Secretary for EM. Each site was given the opportunity to discuss local topics and accomplishments in a round robin style. The first day closed with Frank Marcinkowski, Deputy Assistant

Secretary for Waste Management, providing an update on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and overall view of the EM waste disposition program. The last day of the meeting was dedicated to a presentation on the PHOENIX Project. The project centers around a web-based tool for assessing and visualizing Hanford Site data, both legacy and current. This is an effort to improve transparency and increase understanding of Hanford Site problems.

The national meeting is an opportunity for the Chairs and Vice-Chairs to interact with their counterparts at the eight boards across the country.

At this year's meeting two national recommendations were drafted and approved for distribution to the eight boards for final vetting and approval. The NNM CABs own Allison Majure helped with the drafting and editing of the recommendations.

2014 NNM CAB Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date	Venue	City
July 30, 2014	La Fonda on the Plaza	Santa Fe
September 24, 2014	Sagebrush Conference Center	Taos
November 19, 2014	Ohkay Conference Center	Española

Meet Some of the NNMCAB Members & Say Farewell to Outgoing Student Members.

Ms. Varela is the owner of a legal transcription service and is a paralegal working in a local law office. She previously worked for the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, where she served as an executive assistant, paralegal, management analyst, and director of consumer relations. Ms. Varela



Ms. Varela at the NNMCAB's May 21, 2014 Board Meeting. Appointed April 10, 2014.

has more than 25 years of experience in the paralegal and office management fields. She is a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and volunteers as a Court Appointed Special Advocate. As a small business owner, Ms. Varela believes in keeping taxpayer dollars invested in the local econo-

my. A native of northern New Mexico, she is a graduate of Santa Fe High School. Ms. Varela currently resides in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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Interested in becoming a member or joining a committee? Contact NNMCAB Executive Director Menice Santistevan @ (505)995-0393 or e-mail menice.santistevan@nnsa.doe.gov

Member Tessa Jo Mascarenas

Ms. Mascarenas currently serves as the city clerk and human resources director for the City of Española. Previously, she was the ethics administrator at the New Mexico Secretary of State's office. As a student, Ms. Mascarenas worked as records management and document control coordinator for Los Alamos National Laboratory. In 2013, Ms. Mascarenas graduated from the University of New Mexico (UNM) with a Masters Degree in Public Administra-

tion. She also completed her undergraduate Degree in Political Science and Psychology at UNM. Additionally, she has worked as a Youth Mentor for Hands Across Cultures, and is currently serving as a Member at Large on the Board of Directors. In 2012, Ms. Mascarenas became a certified spokesperson for the New Mexico Broadcaster's Association and a member of the New Mexico Municipal League's Economic Development, Government Opera-

tions and Human Relations Policy Committee. Ms. Mascarenas is a resident of Española, New Mexico.



Ms. Mascarenas, Appointed to the NNMCAB on June 6, 2014.
Courtesy Photo

Student Members College Bound 2014



Gary Johnson at the NNMCAB Meeting on May 21, 2014. Mr. Johnson will be attending Marquette in the Fall of 2014.



Jerry Trujillo receives certificate of appreciation at the NNMCAB May 21, 2014 meeting. Mr. Trujillo will be attending UNM with the Fall 2014 class.

GOODBYE

Student Member Lands Job at LANL



College Graduate Kaitlyn Martinez at the November 2013 Meeting. Ms. Martinez will be working as a member of the Associate Directorate of Environmental Programs Public Relations Team.

Student Member Serving on NNM CAB & New Student Recruitment



Student Member Deidre Roybal, with her parents at the NNM CAB May 21, 2014 Meeting.

the opportunity to learn about the Cold War Era Legacy Waste issues at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the environmental clean-up that is underway at the site. Students have the opportunity to interact with presenters from the Department of Energy, Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico Environment Department, local government, and non-government organizations. Ms. Roybal

Pojoaque Valley High School student Deidre Roybal served on the NNM CAB during her Junior year and has chosen to remain on the board for her Senior year. She attended NNM CAB board meetings held around Northern New Mexico, and attended tours and functions held for the NNM CAB. The board strives to provide the students with

was one of four students who served on the board during the 2013-2014 school year. The NNM CAB is currently recruiting student members for the 2014-2015 school year from the Northern New Mexico area to serve alongside Ms. Roybal. For additional information contact NNM CAB Executive Director Menice Santistevan.

(Tech Talk) New Face for the Webpage & Skype for Remote Presenters

The NNM CAB recently opened two Skype accounts, NNM CAB Alex and NNM CAB Maestas. Skype was added to the IT bag in an effort to accommodate presenters who are in remote locations, or who have limited travel ability. This video conferencing ability will be used during board meetings to facilitate information transfer to the members and the public.



In the coming months the NNM CAB webpage will be undergoing an upgrade to HTML5 to increase compatibility with the new web browsers. During the update there will be some changes to the design and layout to give the site a fresh feel, and

utilize some of the newer features like drop-downs, ribbon menus, and non static web pages. A new mobile format of the site may also be in the works for users on the go.

Current NNM CAB Members

- Carlos Valdez, NNM CAB Chair
Santa Fe
- Doug Sayre, NNM CAB Vice-Chair
Santa Fe
- Stephen Schmelling, EM&R Committee Chair
Santa Fe
- Nona Girardi, EM&R Committee Vice-Chair
Los Alamos
- Manuel Pacheco, WM Committee Chair
Ranchos de Taos
- Angel Quintana, WM Committee Vice-Chair
Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Adrian Chavez Sr., WM Committee
Albuquerque
- Mary Friday, EM&R Committee
Taos
- Bonnie Lucas, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Allison Majure, EM&R Committee
Los Alamos
- Gerard Martinez, WM Committee
Santa Fe
- Tessa Jo Mascarenas
Española
- Daniel Mayfield, WM & EM&R Committees
Nambe
- Alex Puglisi, WM & EM&R Committees
Santa Fe
- Deidre Roybal, Student Member
Española
- Ashley Sanderson, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Joseph Tiano, WM Committee
Santa Fe
- Irene Tse-Pe, WM Committee
Pueblo de San Ildefonso
- Mona Varela
Albuquerque
- Joseph Viarrial, EM&R Committee
Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Robert Villarreal, WM Committee
Los Alamos

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The NNMCAB is Currently Recruiting New Members for Appointment in April 2015



Meeting March 26, 2014.

What is the Northern New Mexico Citizen's Advisory Board (NNMCAB)?

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Boards were developed to involve stakeholders more directly in the Department of Energy (DOE) cleanup process. The NNMCAB provides DOE with advice and recommendations concerning: environmental remediation, waste management, and monitoring and surveillance of legacy waste at LANL.

- * Representing and communicating the views of their communities in board discussions.
- * Keeping the public informed on key issues, upcoming decisions, board recommendations, and public hearings.
- * Attending the NNMCABs bi-monthly meetings and serving on one of the boards standing committees. Board meetings occur Bi-monthly on Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Committee meetings occur on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Who Serves on the NNMCAB?

Membership reflects a broad range of cultures, demographics, and views from citizens in the affected communities and regions. Members include stakeholders from local governments, Tribal Nations, environmental and civic groups, universities, labor organizations, and others. Liaisons to the NNMCAB come from LANL, DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the New Mexico Environment Department.

How Can You Get Involved?

Board meetings serve as a two-way exchange between members of the public and the NNMCAB, DOE, and Liaisons. All NNMCAB board meetings have a public comment period through which members of the public can voice their concerns, and submit written comments.

Interested in Becoming a Board or Committee Member?

Please call Menice B. Santistevan, Executive Director at (505)995-0393 or e-mail menice.santistevan@nnsa.doe.gov. Feel free to stop by our office at 94 Cities of Gold Rd., Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506 or visit the website at www.nnmcab.energy.gov for additional information.

Board Member Responsibilities

- * Submitting advice and recommendations to DOE on integral Environmental Management Issues.



NNMCAB Chairman Valdez, (left) at Hanford Site Chairs Meeting, April 2014.



Members at the Carlsbad Field Office November, 2013.



Members Tour the LA Weir at Los Alamos Lab, April 2013.



NNMCAB Members Visit the Oak Ridge CAB, May 2014.

Members Visit Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board



Above: Mr. Ed Worth former NNM CAB DDFO with Dr. Nona Girardi. Below: Dr. Girardi at the Oak Ridge Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting.

Left to Right David Hemelright ORB Chair, Carlos Valdez NNM CAB Chair, Nona Girardi NNM CAB Member, David Adler ORB DDFO.



Above: NNM CAB members were able to tour one of Tennessee's many dams. Below: NNM CAB members tour area sites.



NNM CAB members were able to meet and learn from members of the Oak Ridge Board.



NNM CAB Chair's Corner

I began working in state government in 1984 delivering medical supplies to a rehabilitation center in Las Vegas, New Mexico. I didn't have experience or an education. Quickly realizing that in order to move up in the ranks and make more money, I decided to go to college and get a degree. I set career goals early in life and worked hard to achieve them. I worked nine years for the Department of Health, including four with the Women, Infants and Children's Program. I then moved over to the Children, Youth and Families Department, where I worked 14 years in different financial capacities. I've worked as a Budget Analyst, Bureau Chief, Budget Director, and my final three years as a Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Game and Fish. When I retired in 2008, I wanted to stay busy, but not go back to work in the financial field. I wanted to learn something

totally new, something I knew absolutely nothing about. When I saw an advertisement for membership on the Northern New Mexico Citizen's Advisory Board (NNM CAB), it seemed like the perfect opportunity to not only learn about environmental issues, but it also provided me the opportunity to give back to my community which has been so good to me. I knew that the Los Alamos Lab was a "top secret" place working on things that made the country a safer place to live, but that was the extent of my knowledge. I knew nothing about radioactive materials generated from the Cold War era, and knew less about clean-up efforts that were in process.

I became a NNM CAB member in 2010 and spent my first year getting a feel for what was happening up on the hill. I learned as much as I could, as quickly as I could. By my second year on the NNM CAB, I was elected as Vice Chair. I started asking the right

questions, I learned how to write recommendations, and I felt privileged to be participating in conversations with members that had extreme knowledge and experience with issues the Board was faced with. By my third year, I was elected Chairman, where I have spent two very fruitful and exciting years. Being Chair has given me the opportunity to not only learn more about clean-up concerns at Los Alamos, but also around the country. Environmental Management and the NNM CAB is doing a tremendous job for our community and I feel proud to be a part of this team and this effort. We still have a way to go, but slowly and surely we will get the job done.



by Carlos Valdez



94 Cities of Gold Road
Santa Fe, NM 87506

Phone: 505-989-1662
Fax: 505-989-1752
www.nnmcab.energy.gov



NNMCAB Current Project

The NNMCAB is currently working on drafting recommendations on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Site. The NNMCAB will be voting on Draft Recommendation 2014-02 "Institution of Measures to Help Ensure WIPP and LANL Transuranic Disposal Operations Remain Continually Operational," at the Combined Committee meeting scheduled for July 9, 2014. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting and submit comments and concerns to the board during the open public comment period.

To view the NNMCAB's 2014 recommendations and previous years recommendations visit "Recommendations Tab" on our homepage.

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www.nnmcab.energy.gov

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board is a federally appointed panel of citizens that provides public involvement opportunities and recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy concerning: environmental monitoring, waste management, remediation, and long-term stewardship at and around Los Alamos National Laboratory.

To Find out More about the NNMCAB, visit our **Social Media** Sites or our Webpage.

Visit the NNMCAB website **Newsletter Section** to add yourself to the electronic distribution list .