



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Combined Committee Meeting
November 12, 2014
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
NNMCAB Office
94 Cities of Gold Rd.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506



Minutes

Meeting Attendees

Department of Energy

1. Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)
 2. Christina Houston, Alternate Deputy Designated Federal Officer (ADDFO)
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NNMCAB Members

1. Manuel Pacheco, Waste Management Committee Chair
 2. Stephen Schmelling, Environmental Monitoring & Remediation Committee Chair
 3. Joey Tiano
 4. Mona Varela
 5. Danny Mayfield
 6. Bob Villarreal
 7. Doug Sayre
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NNMCAB Student Members

1. Alyssa Schreiber
 2. Deidre Roybal
 3. Savannah Martinez
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NNMCAB Members Excused Absences

1. Irene Tse-Pe
2. Nona Girardi
3. Ashley Sanderson
4. Mary Friday
5. Michael Valerio
6. Carlos Valdez
7. Joseph Viarrial
8. Angel Quintana
9. Allison Majure

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NNMCAB Member Absences

1. Bonnie Lucas
2. Gerard Martinez
3. Tessa Jo Mascareñas
4. Alex Puglisi

NNMCAB Support Staff

1. Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
2. Bridget Maestas, Administrative Assistant
3. William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach

Guests

1. Patti Jones, Los Alamos National Security
2. Scott Kovac, Nuke Watch New Mexico
3. Michele Jacquez-Ortiz, U.S. Senator Tom Udall’s Office
4. Paul Right, Public

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19 **office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a**
20 **synopsis of the meeting.**

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Waste Management (WM) and Environmental Monitoring & Remediation (EM&R) Committees was held on November 12, 2014 at the NNMCAB office in Pojoaque, New Mexico.

Mr. Lee Bishop, DDFO stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE) the meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Manuel Pacheco the WM Committee Chair, who presided at the meeting.

The meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in The Federal Register in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 Needed)

a. Roll Call

Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived. At the call to order 7 members were present.

b. Excused Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had an excused absence: Dr. Nona Girardi, Ms. Irene Tse-Pe, Ms. Ashley Sanderson, Ms. Mary Friday, Mr. Michael Valerio, Mr. Carlos Valdez, Mr. Joseph Viarrial, Ms. Allison Majure, and Ms. Angel Quintana.

c. Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Ms. Bonnie Lucas, Mr. Gerard Martinez, Ms. Tessa Jo Mascareñas, and Mr. Alex Puglisi.

III. Approval of Agenda

The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the Agenda for the November 12, 2014 meeting. Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for comments.

Mr. Doug Sayre made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mr. Joey Tiano seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for discussion on the minutes from September 10, 2014 CC meeting.

Ms. Mona Varela made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Stephen Schmelling seconded the motion. The members voted all in favor, the motion to approve the minutes as presented passed.

V. Introductions

Mr. Pacheco asked for introductions from the board members and all attending guests.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Villarreal asked to be on the agenda, so he could present information to the Board on a suspected cause for the WIPP drum breach. Mr. Villarreal presented information to the board regarding his hypothesis for the cause of the waste drum breach at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Mr. Villarreal provided information he had obtained from his time working on the analysis of wastes for the WIPP project at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Based on his knowledge and the information that he had, Mr. Villarreal noted that it was his conclusion that dinitrogen tetroxide was the likely culprit in the drum rupture at WIPP.

The information that was provided by Mr. Villarreal is listed as an attachment to the minutes and can be obtained from the NNMCAB office.

VII. New Business

Mr. Pacheco opened the floor for new business. Seeing none, Mr. Pacheco moved on to the next agenda item.

VIII. Update from Executive Committee

Mr. Sayre noted that DOE would be providing an update at the November 19, 2014 Board meeting on the WIPP Recovery Plan.

Mr. Sayre noted that the Executive Committee had approved the meeting schedule for 2015 and noted that the schedule would be provided to the members at the November 19, 2014 meeting at Ohkay Conference Center.

Mr. Schmelling noted that Mr. Pacheco was heading up the committee that would be working on re-writing the WIPP recommendation that had been voted down at the September Meeting. He asked that the members provide Mr. Pacheco with their input on what should be changed in the new draft of the recommendation.

IX. Update from DDFO

Mr. Lee Bishop stated that this would be Mr. Villarreal's last meeting as a NNMCAB member, noting that he was term limited as of November 15, 2014. Mr. Bishop presented Mr. Villarreal with a certificate of appreciation for his six years of service to the NNMCAB.

Mr. Bishop advised the members that LANL would be sampling drum 68685, the sibling drum of the drum that had ruptured at WIPP. Additionally, he noted that the DOE/LANL has continued to monitor and sample the drums that are stored on site at Area G. Mr. Bishop stated that there had been a small release of contaminate to the environment when the HEPA filter bank at WIPP had been restarted. He noted that the release had been anticipated, stating that the release had been .005 mrem. The typical yearly dose is between 500-700 mrem per year.

Mr. Bishop stated that the Accident Investigation Report would not be released until project Reach was completed. Additionally, he noted that project Reach is scheduled to begin December 6/7, 2014. He stated that the report would likely be released in January 2015. Mr. Bishop noted that NMED had asked for an independent review after the Accident Investigation Report is released.

Mr. Bishop noted that the WIPP team is working on restoring the health of the mine, and removal of the radiological and soot contamination. Additionally, he stated that WIPP is working to restore more of the mine's ventilation system to operating conditions.

Mr. Schmelling asked for the status of panel 6 and 7 closure.

Mr. Bishop noted that currently WIPP has enough ventilation capacity to operate a fork lift and have people underground. He noted that as more ventilation capacity is restored and the team can begin operating the required heavy equipment; the WIPP team will begin working on closure of the panels.

Mr. Scott Kovac asked how the contamination in the mine was being cleaned and to what standard.

Mr. Bishop responded that the best way to decontaminate salt is water and that the decontamination is being conducted to 10 CFR 835. He noted that the standard is 20 DPM/100cm².

X. Presentation

a. Buckman Well field

Mr. Danny Katzman, LANL, gave a presentation entitled "Structure of Groundwater Flow in the Española Basin near Rio Grande and Buckman Wellfield." An electronic copy of the presentation may be obtained from the NNMCAB website; <http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm>.

b. Questions

Mr. Schmelling asked if the Buckman well field is pumping old archaic water, is it going to run out sometime.

Mr. Katzman responded that the Buckman well field is recharged from the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, noting that based on the water age, the travel time from mountain to basin is long.

Mr. Schmelling asked where the water from the west discharges.

Mr. Katzman responded that it is not well understood and that to his knowledge there are currently 4 major regional modeling efforts being conducted to determine the answer.

Ms. Michelle Jacquez-Ortiz asked which radio nuclides were being monitored.

Mr. Katzman responded that Tritium is sampled quarterly, in addition to the standard suite of plutonium, americium, cesium, strontium, gross alpha, and gross beta. He noted that the sampling is conducted by LANL.

Ms. Jacquez-Ortiz asked which labs process the samples.

Mr. Katzman responded that the samples are sent to commercial facilities that are approved by EPA/DOE to conduct the sample processing to the approved standards.

Mr. Kovac asked what the dotted lines on the slides represented.

Mr. Katzman noted that the dotted lines are inferred faults.

Mr. Kovac asked if the faults go through all of the strata.

Mr. Katzman responded that it all depends on the time (age) when the fault was formed.

XI. Public Comment

Mr. Pacheco opened the public comment period at 3:34 p.m. with no members of the public scheduled to address the board, public comment was closed at 3:35 p.m.

XII. Sub-Committee Breakout Session

During the committee breakout session, the WM committee held election of officers for FY'15. The WM committee Elected Mr. Manuel Pacheco as Committee Chair, and Ms. Angel Quintana as Committee Vice-Chair.

The committees finalized their FY'15 work plans and conducted general committee business.

XIII. Adjournment

With no additional business to discuss Mr. Pacheco adjourned the meeting sat 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

William Alexander
Technical Programs and Outreach

Attachments:

- 1. Final Combined Committee Meeting Agenda for 11/12/2014**
- 2. Final Combined Committee Meeting Minutes for 09/08/2014**
- 3. Presentation Materials Provided by Mr. Villarreal, NNM CAB**
- 4. Presentation by Danny Katzman, LANL, "Structure of Groundwater Flow in the Española Basin Near Rio Grande and Buckman Wellfield"**
- 5. Committee Rosters**
- 6. FY'15 Draft Committee Work Plans**

Public Notice:

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