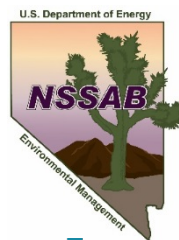


Introduction to the EM SSAB

July 2019 – NNM CAB

David Borak, Designated Federal Officer, EM SSAB

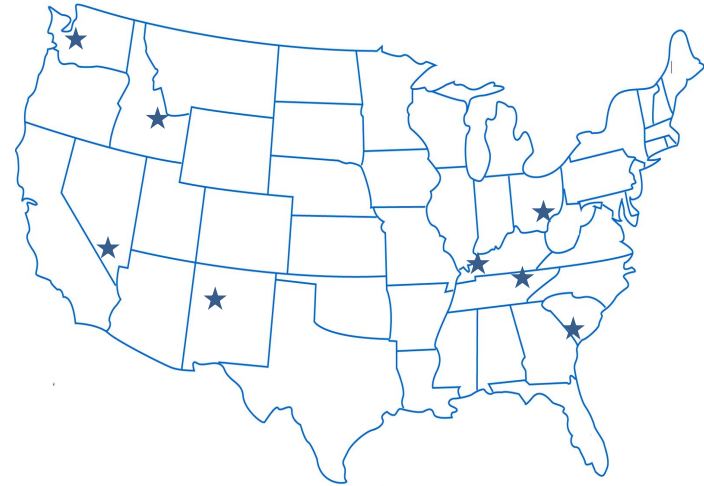


- The Formation of the EM SSAB
- FACA and the Guiding Principles for the EM SSAB
- Your Roles & Responsibilities under FACA
- Legal Considerations Under FACA
- Questions



What is the EM SSAB?

- Chartered in **1994** under FACA to involve local citizens more directly in DOE EM cleanup decisions
- There is **one charter** for the EM SSAB – currently eight local boards organized under the EM SSAB umbrella charter
- These eight local boards are brought together routinely at the EM SSAB **Chairs meetings**, where the EM SSAB is able to speak in one voice



- Made up of **representative** members, not necessarily experts
- Focus on **stakeholder values**
- DOE receives **independent input** and focus on **transparency to build trust**

Purpose of FACA

- Ensure that advice by advisory boards/committees is **objective** and **accessible** to the public
- **Formalize** process for establishing, operating, overseeing and terminating advisory boards
- Create the **Committee Management Secretariat**
- Require that boards **advise and recommend**, not decide and implement

Benefits of FACA

- Transparency and participation improves **citizens' trust** in government
- FACA requirements lend **credibility** to the boards' advice



FACA by the Numbers

- ~1,000 federal advisory committees in existence at any time.
- ~65,000 committee and subcommittee members at any time.
- ~60 executive departments and agencies that sponsor committees each year.
- ~1,000 reports issued each year.
- ~7,000 meetings held each year.



- Requires a **charter** outlining the committee's mission and specific duties
- Allow for **open access** to committee meetings and operations
 - Meetings must be **accessible** to the public and **announced** in the Federal Register
 - Committee **documents must be maintained** and made available for public inspection
- Maintain a “**fairly balanced**” membership
- Provide an opportunity for **Public Comment**
- Violations?



Guiding Documents

FACA

DOE Committee
Management
Manual

EM SSAB Charter

EM SSAB Guidance

Operating Procedures

Member Responsibilities

- **Attend regular meetings** and learn about the site's EM cleanup mission
- **Provide recommendations** at the request of EM management
- Work **collaboratively and respectfully** with other Board members
- Avoid techniques such as “**bargaining**” and **acquiescence** simply to avoid conflict and reach agreement
- **Avoid responding directly to public comments**
- Don't use your **title or represent** the board outside of a meeting
- Report if an **outside entity** is attempting to influence your decisions
- Focus on the Board's mission – collaboratively establishing a **work plan**
- Notify the DDFO of any potential or perceived **conflict of interest**

EM SSAB members are **not** subject to the same federal ethics regulations as federal employees and Special Government Employees (SGEs).

- **As a matter of policy**, however, DOE asks that you:
 - Refrain from any use of your membership, which is, or gives the appearance of being, motivated by the desire for private, professional, or financial gain;
 - Recuse yourself from decisions and discussions related to real or perceived conflicts of interest, act impartially, and avoid the appearance of impropriety; and
 - Seek immediate guidance, beginning with the DDFO, if you are offered anything of value such as a gift, gratuity, loan, or favor in connection with advisory board service.

Questions?

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