



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting
July 10, 2013
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
NNMCAB Conference Room
Pojoaque, New Mexico

MINUTES

Meeting Attendees

U.S. Department of Energy

1. Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)
 2. Christina Houston, DOE Environmental Projects Office
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NNMCAB Members

1. Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB Chair
 2. Joey Tiano, Waste Management Committee Chair
 3. Doug Sayre, Environmental Monitoring & Remediation Committee Chair
 4. Joseph Villarreal, Environmental Monitoring & Remediation Committee Vice-Chair
 5. Ashley Sanderson
 6. Stephen Schmelling
 7. Gerard Martinez
 8. Adrian Chavez Sr.
 9. Alex Puglisi
 10. Mike Loya
 11. Angel Quintana
 12. Robert Villarreal
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NNMCAB Support Staff

Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
Tiffany Ortiz, Administrative Assistant
William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach

Guests

Scott Kovac, Nuclear Watch New Mexico
Patti Jones, LANS

1 **I. Call to Order**

2 The Monthly meeting of the Waste Management (WM), and Environmental Monitoring and
3 Remediation (EM&R) committees was held on July 10, 2013 at the Northern New Mexico
4 Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) office in Pojoaque, New Mexico. Mr. Joey Tiano, Waste
5 Management Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and presided over the meeting.

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7 **II. Approval of Agenda**

8 The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the agenda for the July 10, 2013 meeting. Mr.
9 Carlos Valdez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mr. Doug Sayre seconded the
10 motion. The agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved.

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12 **III. Approval of Minutes**

13 The CC reviewed the minutes for the June 12, 2013 meeting. Mr. Sayre made a motion to
14 approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Stephen Schmelling seconded the motion. The CC
15 unanimously approved the minutes for the June 12, 2013 meeting.

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17 **IV. Old Business**

18 Mr. Tiano asked Mr. Carlos Valdez to provide an update on Draft Recommendation 2013-06.

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20 Mr. Valdez stated that the recommendation as written is outside EM-scope. Mr. Valdez
21 stated that he would recommend the recommendation be voted down and a new
22 recommendation be drafted to replace it.

23
24 Mr. Valdez made a motion to not approve the recommendation; Mr. Mike Loya seconded
25 the motion. The members voted all in favor, the motion to not approve the recommendation
26 passed.

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28 Mr. Valdez stated that he would work on drafting a recommendation to be submitted to the
29 board in place of recommendation 2013-06. Mr. Valdez noted that he would like to have the
30 recommendation ready before the September board meeting, and also submit the
31 recommendation at the national level.

32
33 Ms. Menice Santistevan noted that if the members wanted this to be a recommendation at
34 the national level; the recommendation would need to be processed and approved through this
35 board, and then submitted to the chairs across the complex via e-mail prior to the fall chairs
36 meeting. She noted that at a minimum it would be January or February before the process to
37 pass the recommendation complex wide was completed.

38
39 **V. New Business**

40 **a. Draft Recommendation 2013-08**

41 Mr. Tiano noted that recommendation 2013-08 was open for discussion; however
42 voting on the recommendation would be held, until the July Board Meeting.

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2 Mr. Valdez stated that the recommendation 2013-08 was regarding storage space at
3 the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) waste.
4 He stated that the recommendation was asking that LANL tell the NNMCAB how much
5 waste is left to be shipped, and for the Department of Energy (DOE) to certify that WIPP
6 has enough space to receive the remaining LANL waste.
7

8 Mr. Loya asked about the Waste Control Specialist (WCS) site near Andrews, Texas
9 and the level of waste it was certified to receive.
10

11 Mr. Lee Bishop stated the WCS site was permitted to receive class A, B, and C waste;
12 however they could not receive greater than Class C waste. He noted that the WIPP site
13 is permitted to receive defense related Transuranic waste (TRU), TRU waste by
14 definition, is greater than Class C waste. Mr. Bishop noted that as part of the 3706
15 Campaign LANL has been decontaminating glove boxes and shipping them to WCS as
16 Class C waste.

17 Mr. Bishop noted the proposals that have been sent out in the last couple of years by
18 the Blue Ribbon commission ask that WIPP or a WIPP like repository be used for spent
19 nuclear fuel and DOE high level waste. The Greater than Class C Environmental Impact
20 Statement (EIS) concluded that a large portion of the Greater than Class C could also go
21 to WIPP. He noted that there is currently a permit application from WIPP to the NMED
22 regarding the Hanford tank waste, and its disposal at WIPP. He noted that the permit
23 regarding the Hanford waste is on Secretary Ryan Flynn's desk and is on hold pending
24 additional public meetings.

25 Mr. Bishop stated that everyone is looking to send waste to WIPP, and the purpose of
26 this recommendation is to assure that WIPP will be able to complete its original mission
27 in regards to LANL waste.
28

29 Mr. Scott Kovac noted that WCS is not for TRU waste. He stated that the 3706 waste
30 was TRU waste with the exception of the waste that is decontaminated and reclassified
31 as Class C waste.
32

33 Mr. Schmelling noted that if you look at the statics, Idaho sends more waste to WIPP
34 than LANL. He stated that the primary concern is that all the waste going to WIPP will
35 interfere with completion of the 3706 Campaign; either due to lack of available space or
36 with conflicts in acceptance of delivery.
37

38 Mr. Kovac asked if 3706 Campaign shipments had slowed down at WIPP.
39

40 Mr. Bishop responded that current WIPP funding allows for 16 shipments a week and
41 that capacity is shared by Savannah River, and Idaho. He noted that if Hanford was added

1 they would also share that capacity. Mr. Bishop noted that currently LANL is taking 5 to
2 7 of those shipments.

3
4 Ms. Patti Jones stated that the 127th shipment for the 3706 Campaign went out to
5 WIPP this week, and that LANL was back to shipping 5 shipments per week. She noted
6 that the group had exceeded the 3rd quarter goal for FY'13 by 3m³, and additionally that
7 465m³ had been shipped in June, which is more than LANL ships in most years.

8
9 Mr. Kovac responded that it appears that WIPP is not slowing down the 3706
10 Campaign.

11
12 Ms. Jones replied that LANL has worked very closely with WIPP on the 3706 campaign,
13 and that WIPP has made LANL a priority.

14
15 Mr. Alex Puglisi asked how the amount of waste was quantified for the repackaging of
16 waste.

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18 Mr. Bishop responded that with the record keeping and the way that the below grade
19 waste was stored LANL knows what went into the disposal areas, so it is easier to
20 quantify the amount of waste that was stored below grade.

21
22 Mr. Bob Villarreal asked if the Hanford waste was solid or liquid.

23
24 Mr. Bishop responded that the waste would need to be stabilized or solidified in order
25 for it to be shipped to WIPP for disposal.

26
27 With no further discussion Mr. Tiano moved on to committee work plans.

28
29 **b. Fiscal Year 2014 Committee Work Plans**

30 Ms. Santistevan asked that each committee draft the FY'14 work plan for approval at
31 the September Board meeting. She asked that the Chairs of each committee work with
32 their members to draft the work plans.

33
34 Mr. Tiano asked if all of the members were currently on a committee, and if not that
35 they select a committee.

36
37 Ms. Santistevan noted that during today's presentation the current committee rosters
38 would be presented, and she noted if you are not on a committee to let the office staff
39 know which committee you would like to serve on.
40

1 Mr. Bishop noted that for the past year the committees had been meeting jointly
2 because of the focus on waste; however, due to the increasing volume of work in the
3 remediation area he could see the need for the committees to start meeting separately.
4

5 Ms. Santistevan asked that the committees meet to work on the work plans via e-mail
6 or by using the office, or however the committee would like to meet in order to work on
7 the work plans

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9 **VI. Update from Executive Committee**

10 Mr. Valdez stated that the Executive Committee had met with NMED Secretary Designee
11 Ryan Flynn; he noted that Mr. Flynn seemed very knowledgeable on the Consent Order, and
12 interested in the environment. Mr. Valdez noted that Mr. Flynn was going to try and do a
13 presentation for the NNMCAB members on the Consent Order at the September Meeting.

14 Mr. Valdez asked that the members give him some ideas on what they felt were the major
15 issues for the NNMCAB, which he could present at the up-coming Fall Chairs Meeting.
16

17 Mr. Villarreal suggested that the NNMCAB offer to help Hanford with their waste tank issue.
18

19 Mr. Valdez responded that he felt the board needed to look at what the Hanford waste
20 would mean for WIPP capacity and the State; then take the time as a board to write a letter or
21 recommendation in response to the current permit modification for the Hanford waste that is at
22 NMED.
23

24 An Ad Hoc committee comprised of Mr. Valdez, Mr. Villarreal, Mr. Puglisi, and Mr. Gerard
25 Martinez, was appointed to work on drafting a document.
26

27 Mr. Tiano asked that Mr. William Alexander let the members know when the public
28 meetings were going to be held.
29

30 **VII. Update from DDFO**

31 Mr. Bishop stated that he had checked with Ms. Cate Alexander on whether the WIPP
32 permit modification was within the NNMCAB's scope. He noted that Ms. Alexander had agreed
33 that the permit modification would be within the scope of the board, and if the members would
34 like they were welcome to draft comments on the permit modification.

35 Mr. Bishop noted that if all of the nominations were approved that the NNMCAB would
36 have 23 members in November.

37 Mr. Bishop stated that he had been a part of the meeting with NMED Secretary Flynn, and
38 that he had reported back to his management at DOE on the potential for renegotiations on the
39 Consent Order.

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VIII. Presentation on NNMCA Processes and Procedures

Mr. Bishop, Ms. Santistevan, Ms. Tiffany Ortiz, and Mr. Alexander gave a presentation to the CC on “NNMCAB Processes and Procedures”. A copy of the presentation may be requested by contacting the NNMCA office at (505) 989-1662, or on the NNMCA website at <http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm>.

IX. Public Comment Period

Mr. Tiano opened the public comment period at 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Kovac thanked everyone for the invitation to the meeting, and noted that he realized that even though the meeting was a public meeting he considered it a deliberative process so he would never quote anyone in other forums.

Mr. Tiano closed public comment at 3:47 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Mr. Tiano noted that the next CC meeting would be August 14, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the NNMCA office. He also noted that the board meeting would be on July 31, 2013 at Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He advised the members that the WIPP & WCS tour would be November 4th through the 6th.

With no additional comments Mr. Tiano adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

William Alexander
Technical Programs and Outreach