



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
1660 Old Pecos Trail, Ste. B
Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-989-1662

**NNMCAB Meeting Minutes
Sagebrush Inn and Conference Center
Taos, New Mexico
May 21, 2005**

Attending:

CAB Members

Timothy A. DeLong, Chair
Jim Brannon, Vice-Chair
Grace Perez
J.D. Campbell
Jim Janis
Fran Berting
Jay Fries
Barbara Gonzales
Ray Loretto
Sammy Quintana
Stephen Gilbert
Kenn Riordan
Pamela A. Henline
Philip Cantu
Darlene Montoya
Matthew Deller
Mary Pat Kraemer

Deputy Designated Federal Officer:

Theodore J. Taylor

Ex-Officio Members

Attending:

Ken Hargis, LANL
Gene Turner, DOE / LASO
Rich Mayer, EPA

CAB Members Absent:

David Church
Erlinda Gonzales
Marvin Rowe
John Gonzales
Chris Timm

NNMCAB Staff:

Menice S. Manzanares, Executive Director
Lorelei Novak, Community Outreach /
Technical Writer
Grace Roybal, Office Administrator
Eddie Roybal, Sound Technician

Guests:

Donivan Porterfield, Public
Lorrie Bonds-Lopez, LANL



MINUTES:

Section I- Call to Order

Contents:

- 1. Call to Order by Ted Taylor, DDFO**
 - 2. Establishment of a Quorum**
 - 3. Welcome and Introductions by Chairman Tim DeLong**
 - 4. Approval of Agenda**
 - 5. Approval of Minutes of March 30, 2005**
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1. Call to Order by Ted Taylor, DDFO

Ted Taylor, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO), called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Dr. Taylor stated on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB or CAB) meeting was called to order.

2. Establishment of a Quorum

Dr. Taylor stated that the members in attendance established a quorum for conducting Board business. The meeting was open to the public and posted in the Federal Register in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Roll call established seventeen members present at the start of the meeting. Dr. Taylor welcomed the attendees to the meeting and turned the proceedings over to CAB Chair Mr. Tim DeLong.

3. Welcome and Introductions by Chairman Tim DeLong

Mr. DeLong welcomed members and guests to the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (CAB) meeting. The meeting was held at the Sagebrush Inn and Conference Center in Taos, New Mexico as part of the NNMCAB's annual retreat.

4. Approval of Agenda

The Chair announced that on today's agenda the Board would review a SSAB Chairs Recommendation to Secretary Samuel Bodman, hear committee reports and a SSAB Chairs' meeting report by Jim Brannon. The Board will also hear staff & DDFO reports, and comments from Ex-Officio members. The Chair called for any modifications to the agenda or a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Fries made a motion to approve the agenda and Dr. Berting seconded the motion.

5. Approval of NNMCAB Minutes from March 30, 2005 Meeting

Mr. DeLong then asked the Board to approve the draft minutes from the March 30, 2005 CAB meeting prepared by Ms. Novak. With few minor editorial changes noted, Dr. Berting moved that the Board approve the March 30, 2005 CAB minutes, as amended. Dr. Fries seconded the motion, and, as all were in favor the amended minutes were accepted as final.

Section II- Board Business

Contents:

- 1. Report from Chair, Tim DeLong**
 - **SSAB Chairs' Meeting at Savannah River Site (Jim Brannon)**
 - **Consideration and Action on SSAB Chairs Recommendation to Secretary Samuel Bodman**
- 2. Report from DOE, Ted Taylor, DDFO**
- 3. Report from Executive Director, Menice S. Manzanares**
 - **Review and Approve Board Meeting Schedule for 2006**
- 4. New Business**

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- 1. Report from Chair, Tim DeLong**
 - **SSAB Chairs' Meeting at Savannah River Site (Jim Brannon)**
 - **Consideration and Action on SSAB Chairs Recommendation to Secretary Samuel Bodman**

Mr. DeLong said that Mr. Brannon, Vice Chair would provide a report to the Board about the SSAB Chairs meeting held at the Savannah River Site. Mr. Brannon's report regarding the SSAB Chairs meeting is summarized below:

- Each of the nine sites has compiled a key issues statement and a statement on how each site views the interdependencies among the sites. (SSAB Reports are included in the Appendix Section of these minutes.)
- SSABs have requested DOE consider holding a National Workshop / Forum on site interdependencies.

Mr. Brannon explained that the Chairs of the SSABs drafted a letter to Secretary Bodman requesting support of the SSABs regardless of whether they are under the umbrella of Environmental Management (EM) programs or National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). (Recommendation letter to Secretary Bodman is included in the Appendix Section of these minutes.) Mr. Brannon made a motion for the NNM CAB to adopt the SSAB Recommendation letter to Secretary Bodman and Dr. Campbell seconded the motion.

2. Report from DOE, Ted Taylor, DDFO

Dr. Taylor's report is summarized below:

- Grace Perez will continue for another term with the Board.
- Ray Byeford, Jay Fries, and John Gonzales will not seek re-appointment to the Board.
- No responses have been received from the DOE regarding recent CAB recommendations. Dr. Taylor is compiling a report listing DOE recommendation responses from 2004 to date.
- CI Committee will be reviewing the DOE Public Involvement Plan at their June Committee meeting.
- Sandra Waisley has moved to another area and Doug Frost has been named in her place as the new Deputy Federal Officer (DFO). Dr. Taylor encouraged the Board to read Sandra Waisley's departing comments about the SSABs.

Dr Taylor requested Sandra Waisley's comments be placed into the NNM CAB record. They are reprinted below:

Sandra Waisley, "I can not express enough my admiration for all the hard work performed by the CABs, and your dedication to ensuring that the voices of the surrounding site communities are heard and heard often! We might not always agree on site clean-up strategies or funding issues, but I believe that we have had an open and honest relationship that was, and will continue to be, mutually beneficial.

I came to this DFO position completely unaware about the positive impact you have on site operations and DOE's relationships with the site communities. I truly believe that everyone, and that includes up to the Secretary level, should hear this story of public participation at its best.

I commend you on your efforts to leave this planet in better shape for future generations. I usually do not express my personal views in the business arena, but on a spiritual level I believe the collective consciousness of the nine Boards over the past 11 years, with hundreds of members participating, has helped us make better decisions, resulting in our path to destiny shifting to the right – in the right direction for the right reasons."

3. Report from Executive Director, Menice S. Manzanares

- **Review and Approve Board Meeting Schedule for 2006**

Mrs. Manzanares asked the Board to approve the CAB meeting schedule for 2006. Dr. Berting made a motion to approve the 2006 Board schedule and Dr. Fries seconded the motion.

Mrs. Manzanares provided the Executive Director's report for the Board. A summary of her report is as follows: (Mrs. Manzanares' full report can be viewed in the Appendix Section of these minutes.)

- The CAB Annual Report and the CAB Spring / Summer Newsletter will be completed by June 2005.
- The CAB tour of the WIPP facilities is in the planning stages for fall 2005.
- A second tour of the LANL can be arranged with Lorrie Bonds-Lopez for those CAB members who missed the tour in April 2005.
- The Taos Town Council has requested a tour of Area G as a result of the Area G Forum.
- The next CAB meeting has been scheduled for July 27, 2005 from 1:00 to 8:30 pm and will be held at the Santa Fe Community College, Jemez Rooms.

4. New Business

Dr. Fries asked the Board to considering amending the CAB bylaws regarding the required Board review time for recommendations. Dr. Berting supported the amendment proposal. Mr. DeLong suggested this proposed amendment change to the Bylaws be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Section III- Reports

Contents:

1. Waste Management Committee, Jim Brannon

- **Report on May 3, 2005 CAB Area G Forum.**

2. Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation Committee, Chris Timm.

3. Community Involvement Committee, Grace Perez

- **Introduction of Recommendation 2005-05**

4. **Comments from Ex-Officio Members**
5. **Comments from Board Members**
6. **Waste Management Committee, Jim Brannon**
 - **Report on May 3, 2005 CAB Area G Forum.**

Mr. Brannon briefed the Board on the Area G Forum. He thanked the CAB staff and the LANL staff for helping to put together a very well attended, professionally organized event. Ms. Novak drafted the following summary of the Area G Forum for the minutes:

Representatives of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) —including Acting Environment (ENV) Division Leader Ken Hargis and several other members of the ENV division participated in a public educational forum to discuss Material Disposal Area (MDA) G, the Laboratory's waste disposal site at Technical Area (TA) 54. The forum, hosted by the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB), a federally chartered Site Specific Advisory Board, was held on May 3, 2005. Representatives from the Department of Energy (DOE), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), the Environment Department of San Ildefonso Pueblo, and the Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS) also participated in the discussions. Topics included the history of the radioactive landfill; current operations; past, present, and future waste disposal; risks to workers and the surrounding communities; future plans and final closure of the landfill; and proposed expansion from 63 acres to 93 acres.

Area G is the Laboratory's largest radioactive material disposal area. It currently covers 63 acres with above and below ground storage of radioactive waste of various classifications from Low Level Waste to Transuranic Waste currently awaiting shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, NM.

The forum was organized as a facilitated panel discussion where panelists were asked to respond to the following questions:

- **Has storage of radioactive waste at Area G contaminated groundwater or soil?**
- **What are the plans for expanding Area G?**
- **How has NMED/DOE regulated Area G?**
- **How will Area G be closed and monitored?**
- **How does WIPP relate to Area G?**

The panel was composed of John Ordaz, Department of Energy (DOE), James Bearzi, New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Joni Arends, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS), Neil Weber, Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Ken Hargis and Tony Stanford, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and Rich Mayer, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A Poster Session preceded the forum with representatives of the NNMCAB and other participating organizations available to answer questions.

The results of the Forum have been compiled into a proceedings package, including PowerPoint presentations by LANL and the San Ildefonso Pueblo, notes recorded by audience members, the facilitator and CAB staff. The forum was also professionally video-taped which aired on Santa Fe and Los Alamos public television stations. The video is available for viewing at the CAB library in Santa Fe.

The Waste Management Committee has taken the lead in developing subsequent draft recommendation topics resulting from the forum. The following serves as a list of recommendation topics to be considered by the full CAB and submitted to the DOE.

Possible WM Committee recommendation topics resulting from Forum:

- 1. Recommend LANL work toward zero discharge of hazardous chemicals into the environment.**
- 2. Recommend LANL stop burying / disposing of radioactive waste in unlined shafts, pits and trenches.**
- 3. Recommend the public get advance notice of pending decisions regarding Area G.**
- 4. Recommend DOE re-examine the term of years used to declare a closed disposal area safe.**
- 5. Recommend heightened air monitoring in and around buildings where radioactive and hazardous chemicals are located.**
- 6. Consider San Ildefonso's concerns regarding visual aesthetics of the MDAs in relation to the neighboring Pueblos and communities.**

7. Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation Committee, Chris Timm.

Dr. Campbell, Vice-Chair, provided the EMSR Committee Report for the Board. The EMSR report is summarized below:

- The EMSR Committee has considered drafting a recommendation to the DOE to support additional funding for the NMED's implementation of the Consent Order.
- The EMSR Committee is waiting for the Corrective Measures Report (CMR) for Area H. The Committee will request a presentation from LANL on the CMR for MDA H.
- The EMSR Committee plans to continue attending LANL's Quarterly Groundwater Protection Program meetings.
- The EMSR Committee would like to request a presentation on LANL's Background Investigation Report.

8. Community Involvement Committee, Grace Perez

• Introduction of Recommendation 2005-05

Mrs. Grace Perez, Chair, provided the CI Committee report for the Board. Mrs. Perez introduced draft recommendation 2005-05 regarding the effectiveness of the LANL Environmental Surveillance Reports (ESR) and specifically the Executive Summary of the ESR to the Board. She emphasized to the Board that the ESR is an important document and as such should be clear and understandable to all audiences, especially the general public.

9. Comments from Ex-Officio Members

Mr. Rich Mayer, EPA, suggested that the CAB request a public comment meeting regarding the Individual Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit. Mr. Mayer also stated that the EPA / Ada review of the LANL Groundwater monitoring Program may be completed by June 2005. Mr. Mayer also stated that he felt the CAB has evolved to be a very effective working group. He also really appreciated the CAB holding the Retreat in Taos.

Mr. Ken Hargis, LANL, formally thanked Lorrie-Bonds Lopez and Deborah Hall for their hard work on the Area G Forum. He welcomed the CI Committee review of the ESR Executive Summary. Mr. Hargis also reported that Mr. Bearzi, NMED, had submitted a request for additional funding for staff to comply with the schedule of deliverables found in the Consent Order. Mr. Hargis planned to submit a bi-monthly listing of due dates and deliverables for the Consent Order to the CAB.

Mr. Turner, DOE, sitting in for DOE Ex-Officio Member John Ordaz, strongly supported a recommendation to DOE to request additional funding for the NMED regarding Consent Order implementation.

Comments from Board Members

- ⇒ Mr. DeLong liked having a retreat. He appreciated the length, which provided a great introduction for the new Board members.
- ⇒ Dr. Loretto suggested holding a Board meeting at the Jemez Pueblo.
- ⇒ Dr. Berting supported Dr. Loretto's CAB meeting location suggestion. She also thought the movie presentation, "The Manhattan Project" produced by the History Channel, was excellent.

Section IV- Public Comment

Donivan Porterfield signed up for public comment. Mr. Porterfield commented on CI Committee draft Recommendation 2005-05 regarding the Executive Summary of the LANL Environmental Surveillance Report. Mr. Porterfield suggested that the CI Committee consider adding a statement to Recommendation 2005-05 to include recommending a 'Citizens Guide' be published in addition to the Executive Summary of the Environmental Surveillance Report.

Section V- Thank you to retiring NNM CAB member Jay Fries

Mr. DeLong announced that this was Jay Fries' last meeting. Dr. Fries has announced that he will not seek reappointment. Dr. Fries served on both of the CAB's technical committees for two terms. His dedicated service to the CAB was noted. Mrs. Manzanares added her appreciation of Dr. Fries' time with the Board. Dr. Fries stated he appreciated the connections and friends he's made through the Board. Dr. Fries commented that he felt his participation with the Board has made a difference in ER and EM decision-making at the Lab.

Section VI- Adjournment

Contents:

- 1. Recap of Meeting: Issuance of Press Releases, Editorials, etc.**
- 2. Adjourn.**

Dr. Berting made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Campbell seconded the motion. As all present were in favor, the CAB meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy A. DeLong, Chair NNM CAB

Appendixes:

1. Final May 21, 2005 NNM CAB Meeting Agenda
2. Letter Secretary Samuel Bodman, DOE
3. Report from Menice Manzanares, NNM CAB Executive Director
4. 2006 NNM CAB Meeting Schedule
5. SSAB Reports
6. Report from Ted Taylor, DDFO
7. June / July Order Deliverables from LANL
8. DRAFT Recommendation 2005-05, CI Committee

Public Notice:

- All NNM CAB meetings are recorded in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Audiotapes are available for public review at the NNM CAB office in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Reference documents listed in the appendix section of these minutes are available for review at the CAB office in Santa Fe.
- For more information regarding audio transcription or any information referenced to or contained herein these minutes, please call the CAB office at (505)-989-1662.

Approved by the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board on July 28, 2005