



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Approved June 10, 2026, Full Board Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) held its monthly full board meeting virtually via Zoom and in person at 1 Science.gov Way on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 6 p.m. Copies of referenced meeting materials are attached. A video of the meeting is available on the board's YouTube, www.youtube.com/user/ORSSAB/videos.

Members Present

Brandon Adcock
Sammantha Ashley
Mary Butler
Laure Clark
Lauren LaLuzerne
Kenneth Lewis
Harriett McCurdy

Otto Merz
Melanie Rogers
Tonya Shannon
Michael Sharpe
Kelli Thompson
Matt Van Dalen

Members Absent

Kris Bartholomew
Harold Conner, Jr.
Paul Dill
Rosario Gonzalez

Thomas McCormick
Charles Moore
Tom Tuck

Liaisons, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, and Alternates Present

Melyssa Noe, ORSSAB Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO), OREM
Roger Petrie, ORSSAB Alternate DDFO, OREM
Mike Griswold, OREM
Morgan Carden, OREM
Kristof Czartoryski, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
Jana Dawson, EPA

Others Present

Leah Alexander, OREM
Steve Clemons, OREM
Joanna Hardin, OREM

Abby Hill, OREM
Shelley Kimel, ORSSAB Staff
Eileen Marcillo, TDEC

Sara McManamy-Johnson, ORSSAB Staff
Angel Perkey, TDEC

Randy Young, TDEC
Anne Wallace, OREM

3 members of the public were present.

Liaison Comments

Mr. Petrie – Petrie gave members an overview of OREM activities since the last board meeting. He said most of the applicable updates are continuations of activities discussed previously. He told members crews are getting ready to begin demolition on Isotope Row, which is not just one facility but several. He said deactivation on these facilities has been underway for several years and has involved sensitive and complex work. Completing this work will be a significant advancement in the cleanup of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Central Campus.

Mr. Czartoryski – None

Ms. Dawson – Ms. Dawson said EPA remains engaged in the progress being made in Oak Ridge and looks forward to continuing that progress.

Presentation

Ms. Thompson introduced OREM's Mike Griswold and Morgan Carden to discuss Updates at ORNL and Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12).

Mr. Griswold began with an overview of challenges involved with cleanup at ORNL, including conducting cleanup at an active DOE site, ensuring worker safety in radiological areas, higher technical difficulty and planning requirements, and outdated drawings and lack of information creating unknowns and changing conditions. Despite those challenges, he said progress has been made, including completed demolitions of the Tritium Target Facility, Building 3026 West Cell Bank, the Bulk Shielding Reactor, the Low-Intensity Test Reactor, and Building 3003. He said major preparation is underway at the Graphite Reactor support facilities, Isotope Row facilities, the Oak Ridge Research Reactor, and 3026 Hot Cells.

He then discussed progress in other ORNL missions, including the Transuranic Waste Processing Center, which processed more than 7 cubic meters of cellulosic and more than 6 cubic meters of oxide waste in the last year, and Uranium (U)-233 operations, which continues processing and is on schedule.

Next, Ms. Carden gave an overview of the history and characteristics of Y-12. She said 60 percent of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) buildings are more than 40 years old and many are high-risk facilities that pose risks and challenges to ongoing national security missions.

She then discussed some of the projects already completed, including the Biology Complex, Building 9213, and Alpha-2, and some projects coming up and underway, including Beta-1 (Building 9204-1), the old steam plant (Building 9401-1), Beta-4 (Building 9204-4), and Alpha-4 (Building 9201-4).

Board members asked the following questions:

- Ms. Dawson asked whether “high-risk” refers to building structures or building contents.
 - Mr. Petrie said this context refers to a DOE categorization, which is a broader definition than that used in CERCLA (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980). He said it includes risks to the environment and public health, and it includes business risks.
- Ms. McCurdy asked what the first workers going into a facility in preparation for demolition are looking for. Where do they begin?
 - Ms. Carden said workers beginning deactivation must follow the National Historic Preservation Act, so they will look at what is inside, take pictures with some of the original types of cameras, and all that will go for historic preservation. When OREM takes operational control, workers will research the facility’s history, including any spills or accidents, and schematics before further deactivation activities take place.
- Mr. Sharpe asked for additional details about how remote handling waste works.
 - Mr. Griswold said containers with waste requiring remote handling will be remote handled in hot cells.

Public Questions

- Mr. Doug Colclasure asked what the latest update is on the Mercury Treatment Facility (MTF). He then said there is a tanker truck that pulls water out of East Fork Poplar Creek every couple weeks and asked what aspect of work that pertains to.
 - Mr. Petrie said the water is used by the Aquatic Ecology Laboratory at ORNL to do research on mercury in the environment, and the researchers use water from the creek to set up an artificial creek in the laboratory to mimic the environment.

Public Comment

- Public Comment #1 – Mr. Luther Gibson gave the following public comment:

The time of year or the calendar often triggers memories of the past. For the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board certain months produced memorable events. In June, a Nominations Committee, usually consisting of about three, would begin secret deliberations and conversations to ensure that there would be Board officers for the next year. Planning for an annual retreat and annual meeting to be held in August would be underway. New Board members would come along in July. One thing I recall is the persuasion that would be attempted on new members to select which committees they would serve on. The committees were such things as Waste Management, Stewardship, Environmental Restoration, Board Process, Public Outreach, Board Finance, and Budget & Prioritization. The committees were not single-issue groups. The Coalition of Oak Ridge Retired Employees, of which I’m a member, has a 22-member board, same number as ORSSAB. It has 13 committees, not including the Executive Committee. I chair two and participate actively on at least four others. Most committees only meet separately as needed, but the leaders are accountable for status reports at full Board monthly meetings and taking on actions based on those discussions. There is a work plan prepared at the beginning of the year but modified as needed. For the ORSSAB, thirteen committees are definitely too many, but one is not enough for effective engagement.

For the August meeting, I hear it's going to go about like last year, I intend once again to update my exhaustive list (not limited to five topics) of issues recommended for study or at least status tracking in FY 2027.

I have two areas I also want to cover, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) did not review the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board Work Plan to determine if transuranic waste was in the scheduled programming. An agency-initiated permit modification update prioritizes disposal of waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory with specific metrics that could jeopardize sustained maintenance of capability to ship from other DOE generator sites. The public comment period has been extended to June 22. An adverse reaction has been spearheaded by Energy Communities Alliance, and it was also discussed the Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance (ORRCA) meeting back on May 18, and the City of Oak Ridge is working with a resolution. I just want to say some previous ORSSABs would not have been missing in action on such an issue.

Okay, now Standard Nuclear. Standard Nuclear executed an Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) with the DOE to operate its advanced TRISO fuel production capabilities under direct DOE regulatory and safety oversight. They plan to leverage the significant environmental reviews, design bases, safety analyses, inspections, and verifications performed under DOE requirements to facilitate an efficient and well-aligned future NRC licensing process. It has been learned that they are following a set of revised regulations under the OTA contract with the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy – Idaho Operations Office. Teresa Robbins helped with the manager out there, Mike McAnulty. I presented him with my credentials and experience in nuclear facility safety and emergency management along with an assessment of facility hazards based on publicly available information. He assigned Danielle Miller, Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board Federal Coordinator, to address these concerns and that information is pending. Otherwise what's going on out there, an NRC document emerged describing a page turning meeting back on April 7 for Standard Nuclear Inc.'s Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis (PDSA) Report. Unnamed DOE reviewers, probably no one locally, asked clarifying questions on the submittal. Standard Nuclear also provided the NRC staff with a copy of the PDSA following the meeting, but it is claimed to be proprietary. Someone should take notice that these facilities are located essentially in the parking lot of an historic tourism destination. Thank you. I'll keep you updated.

- Public Comment #2 – Mr. Doug Colclasure gave the following public comment:

Over the years, the City's Park and Rec and the Greenways Oak Ridge, which I'm a member of, worked with the Department of Energy to establish some greenway easements on the Reservation land. On the west end, there's probably 15 miles of trail now established through various easements. This is an incredibly valuable natural treasure for the community. I was on the greenway this afternoon, and the deep shade on a day like this afternoon is something not replicated outside of state parks and a national park, and here we have one two miles from residential developments. I just want to publicly say that this contribution to our community is not to be taken for granted. It's definitely to our good fortune. When I'm on the greenway, I'll occasionally chat with folks and who are traveling from Alcoa, Harriman, the University of

Tennessee track team trains out there, as well as various high school track teams. As we go forward with our reindustrialization, we need to look at these natural and open space as the most unique aspect of our footprint in Oak Ridge, and work with the Department of Energy to see that it's protected. Monday evening, the city council approved the comprehensive plan. It's a lengthy document. It was so noteworthy, one item was pulled out and specifically referenced in the resolution, and that was that a parcel was recognized as nature and open space. That was a direct result of the citizens' input. So as you go forward with your Oak Ridge Site Advisory Board work, I hope you will recognize that nature and open space has high value, too. Folks at ORNL and Y-12 who were here today talked about repurposing property; a contractor spoke at East Tennessee Economic Council (ETEC) about three weeks ago and commented on a bunch of the same projects that you folks reviewed tonight and a broader perspective of cleanup and how a sizeable acreage that is available has now been declared mitigated. One question was asked at the end: So we have mitigated properties; is that being moved forward for economic development? And his comment was we're not wisely using what we've already released. DOE can release it, but if community development planning groups... a big piece of parcel was sold with no callbacks, and it's been sitting there vacant for 30 years. Probably the most prime piece of economic development land, anybody that drives west out of Oak Ridge goes along the front of it. That's an example of what he's talking about. Anyways, to go forward, I appreciate your consideration of what this nature and open space can mean now and for future generations.

Board Business/Motions

- None

Responses to Recommendations & DDFO Report

Ms. Noe said DOE is still working on the response to the waste management recommendation and should have that completed by the deadline. She said that is currently the only open recommendation.

Committee Reports

Executive – Ms. Thompson said the committee discussed plans for the current meeting and member recruitment. Ms. Kimel said member recruitment has closed, and potential new members are being evaluated to fill eight seats. The next meeting is August 3.

EM & Stewardship – Mr. Merz said the committee discussed preliminary ideas for a budget recommendation. The next meeting is June 24.

Additions to the Agenda & Open Discussion

Ms. Kimel asked if Budget issue group members wanted to meet in a Zoom meeting before the next EM & Stewardship Committee meeting for further discussion on a budget recommendation. Members agreed to meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16 on Zoom.

Action Items

None

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the June 10, 2026, meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Bartholomew', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kris Bartholomew, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelli Thompson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelli Thompson, Secretary

September 28, 2026

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

KB/sbm

Public Comment to Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
June 10, 2026
Luther Gibson
ORSSAB Member (1999-2005), Chair (2000-2002)
DOE Oak Ridge Contractor Employee (1977-2017)
Coalition of Oak Ridge Retired Employees Board of Directors (2019-)

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Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

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Standard Nuclear

Standard Nuclear executed an Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) with the DOE to operate its advanced TRISO fuel production capabilities under direct DOE regulatory and safety oversight. They plan to leverage the significant environmental reviews, design bases, safety analyses, inspections, and

¹ <https://www.env.nm.gov/hazardous-waste/wipp/>

² <https://www.energyca.org/eca-updates/2026/6/2/will-the-state-of-new-mexicos-action-on-wipp-slow-cleanup>

verifications performed under DOE requirements to facilitate an efficient and well-aligned future NRC licensing process.³ It has been learned that they are following a set of revised regulations under the OTA contract with the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy – Idaho Operations Office.⁴ Mike McNulty, Deputy Manager, Nuclear Energy Operations and Security, Chief Operations Officer, Office of Nuclear Energy - Idaho Operations Office, has been contacted for information. I presented him my credentials and experience in nuclear facility safety and emergency management along with an assessment of facility hazards based on publicly available information. He assigned Danielle Miller, Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board Federal Coordinator, to address these concerns about Standard Nuclear. That information is pending. In the meantime, an NRC document emerged describing a page turning meeting back on April 7 for Standard Nuclear Inc.'s Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis (PDSA) Report.⁵ Unnamed DOE reviewers asked clarifying questions on the submittal. Standard Nuclear also provided the NRC staff with a copy of the PDSA following the meeting, but it is claimed to be proprietary information. Someone should take notice that these facilities are located essentially in the parking lot of an historic tourism destination.

³ <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML2605/ML26050A011.pdf>

⁴ <https://id.energy.gov/Home/NEDirectives>

⁵ <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML2615/ML26152A201.pdf>



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