

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

May 3-4, 2022

**Holiday Inn Riverfront Paducah
600 North Fourth Street
Paducah, KY 42001**

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CAB – Citizens Advisory Board
D&D – Deactivation & Decommissioning
DDFO – Deputy Designated Federal Officer
DOE – US Department of Energy
EM – (DOE) Office of Environmental Management
EM SSAB – Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board
EM-LA – (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos
FACA – Federal Advisory Committee Act
FY – Fiscal Year
Hanford – (DOE) Hanford Site
HAB – Hanford Advisory Board
HLW – High-Level Waste
HQ – Headquarters
ICP CAB – Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board
ISA – Idaho Settlement Agreement
IWTU – Integrated Waste Treatment Unit
MSIPP – Minority Serving Institutions Partnership Program
Nevada SSAB – Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
NNM CAB – Northern New Mexico Citizens’ Advisory Board
NNSA – National Nuclear Security Administration
NNSS – (DOE) Nevada National Security Site
OMB – The Office of Management and Budget
ORNL – Oak Ridge National Laboratory
OR SSAB – Oak Ridge Site-Specific Advisory Board
Paducah CAB – Paducah Citizens Advisory Board
Portsmouth – (DOE) Portsmouth Site
PORTS SSAB – Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board
PPPO – Paducah and Portsmouth Project Office
SRS – (DOE) Savannah River Site
SRS CAB – Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
TRU – Transuranic Waste
WIPP – Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

PARTICIPANTS

Hanford Advisory Board: Janice Catrell, Member; Carrie Meyer, Federal Staff; Gary Younger, Federal Coordinator (virtual); Debra Yergen, Staff (virtual); Dana Crowley, Staff (virtual)

Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board: Teri Ehresman, Chair (virtual); Connie Flohr, Deputy Designated Federal Officer; Danielle Miller, Federal Coordinator (virtual); Kelly Green, Staff

Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board: Anthony Graham, Vice-Chair (virtual); Catherine Hampton, Federal Staff (virtual); Bill Wilborn, Federal Staff (virtual); Tiffany Gamero, Federal Staff (virtual); Barbara Ulmer, Staff (virtual); Jesse Sleezer, Staff (virtual); Rob Boehlecke, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (virtual)

Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board: Cherylin Atcitty, Chair (virtual); Patricio Pacheco, Member (virtual); M. Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (virtual); Menice Santistevan, Staff (virtual); Bridget Maestas, Staff (virtual)

Oak Ridge Site-Specific Advisory Board: Leon Shields, Chair; Amy Jones, Vice-Chair (virtual); Melyssa Noe, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (virtual); Shelley Kimmel, Staff (virtual); Sara McManamy-Johnson, Staff (virtual)

Paducah Citizens Advisory Board: Don Barger, Chair; Fran Johnson, Vice-Chair; Eric Roberts, Meeting Facilitator; Robert "Buz" Smith, Federal Coordinator; Hayly Wiggins, Staff; Jennifer Woodard, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Joel Bradburne, Portsmouth / Paducah Project Office Manager

Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board: Bob Berry, Chair; Carlton Cave, Vice-Chair; Greg Simonton, Federal Coordinator; Julie Galloway, Staff; Charles Love, Staff

Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board: Gregg Murray, Chair; Charles Hilton, Vice-Chair; Amy Boyette, Deputy Designated Federal Officer; de'Lisa Carrico, Federal Coordinator; James Tanner, Staff

DOE Headquarters:

Candice Robertson, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary to Environmental Management (EM) (virtual); Doug Tonkay, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste and Materials Management (virtual); Kristen Ellis, Acting Director, Office of Regulatory, Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Engagement; Joceline Nahigian, Director, Office of Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Programs (virtual); Steve Trischman, Director, Office of Budget and Planning; Chris Crowley, Office of Budget and Planning; Kelly Snyder, EM SSAB Designated Federal Officer; Alyssa Petit, EM SSAB Federal Coordinator; Michelle Hudson, Office of Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Programs (virtual)

MEETING MINUTES

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs and Vice-Chairs met in Paducah, Kentucky and virtually via WebEx on May 3 – 4, 2022. Participants included EM SSAB leadership, EM Headquarters (HQ) leadership and staff, EM SSAB contractor support staff, and presenters. The meeting was open to the public and conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

Day 1

Opening Remarks

Mr. Eric Roberts, contractor support for the Paducah and Portsmouth Project Office (PPPO) and meeting facilitator, welcomed all attendees and reviewed the ground rules and functionality of the hybrid platform for the meeting. All meeting participants introduced themselves.

Mr. Joel Bradburne, PPPO Manager, welcomed all attendees to Paducah and encouraged everyone to have a productive meeting.

Update from Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary to Environmental Management, Candice Robertson

Ms. Robertson thanked all participants for their service on the EM SSAB. She emphasized that EM is fortunate to be surrounded by unique Tribal Nations and communities who are engaged in advancing cleanup. She recognized that the Chairs, and the boards they represent, are vital links to the communities, ensuring that those most impacted by the environmental legacy of the past have a strong voice at the table. She recognized that the local boards have been willing to conduct business in new ways to ensure progress continued while meeting in-person was not possible.

Ms. Robertson shared the ongoing progress at EM sites that has been achieved by working with stakeholders. In Paducah, one of EM's two plants that convert depleted uranium hexafluoride to more stable compounds, returned to conversion operations in March 2022 following a 20-month safety pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Todd Shrader, the former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for EM, met with the President of the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce and Mayor Pro Tem, Sandra Wilson in February of 2022. They discussed the community's priorities for the cleanup of the former Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

Ms. Robertson emphasized that tank waste is a top EM priority. Hanford is treating tank waste on a large scale through the Tank Side Cesium Removal system, which will transform waste into glass by the end of next year. Idaho is in the final stages of preparing the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU) for operation and has completed buried waste remediation ahead of

schedule, helping to protect the Snake River Aquifer. Savannah River Site (SRS) is processing record amounts of tank waste.

Ms. Robertson discussed another priority – working through the remaining inventories of legacy transuranic (TRU) waste at Los Alamos and other sites. This includes deactivation and decommissioning (D&D) of aging and contaminated facilities. Demolition of the Biology Complex at the Oak Ridge Y-12 facility will lead to a transfer of the 18-acre area to the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) later this year. This allows EM to focus on other demolition work at Y-12. Demolition of the first of three former enrichment buildings is underway at Portsmouth and will be completed this summer. Nevada is preparing for demolition work at the Engine Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly, and Test Cell C facilities this year. As buildings come down at some sites, infrastructure upgrades are underway at others, including the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) so that TRU waste shipments can continue from other sites.

Ms. Robertson emphasized that this year's accomplishments are remarkable. She stated that as individual milestones, the achievements are impressive, but collectively they position the EM program on the right track for the future. The fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget request builds on these successes, reflecting a strong commitment to advancing the cleanup mission and ensuring the communities surrounding EM sites are safe. As the FY 2023 budget and appropriations process moves forward, planning is well underway for FY 2024 and beyond. As part of that planning process, Ms. Robertson promised that EM will continue to engage with each of the advisory boards, stakeholders, and Tribes on priorities.

EM is optimistic that they can also address long-standing issues, such as:

- Developing a realistic and achievable approach for addressing the high-level tank waste at Hanford.
- Defining the path forward for key sites like Savannah River and WIPP so they remain integral to DOE's national security and scientific research missions.
- Pursuing a world-class technology development program.
- Building and retaining a high quality and diverse workforce.
- Strengthening relationships with regulators and stakeholders across EM to gain the alignment that will enable future progress.

Ms. Robertson discussed EM's commitment to uphold obligations to the communities that played an important role in the security of this country. Under the leadership of Secretary Granholm, EM is working to ensure these communities have a vibrant future. This aligns with the Administration's environmental justice priorities. Los Alamos was chosen as one of the Department's pilot projects for the Justice40 initiative. This initiative will create opportunities in New Mexico for stronger collaboration with communities.

Ms. Robertson stated that another key area of investment is in a talented workforce. Achieving EM's mission relies on having a workforce talent pipeline to ensure innovation and efficiency. The EM workforce of the future will require an increased focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Those efforts often start at the local level, in communities and classrooms. Senior

Advisor for EM, William “Ike” White was recently in Aiken, South Carolina where EM broke ground on the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative facility. This will provide essential space for mission work and facilitate academic, industry, and community collaboration in state-of-the-art laboratory space. This space will bring cutting edge research and development and attract a diverse and talented next-generation workforce.

Ms. Robertson discussed recruitment efforts and the expansion of the Minority Serving Institutions Partnership Program (MSIPP). The investment in the program this year, as well as continued funding in the FY 2023 request, will enable EM to add a technology curriculum and professional development program, a graduate fellowship program and a research partnership between EM and minority serving institutions. These tools and programs set the stage for developing the skilled and diverse workforce of tomorrow.

Ms. Robertson shared that the mission is most successful when a broad range of voices are heard, moving forward in a collaborative manner. Last month, the EM SSAB Charter was renewed for another two-years. For 28 years, the EM SSAB has been providing advice and recommendations to EM and making a positive difference in the national clean-up program. During that time, 1,749 recommendations have been made and EM has either fully or partially accepted 85% of them.

Ms. Robertson stated that EM is continuing to look at ways to increase diversity and inclusion on advisory boards in support of Executive Order 14035 “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce.” She emphasized that local advisory board membership should mirror the communities they are representing to ensure everyone has an opportunity to voice their viewpoints. She said EM is also looking at site-specific ways to further engage with the unique communities most impacted by the mission. She said they are also considering lessons learned from the pandemic about engagement and best practices to carry over to the “new normal.”

Ms. Robertson shared that the most impactful accomplishments have been realized when EM and its cleanup partners are in alignment on goals that are both effective and achievable. By continuing to strengthen engagement, EM can build on its record of results, deliver for communities, and prepare for sustainable cleanup success.

Mr. Barger asked how projects are prioritized. Ms. Robertson shared that site managers are empowered to make the decisions and set priorities for each fiscal year.

Chairs Round Robin

Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)

Mr. Anthony Graham, Vice-Chair, reported that the NSSAB is interested to know if there have been discussions at EM Headquarters (HQ) about sunseting of some EM-chartered advisory boards, including the NSSAB, and the potential impact on public involvement in those communities. The NSSAB is also focused on the safe transportation of offsite waste to the

Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Mr. Graham requests that DOE consider engaging the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to discuss optimizing inbound route selection and promote the safe transportation of waste to the NNSS.

Mr. Graham reported that the NSSAB utilized new and innovative approaches in its recent new member recruitment campaign to support a diverse, inclusive, and well-balanced membership. He also stated that the use of hybrid meetings helped the NSSAB remain a strong and cohesive board throughout the pandemic.

Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (SRS CAB)

Mr. Gregg Murray, Chair, discussed three hot topics at SRS: L-Basin de-inventory acceleration, the Salt Waste Processing Facility's accomplishment of two million gallons in year one, and the rate of D&D of unused facilities. He pointed out that D&D of these facilities have a significant cost savings in the long-run, which can then be used for other priorities.

The SRS CAB held all 2022 meetings 100% in-person, without a hybrid option. The SRS CAB successfully increased membership from six to 21 members and has seen renewed energy for increased outreach.

Hanford Advisory Board (HAB)

Ms. Janice Catrell, member, shared the HAB's success of virtual meetings, but they are looking forward to hybrid and in-person meetings.

The Board issued three pieces of consensus advice, including:

- Requesting a plan for mitigating leaks for old single shell tanks at risk for leaking before final waste retrieval
- Requesting DOE to reconsider term limits for long-time members
- Presenting the annual Board perspective on Hanford Site cleanup priorities

Oak Ridge Site-Specific Advisory Board (OR SSAB)

Ms. Amy Jones, Vice-Chair, reported that members received a detailed overview of FACA and its role in the EM SSAB, successfully onboarded new members and elected board officers, and prepared the FY 2023 membership package. They plan for a major groundwater recommendation for East Tennessee Technology Park.

Challenges the board is facing include recruiting new members and increasing diversity during the pandemic, retrofitting meeting facilities to accommodate in-person/virtual hybrid meetings, and the inability to tour sites in-person. Ms. Jones said that virtual tours or video tours are quite limited in comparison.

Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board (NNM CAB)

Ms. Cherylin Atcitty, Chair, said the NNM CAB was able to maintain quorum and held all full Board, Executive, and standing committee meetings in virtual or hybrid format, which increased the number of participants for each meeting. Even with health restrictions, seven individuals were recruited and appointed as new members and four members were reappointed to an additional term. HQ and the site are amenable to increasing the NNM CAB recruitment area to include more Tribal entities and communities affected by waste management activities from Los Alamos.

Board challenges include delays in nomination package approval, which caused several individuals to have to step back from participating for several months. Additionally, COVID-19 health restrictions limited opportunities for external interaction with the public, but hybrid meetings increased the number of participants for each meeting. Ms. Atcitty pointed out that health restrictions are still impacting the Board's processes.

Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board (Portsmouth SSAB)

Mr. Bob Berry, Chair, shared that the communication of additional air monitoring data from around the site, verified by Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and Ohio Department of Health, has improved stakeholder confidence and general knowledge of the site. Tremendous progress has been made in the demolition of the X-326 process building. D&D was done safely and efficiently with continuous updates and discussion on the progress. The site had a great deal of success bringing in outside, independent experts to help explain and contextualize the cleanup process.

Paducah Citizens Advisory Board (Paducah CAB)

Mr. Don Barger shared that the Paducah CAB expresses their appreciation to DOE for its commitment to health and safety during the pandemic. With limited onsite staffing, the site maximized this time to move ahead on critical infrastructure projects. Not only did these improvements provide immediate savings to the site, but they also provided a pathway for quick implementation of future projects if needed. Collaborative planning and foresight, along with routine discussions with the CAB and local stakeholders, made this effort a huge success.

Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board (ICP CAB)

Ms. Teri Ehresman, Chair, discussed the ICP CAB's focus on the protection of the Snake River Plain Aquifer by monitoring and tracking cleanup progress and milestones related to compliance with the Idaho Settlement Agreement (ISA) and other cleanup-related regulatory and legal agreements. Additionally, they are also focused on overseeing the safe startup of the steam-reforming technology at the IWTU to begin processing 900,000 gallons of liquid sodium-bearing high-level waste.

ICP CAB goals revolve around urging timely decision-making and funding to support activities related to spent nuclear fuel repackaging and calcine retrieval and packaging to meet 2035 ISA milestones. They are encouraging the development of a complex-wide plan and process to move forward and establish certainty on identifying, funding, and opening a long-term high-level waste

repository, and expediting decision-making related to the resumption of remote-handled TRU emplacement at WIPP. Ms. Ehresman mentioned the site's accomplishments, such as completing the exhumation of targeted buried waste from 5.69 acres of the Subsurface Disposal Area and successfully transitioning prime contractor Fluor Idaho to Idaho Environmental Coalition, LLC.

Mr. Roberts noted the common threads in the site updates. Frustration with the membership approval and recruitment process and difficulty in hybrid/virtual meetings when internet access is not equal in all parts of the country. He thanked all participants for sharing their site updates.

Public Comment

No written comments were received.

EM SSAB Recommendations Status

Ms. Kelly Snyder, EM SSAB Designated Federal Officer, spoke about the recommendations put forth during the Fall 2022 Chairs meeting. One board, Portsmouth SSAB, has been unable to vote on these recommendations due to their meeting schedule. Mr. Roberts stated that Portsmouth was holding a meeting in June, where they will vote on the recommendations. He did not anticipate any dissension and advised that Portsmouth SSAB would be willing for the recommendations to move forward without their vote. All Boards agreed to move forward with the recommendations from Fall 2022 Chairs meeting and look forward to Portsmouth's approval after their June board meeting.

Ms. Snyder and HQ staff have been trying to get member packages through the lengthy process more efficiently. HQ and sites have been collaborating and identifying goals together, to reduce questions about the package at various levels. With this new process, proposed membership slates are reviewed by Senior Advisor for EM William "Ike" White and the White House Liaison Office before the formal package is developed. This allows for early feedback from senior leadership and helps reduce the amount of time the package is in the formal concurrence process.

Ms. Snyder shared that she was able to get approval to issue interim appointments for up to 90 days if a member's term lapses and they are being nominated by the site for another term. The procedure is being written and will be finalized within the next three months.

Open Discussion

Mr. Graham said he would be interested to hear how boards at sites where the EM mission concluded have sunset. Mr. Graham said that Nevada's current end date is 2027-2030, so they will face this eventually. The board is a way for the public to participate in a transparent dialogue about the EM mission at the site. DFO Snyder stated the charter specially states the EM SSAB exists to provide recommendations on EM activities. Therefore, when the EM mission at a site ends the EM board will be disbanded.

Mr. Charles Hilton (SRS) asked how many of the eight boards have the ability to move to the Office of Legacy Management sometime soon. Ms. Snyder shared that there are parts of Nevada that have already moved to the Office of Legacy Management. She said that it would be up to the landlord of the site to determine how community engagement would be completed.

Ms. Catrell said HAB has board members who have been on 20+ years. She is concerned about cutting them out of important conversations, given their institutional knowledge. Ms. Snyder said that former members are still welcome at SSAB meetings and can offer public comment.

Mr. Roberts adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM CT.

Day 2

Opening Remarks

Mr. Roberts welcomed attendees back for the second day of the meeting.

Administration Priorities

Mr. Roberts introduced Ms. Kristen Ellis, Acting Director for the Office of Regulatory, Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Engagement.

Ms. Ellis shared that EM is one of the most important components of DOE's overarching mission to address energy, environmental and nuclear challenges. The cleanup progress not only protects the environment, but it creates opportunities for economic development, conservation, and recreation for the communities surrounding EM sites. The EM mission is aligned with administration goals that lead to safe, clean, thriving communities throughout the nation – including those impacted by the environmental legacy of the past.

Ms. Ellis shared that a DOE reorganization took place earlier this year, spurred by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Energy Act of 2020. The new structure optimizes DOE's expertise to tackle climate change, build the clean energy economy, boost American competitiveness, modernize America's infrastructure, and empower communities. EM now reports directly to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary. Ms. Ellis projected the DOE organizational chart for reference.

Regarding the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Ms. Ellis noted that DOE will receive over \$62 billion in funding to deliver a more equitable clean energy future. DOE initiatives will include investing in American manufacturing and workers, expanding access and delivering reliable, clean, and affordable power to more Americans, and building the technologies of tomorrow through clean energy demonstrations.

Ms. Ellis discussed the Clean Energy Corps hiring effort, which places both current employees and new hires in more than a dozen offices across DOE, all working together to research, develop, demonstrate, and deploy clean energy solutions. Staff positions are available across the country. To support this effort, DOE will continue to hire industry veterans, experienced technical experts, and next generation leaders on a rolling basis.

Regarding climate action and sustainability, Ms. Ellis said that EM is addressing climate-related vulnerabilities and increasing resilience at sites. EM has reduced direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions by more than 70% since 2008, better than the DOE's overall achievement. EM actively supported development of a DOE-wide Climate Action Plan required by Executive Order 14008, to bolster climate adaptation and increase resilience at facilities and in operations. The plan was released on October 7, 2021. Initiatives in the plan include moving to renewable and zero-emission energy sources, converting to zero-emission vehicle fleets and modes of transportation, addressing climate-related vulnerabilities and increasing resilience at sites, and restoring and conserving land.

Ms. Ellis discussed the expansion of EM's MSIPP, which addresses the need for building and maintaining a well-trained, technically skilled, and diverse workforce by promoting the education and development of the next generation in critical science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines. The MSIPP was designed to help address EM's future workforce needs by partnering with academic, government, and DOE contractor organizations to mentor future minority scientists and engineers in the research, development, and deployment of new technologies that address EM's environmental cleanup challenges. EM received \$56 million in FY 2022 for the MSIPP.

Ms. Ellis mentioned that EM already makes investments in some Tribal STEM curriculums and is looking to expand outreach to Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Ms. Ellis said that DOE is acutely aware that a significant portion of its workforce is ready to retire. She shared that EM's workforce is predominately over 40 years old and the need for a younger STEM educated workforce is great, especially in the coming decade.

DOE recently published its Equity Action Plan, developed in response to Executive Order 13985 on "Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government." Five priority actions to advance equity at the Department include:

- a. Address broad gaps in data collection to facilitate data-informed decision-making.
- b. Increase opportunities for new entrants in DOE acquisition (i.e., procurement and financial assistance).
- c. Increase participation by individuals and institutions underrepresented in DOE research and development and other programs supported through financial assistance.
- d. Expand strategic Tribal and stakeholder engagement in all DOE business areas.
- e. Improve access and equity in DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program.

EM is implementing the President's Executive Order 14035 "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce," which directs federal advisory boards to enhance

diversity and inclusion. Input is enhanced when a board closely reflects the community's diversity. Recruitment efforts include outreach to local women's, minority, young professionals, and labor organizations, as well as outreach in local newspapers, community centers, libraries, and colleges. EM's advisory board team oversees the demographic makeup of the boards to promote diversity in many areas, including age, gender, race, education, experience, and geographic location. This diversity enhances creativity and effectiveness of the boards and amplifies voices of the communities surrounding EM sites.

Ms. Ellis also discussed Executive Order 14008 on "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad", which established the Justice40 Initiative, a government effort to deliver at least 40% of the overall benefits from certain Federal investments to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution. Since its inception, EM has incorporated environmental justice efforts into its cleanup mission. The Justice40 Initiative builds on existing EM cleanup work.

The focus of EM's environmental cleanup work under the Justice40 Initiative is soil and groundwater remediation. The EM sites and programs that are within the Justice40 initiative can be viewed on the EM website at: <https://www.energy.gov/em/justice40-initiative>.

The EM-Los Alamos Field Office was chosen as one of five DOE Justice40 pilot programs, and it is the only Justice40 pilot program in EM.

Ms. Ellis stated that EM is actively participating in administration efforts to bolster regular, meaningful, and robust engagement with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implication. This includes participation in the recently revitalized DOE Tribal Energy Steering Committee, delivery of Tribal Consultation training to EM HQ and field leadership, and the review and update of the 2009 DOE Order 144.1 "Department of Energy American Indian Tribal Government Interactions and Policy".

Ms. Ellis mentioned other opportunities for EM tribal engagement, such as continued sponsorship of the State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG). STGWG was the Department's first tribal working group, establishing a model for other DOE portfolios.

EM-LA grants to the Santa Fe Indian School support a rigorous STEM curriculum for native students in environmental science and agricultural science. This prepares them for STEM careers as partner with Los Alamos National Laboratory for mentorship opportunities.

Ms. Ellis thanked the EM SSAB members for the important work they do to engage with DOE on behalf of their communities.

EM Budget Update

Mr. Roberts introduced Mr. Steve Trischman, Director of Budget and Planning for EM. Mr. Trischman shared the timeline of the federal budget process. He stated that EM's FY 2022 enacted budget for \$7.9 billion was signed into law on March 11, 2022 and reflects a strong commitment to clean up. The administration's FY 2023 funding request was released on March

28, 2022 and sustains progress in cleaning up the environmental legacy and helping impacted communities look toward the future. HQ's federal budget and planning workshop for FY 2024 was held on April 5 – 6, 2022. DOE anticipates submitting EM budget request to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) near the end of September 2022. In late November, the OMB is expected to submit passback to DOE and the president is expected to submit FY 2024 Budget Request to Congress on the first Monday of February 2023.

Mr. Trischman stated that stakeholder input is utilized continuously, and that each EM site develops an overall schedule for its activities and projects and incorporates it into a life cycle plan using a priority list based on funding needs. Prioritizations for a 5-year window for all sites are combined and reviewed by EM field managers and budget staff to develop an integrated priority list, which in turn is used to create the budget.

Mr. Trischman went over FY 2021-FY 2023 funding site-by-site discussing the FY 2021 and FY 2022 enacted funding and FY 2023 requested funding. The six Primary Mission Areas are Special Nuclear Materials & Spent Fuel 7%, Radioactive Tank Waste 35%, TRU & Solid Waste 13%, Facility D&D 20%, Soil & Groundwater 7% and Site Services 18%.

Mr. Trischman stated that the EM's FY 2023 request builds on past investments and supports new innovative initiatives. The request:

- Advances commissioning and startup of Direct Feed Low-Activity Waste (DFLAW) and ramps up work at the ETP high-Level Waste Facility at the office of River Protection in Washington State
- Completes interim safe stabilization of the 105KE reactor and maintains key risk reduction activities at Richland in Washington State
- Processes tank waste at a rate of 6 million gallons per year at Savannah River Site in South Carolina
- Continues infrastructure improvements at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) to enable increased transuranic waste shipments in New Mexico
- Completes the transfer of EM-owned spent nuclear fuel from wet to dry storage and continues operation of the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit at Idaho
- Continues cleanup of excess facilities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Y-12 National Security Complex in Tennessee.
- Completes 30 shipments of legacy transuranic waste to WIPP and initiates deactivation and decommissioning of NNSA's Ion Beam Facility at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico
- Completes waste loading and debris placement from demolition of the first gaseous diffusion plant building (X-326) at Portsmouth in Ohio
- Begins separation of C-333 process building converters to advance deactivation at Paducah in Kentucky
- Continues demolition of the Main Plant Process Building at the West Valley Demonstration Project in New York
- Completes shipment of approximately 1.2M tons of uranium mill tailings for disposal at Moab in Utah

- Continues demolition of excess facilities at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California

Mr. Trischman discussed EM's continued investment in the workforce and communities. This includes investing in underrepresented communities near EM sites to increase engagement and opportunities by expanding the MSIPP. EM will also support payment in lieu of taxes at impacted communities. EM will establish the Community Capacity Building initiative to address equity concerns within disadvantaged communities. This will establish a new grant program to provide assistance and capacity building based on needs identified through Tribal consultation and stakeholder engagement. EM will continue stakeholder outreach on the Justice40 initiative through the Los Alamos pilot as well as other EM sites.

Mr. Trischman noted the importance of keeping an open line of communication and keeping stakeholders apprised of EM priorities with an understanding of the rationale for decisions made. From a budget standpoint, there are opportunities for stakeholder input throughout the budget planning cycle, and this feedback is communicated and continuously used during the entire process. He reminded that the site budget requests to HQ become embargoed to anyone outside of EM federal employees indefinitely. Therefore, all discussions are confined to prioritized activities and not to funding levels associated with these activities.

Mr. Roberts thanked Mr. Trischman for his presentation and opened the floor for questions. Ms. Larsen gave credit to Hanford Site Manager Brian Vance and his team for their commitment to the HAB. Ms. Larsen said there are HAB members that do not understand that dissemination of the embargoed budget numbers is not allowed. Mr. Murray asked why payment in lieu of taxes is not included in every FY budget. Mr. Trischman replied that it depends on funding levels and availability.

Public Comment

Ms. Elena Fernandez submitted a comment:

“DOE STEM Pipeline partnerships have benefited students in New Mexico for several years. At New Mexico State University, DOE has aided faculty and students by supporting research, National Laboratory access, and opportunities.

These partnerships and pipelines have been excellent in building capacity not only for our faculty and students but also for our National Laboratories. Our students, early career faculty and researchers, and professor emeriti who become staff scientists or laboratory partners.

These pipeline opportunities are not limited to STEM but to STEM supporting and serving subject matter experts who work in academic and research supporting capacities.”

Open Discussion

Mr. Cave asked what forms of clean energy EM is considering. Ms. Ellis replied that the DOE primarily focuses on the cleanup of nuclear sites, but within that scope they are moving into alternative energy sources such as electric car stations. The type of clean energy considered will depend on the site.

Mr. Murray mentioned that DOE is looking at retiring workforces as private industry is seeing a similar trend. He asked if EM considered a long-term solution for replacing talent. Ms. Ellis said that DOE is working to maintain the pipeline of qualified applicants through its STEM initiatives.

Mr. Barger asked who is eligible for Justice40 grants. Ms. Ellis said that she does not have that information at this time. It is still being finalized, but as soon as it is available, the details will be shared.

Mr. Roberts asked how the audience felt about hybrid meetings vs in-person meetings. Ms. Atcitty stated that NNM CAB has a great response online, which improved access and participation. However, the members do not interact as much. She said they miss the ability to speak on matters in-person, one-on-one. Mr. Graham agreed that hybrid meetings bring more participants but less participation from the participants. Mr. Barger said that hybrid meetings are lower in cost, but in-person meetings are always preferred. Ms. Ehresman said that ICP CAB had their first in-person meeting last week, and although some people can't travel, being in-person is nice.

Ms. Snyder stated that in the past, each board's chair has agreed to represent their board at this meeting. This has caused some to shy away from being chair or vice-chair. She asked if anyone would object to allowing other SSAB members who are not chair or vice-chair to attend the Chairs meeting on their behalf. All agreed that allowing this would be beneficial.

Ms. Atcitty invited everyone to make plans for the EM SSAB Fall Chairs Meeting in Santa Fe, NM the week of September 5, 2022.

Mr. Roberts thanked everyone for their time and attention. Ms. Snyder thanked the chairs and vice-chairs for their participation and attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM CT.