



NNMCAB Newsletter

Volume III, Issue I

Winter 2015

Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board

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NNMCAB Member on Discussion Panel at 2015 Waste Symposia

NNMCAB member Allison Majure submitted an Abstract on August 15, 2014 to be used at the 2015 Waste Management Symposia. A final paper co-authored by Members Allison Majure and Mona Varela titled "Diverse Stakeholders and the Northern New Mexico Site Specific Advisory Board," was submitted to the symposia on January 15, 2015. NNMCAB member Mona Varela will be attending the 2015 Waste Management Symposia in Phoenix, Arizona, as both an attendee and a member of the panel that will

be discussing The Effectiveness of the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Boards. Ms. Varela will be discussing the wide range of diversity represented on the NNMCAB, and how the members and staff have managed to cultivate that diversity over the last decade. Ms. Varela will also be talking about the wide range of stakeholders that are present in the northern New Mexico area, and the challenges involved in finding representatives for all of them.

Ms. Varela has been a

board member since April of 2014, and is a member of the NNMCAB's Waste Management Subcommittee. Ms. Varela is a native of northern New Mexico, a current resident of Albuquerque and a graduate of Santa Fe High school. She has more than 25 years of experience in the fields of office management and paralegal. Ms. Varela recently retired from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, where she served as an executive assistant, paralegal, management analyst, and director of consumer relations.

2015 NNMCAB Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date	Venue	City
January 28, 2015	Cities of Gold Conference Center	Pojoaque
March 25, 2015	La Fonda on the Plaza	Santa Fe
May 20, 2015	Sandia Conference Center	Albuquerque
July 29, 2015	Sagebrush Conference Center	Taos
September 1-3, 2015	La Fonda on the Plaza (National Chairs Meeting)	Santa Fe
September 30, 2015	El Rancho Conference Center	San Ildefonso
November 18, 2015	Ohkay Conference Center	Española

NNMCAB had the Opportunity to tour the WCCR Facility, Area G, and Chromium project.



NNMCAB Members assemble outside the Waste Characterization Reduction and Repackaging Facility at LANL



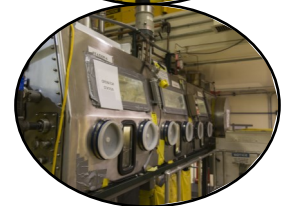
Members were able to see one of the permacons located at Material Disposal Area G



Members were able to see the inner workings of the WCCR facility, which is currently in a cold state



Steve Veenis, LANL provides an Overview of the Buckman Direct Diversion and Water Sampling at the White Rock Overlook.



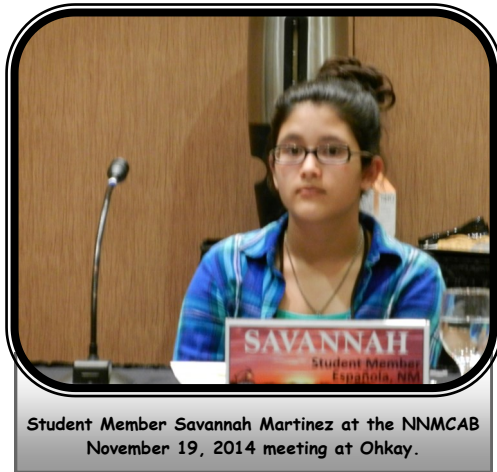
Members listen to a presentation by Danny Katzman at the Chromium extraction area in Mortandad Canyon

NNMCAB Members observe an over-pack container during the tour of the permacon at Disposal Area G



NNMCAB New Student Member

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board welcomed new student member, Savannah Martinez to the board at its Combined Committee meeting on November 11, 2014. Savannah joined the NNMCAB's two other student members, Deidre Roybal and Alyssa



Student Member Savannah Martinez at the NNMCAB November 19, 2014 meeting at Ohkay.

Schreiber. Savannah is a Junior at Pojoaque Valley High School in Pojoaque, New Mexico. She will be representing two locations while she is on the board: Pojoaque where she attends school and Española where she lives. Savanna has been a great addi-

tion to the Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board. She has been able to attending all of the meetings since joining the board. Many of the student members have stated that the knowledge they have gained by participating on the board has helped them understand the com-

plexity of the clean-up requirements at Los Alamos National Laboratory. It is our hope that Savannah will have the same experience and help pass that information on to others in the community.

(Tech Talk)

The NNMCAB now has a Google Drive. Starting in March electronic packets for the NNMCAB meetings will be distributed to members via the Google Drive. This is being implemented in an effort to reduce the size of e-mail attachments going forward, as some e-mail programs only allow for 5 megabyte attachments or smaller. E-mails with an electronic link to the appropriate drive folder will be sent to members and liaisons, so that each individual can download the packet information at their convenience.

NNMCAB staff are working to develop the new NNMCAB Webpage. We are hopeful that the page update will be completed by the middle of summer 2015. Until the page is ready to be published, we are encouraging the NNMCAB members

Be Informed.

Get Involved.

Because you love New Mexico!

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

to let the staff know what they would like to see on the new page, i.e. what type of search features, should the page have Facebook & YouTube widgets. Let us know and we will see if it is possible to have them designed for the NNMCABs page. Members of the public can also provide input into what content on the page will help to provide the most valuable information for them.

Current NNMCAB Members

Doug Sayre, NNMCAB Chair
Santa Fe

Allison Majure, NNMCAB Vice-Chair
Los Alamos

Stephen Schmelling, EM&R Committee Chair
Santa Fe

Ashley Sanderson, EM&R Committee Vice-Chair
Santa Fe

Manuel Pacheco, WM Committee Chair
Ranchos de Taos

Angel Quintana, WM Committee Vice-Chair
Pueblo of Pojoaque

Mary Friday, EM&R Committee
Taos

Nona Girardi, EM&R Committee
Los Alamos

Bonnie Lucas, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe

Gerard Martinez, WM Committee
Santa Fe

Savannah Martinez, Student Member
Española

Tessa Jo Mascarenas
Española

Daniel Mayfield, WM & EM&R Committees
Nambe

Alex Puglisi, WM & EM&R Committees
Santa Fe

Deidre Roybal, Student Member
Española

Alyssa Schreiber, Student Member
Los Alamos

Joseph Tiano, WM Committee
Santa Fe

Irene Tse-Pe, WM Committee
Pueblo de San Ildefonso

Carlos Valdez, EM&R Committee
Albuquerque

Michael Valerio
Taos

Mona Varela
Albuquerque

Joseph Viarrial, EM&R Committee
Pueblo of Pojoaque

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Winter Weather Driving



It's that time of year again. Winter is upon us and the roads can be difficult, especially during that morning commute. Here are some tips for winter driving.

1. Decrease your speed and leave at least three times more space than usual between you and other cars.
2. Don't use cruise control on icy roads, the vehicle attempting to maintain speed can cause skidding.
3. Use low gears to keep traction.
4. Brake gently to avoid skidding, if your wheels start to skid, ease off the brake.
5. Keep your lights on to increase visibility.
6. Make sure that your car is in good operating condition.

Be prepared for an emergency, it's a good idea to carry the following items in your vehicle.

1. Jumper Cables or Jumper Pack
2. Tire Chains
3. Bag of salt or cat litter
4. Shovel
5. Flashlight (make sure the batteries are in good condition)
6. First Aid Kit
7. Ice scraper with snow brush
8. Reflective Triangles
9. High-energy foods such as energy bars, nuts, hard candy, or dried fruits
10. Water



"Be Safe, Take Your Time When Driving in Winter Conditions. Plan Ahead Allow Plenty of Extra Time for Your Transit"



Happy Retirement Ms. Christina Houston

Left to right: Pete Maggiore, Lee Bishop, Christina Houston, Doug Sayre, and Menice Santistevan



The NNM CAB would like to wish Ms. Christina Houston a wonderful and happy retirement. Ms. Houston a resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico retired from the Department of Energy on January 3, 2015 after more than 35 years of service. During her career Ms. Houston served as both the Deputy Designated Federal Officer and the Alternate Deputy Designated Federal Officer for the NNM CAB.

She was always a vibrant fun individual to have at meetings, and a great help in setting up and taking down the meeting spaces. We hope to see her at future meetings as a member of the public.



Thoughts from the NNM CAB's Vice-Chair

Submitted by Allison Majure

When a fellow Rotary Club member suggested that I submit an application for the NNM CAB in 2010, I could not have predicted the learning and communications adventure to come. As a former journalist, I have always held the belief that the public is far more intelligent and willing to learn than many news and media outlets might believe. It is this belief that fosters my engagement with my fellow citizen board members and with the many experts that are part of the CAB's regular open public meetings.

We are an advisory board and our job is to advise; not to advocate, argue, attack, or evangelize. When it comes to contentious issues, for our beautiful Northern New Mexico home, it can be

difficult to quell our passions as we learn enough about nuclear waste & transport, water quality, hydrology, chemistry, contracts, budgets, and organizational & federal politics to formulate effective advisory recommendations. But we do. We prepare ourselves by learning from federal and state leadership, from laboratory scientists and engineers, and from the public, about the future of our land, water and sky. We discuss the issues and come to the best consensus we can build. Then, we create citizen advice for the United States Department of Energy to consider as it makes policy and tactical decisions affecting our home.

It is an honor to participate and serve with my fellow Northern New Mexico citizens. We try to help, in some

small way, to balance competing interests and to bring our public along the same learning curve that we are on--as we go beyond the sound bite to discuss nuclear waste remediation, safety and environmental surveillance in a realistic and informed manner.



Vice-Chair Allison Majure

New Vice-Chair
"Ms. Majure was elected as NNM CAB Vice-Chair for Fiscal Year 2015"

The NNM CAB is Currently Recruiting New Members for Appointment in November 2015

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 NNM CAB provides DOE with advice and recommendations concerning: environmental remediation, waste management, and monitoring and surveillance of legacy waste at LANL.

Who Serves on the NNM CAB?

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 NNM CAB come from LANL, DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the New Mexico Environment Department.

Board Member Responsibilities

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

- * 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 NNM CABs 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.

How Can You Get Involved?

Board meetings serve as a two-way exchange between members of the public and the NNM CAB, DOE, and Liaisons. All NNM CAB 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.



94 Cities of Gold Road
Santa Fe , NM 87506

Phone: 505-989-1662

Fax: 505-989-1752

www.nnmcab.energy.gov



NNMCAB Current Projects

The NNMCAB is currently working to draft recommendations for Fiscal Year 2015. At this time the Board is focused on recommendations relating to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and Fiscal Year 2016 Federal Clean-up Budget for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). In December 2014 The NNMCAB held a special meeting regarding the transition of LANL clean-up. The members will continue monitoring the transition of LANL clean-up work from the National Nuclear Security Administration to the Office of Environmental Management, and provide recommendations as appropriate.

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 .