

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Check out the back cover for the latest recommendation from the NNM CAB
- Meet the new NNM CAB Staff on page 2
- Special thanks to the former NNM CAB Chair Ralph Phelps on Page 5
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NNMCAB Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2013

NNMCAB Member Ralph Phelps to Present at the 2013 Waste Management Conference in Phoenix Arizona

Mr. Ralph Phelps will be speaking on two panels at the 2013 Waste Management Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona. The conference hosted by WM Symposia has long been considered the premier international conference on management of radioactive material. The first Waste Management Conference sponsored by the University of Arizona was held in Tucson in 1974 and covered high-level waste. The conference has expanded to cover additional areas of radioactive waste and moved to Phoenix where the non-profit organization WM Symposia and its affiliates host this prestigious conference.

Each year the WM conference features one country and one DOE site, at the 2013

conference the featured country is Canada; the featured U.S. Department of Energy site is Idaho National Laboratory.

Mr. Phelps will be participating on the Effectiveness of Advisory Boards; the DOE-EM Site Specific Advisory Board Experience panel. He will be presenting a paper that covers Working Effectively with Technical and Non-Technical Board Members.



WM Conference held at the Phoenix Convention Center

The second panel that Mr. Phelps has been asked to sit will be moderated by Los Alamos National Laboratory. The Panel will be talking about management of fires, with focus on the Las Conchas fire and its effect on getting Transuranic waste removed from Material Disposal Area G. The panel will cover the Cerro Grande fire however with less emphasis than that of the more recent fire.

Mr. Doug Sayre will also be in attendance at the conference to represent the NNM CAB. Both Mr. Sayre and Mr. Phelps will be attending talks and visiting the expo, looking to acquire information and resources that the NNM CAB can use in its recommendations to the Department of Energy.

2013 NNM CAB Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date	Venue	City
March 20, 2013	Marriott Albuquerque Pyramid North	Albuquerque
May 22, 2013	Double Tree Hotel	Santa Fe
July 31, 2013	Best Western Hilltop	Los Alamos
September 25, 2013	Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center	Taos
November 20, 2013	OHKAY Conference Center	Espanola



Tiffany Ortiz, Administrative Assistant

Hello! My name is, Tiffany Ortiz and I was born and raised in the Espanola Valley. I am 28 and a student at Northern New Mexico College. I am double majoring in Project Management and Information Technology. Throughout my professional career I

worked in a few places, mainly the Los Alamos National Laboratory. I have a lot of experience in my field and have had the opportunity to extend my knowledge in other fields such as; maintenance support, administrative, project management, scheduling

and planning jobs for LANL craft workers.

I am very happy to be a part of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Support Staff. I believe that I can be an asset to this office and it will broaden my knowledge in the environmental field.

Say Hi to the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Original Staff and Meet the New

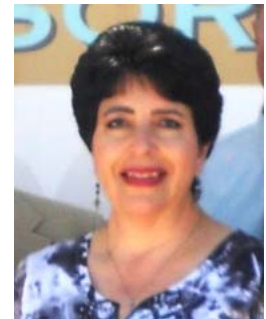
Menice Santistevan, Executive Director

Menice started her tenure at the NNM CAB as a member of the board and later as the Board Chair. In 2001 Menice exchanged her active roll as a board member to become the Executive Director of the NNM CAB office. Over the past 12 years Menice has worked diligently to recruit new members from the diverse citizens in Northern

New Mexico. Her efforts have kept the NNM CAB moving forward, while maintaining good relations with the public, government, and non-government entities, that work with the NNM CAB.

Menice has a Master of Arts in Political Science and Economics. She lives in Taos with her two dogs, Rex and Ben; where she spends her

time baking, horseback riding and enjoying the mountain views in Taos.



William Alexander, Technical Writer



Graduate of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology William has worked as a sub-contractor to Los Alamos National Laboratory for 6 years. Most of that time spent working on

projects for the Water Quality Group. He joined the NNM CAB staff in December 2012, to work on the NNM CAB Technical Programs and Outreach. He will be creating, newsletters, posters, brochures, and other publications both online and in print for the NNM CAB; in addition

to maintaining the NNM CAB website, Facebook page, and YouTube Channel.

William currently lives in Santa Fe New Mexico, he is an avid reader of anything Sci-Fi or Fantasy, the same for movies. Most weekends he can be found mountain biking or rollerblading, in Santa Fe.

Retirement



At the end of 2012 the NNM CAB said farewell to two of its long standing staff members, Grace (above) and Edward Roybal. Grace kept the NNM CAB office on course making sure it was all smooth sailing. From the office in Santa Fe to the new office in Pojoaque she has been an integral member of the NNM CAB office staff for 12 years. Eddie was with the NNM CAB almost as long, his jovial humor always keeping work interesting and fun. While his technical expertise in sound equipment made him the perfect person to

run the sound board at those all important NNM CAB meetings, and special events.

During the NNM CAB December 2012 meeting Ed Worth presented Eddie with a certificate of appreciation. Eddie also accepted a certificate for Grace who was unable to attend the meeting.

Here at the NNM CAB office we are sad to see them go the office just wont be the same. We wish both Grace and Eddie the best in retirement, maybe now they'll finally have the time to get all that globe traveling accomplished. At the very least Grace will have more time to spend with Suki and Boo Boo.



Eddie Roybal (center) accepts certificates from Ed Worth (right) and Pete Maggiore (left)

Current NNM CAB Members

- Carlos Valdez, NNM CAB Chair
Santa Fe
- Manuel Pacheco, NNM CAB Vice-Chair
Ranchos de Taos
- Douglas Sayre, EM&R Committee Chair
Santa Fe
- Joseph Tiano, WM Committee Chair
Santa Fe
- Nicole Castellano, WM Committee
Santa Fe
- Adam Duran, EM&R Committee
Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Brenda Gallegos, WM Committee
Santa Cruz
- Lawrence Garcia, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Nona Girardi, EM&R Committee
Los Alamos
- Lawrence Longacre, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Michael Loya, WM Committee
Santa Fe
- Bonnie Lucas, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Nick Maestas, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Allison Majure, EM&R Committee
Los Alamos
- Arthur Mascarenas, WM Committee
Fairview
- Ralph Phelps, WM Committee
Los Alamos
- Deborah Shaw, EM&R Committee
Santa Fe
- Joseph Viarrial, EM&R Committee
Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Robert Villarreal, WM Committee
Los Alamos

LANL's Public Reading Room Has New Home

In the Summer of 2012 the LANL Public Reading Room which resided at Technical Area 3 in the Research Library, was moved to its new home at the Citizens' Advisory Board Office. The new, more centralized location provides the public with easier access to the documents and media that reside in the Reading Room. Required by LANL's RCRA permit, the Reading

Room houses documents authored by LANL's Environmental Division. New documents are added weekly, expanding an inventory that dates back to the 80's.

Visitors now have on site access to electronic media and the Electronic Public Reading Room.

Resources are available to the public from 8 am to 5pm Monday

through Friday.



Resources and Materials

Safety Short

“Be Safe, Take your Time when driving in severe weather conditions . Plan ahead allow plenty of extra Time for your Transit“

Mission of the EM-SAAB

The EM SSAB was created to involve stakeholders more directly in DOE EM cleanup decisions. When stakeholders want to share information and become involved in the environmental decision-making process, the cleanup activities at Federal facilities benefit. This involvement helps agencies make cost-efficient and environmentally sound decisions, which lead to faster, safer cleanups.

In accordance with its charter, the EM SSAB exists to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, the appropriate Site Manager(s), and any other DOE officials the Assistant Secretary designates, with information, advice, and recommendations concerning issues affecting the EM Program at various sites. Specifically, at the request of the Assistant Secretary or the Site Managers, the Board may provide advice and recommendations concerning

the following EM site-specific issues: clean-up standards and environmental restoration; waste management and disposition; stabilization and disposition of non-stockpile nuclear materials; excess facilities; future land use and long term stewardship; risk assessment and management; and clean-up science and technology activities.

The EM SSAB's activities are governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), which was enacted to ensure that the general public has access to advisory board deliberations and recommendations. While only one FACA-chartered EM SSAB exists, 8 local boards have been organized under its umbrella charter. They include the [Hanford Advisory Board](#), [Idaho National Laboratory Citizens Advisory Board](#), [Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board](#), [Nevada SSAB](#), [Oak Ridge SSAB](#), [Savannah River](#)

[Site Citizens Advisory Board](#), [Portsmouth SSAB](#) and [Paducah Citizens Advisory Board](#).

Local site Board membership, which reflects a full diversity of views, cultures, and demographics from affected communities and regions, is composed primarily of people who are directly affected by site cleanup activities. Members include stakeholders from local governments, Tribal Nations, environmental and civic groups, labor organizations, universities, industry, and other interested citizens.

Information quoted directly from the mission statement located on the [EM-Site](#) web page.

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NNMCAB now on Facebook Follow us for the latest event notifications and NNMCAB news/activity updates

Like us on Facebookpost your questions and concerns to the Board

New NNMCAB Vice-Chair Manuel Pacheco



Manuel Pacheco at the January 30th 2013 NNMCAB Meeting

Current Vice-Chair of the EM SSAB in Northern New Mexico, Mr. Pacheco is the Code Official for the Town of Taos. Previously, Mr. Pacheco was a Building Official for the Town of Taos Planning and Zoning Department. He has 28 years of experience in heavy civil construction, specializing in concrete and steel building principles. He has worked as an ironworker, welder,

and carpenter. Mr. Pacheco also has considerable experience working with municipal, state and federal inspectors and engineering teams. Mr. Pacheco graduated from Taos High School and is currently enrolled at the University of New Mexico-Taos in the Civil Engineering degree program. Additionally, Mr. Pacheco is a Certified Floodplain Manager; Certified New Mexico General Building Inspector, Accessibility Inspector and Plans

Examiner; and Certified Traffic Control Supervisor. He also received Hazard Communications training and certifications, as well as Confined Space certification for emergency extraction. Mr. Pacheco resides in Ranchos De Taos, New Mexico. He was appointed to the board in September 2009 and is currently serving his second full term .

“Mr. Phelps has served with distinction as Vice-Chair of the NNM CAB for two terms and as Chair for three terms”

NNMCAB Member Ralph Phelps

Ralph L. Phelps will be completing three two-year terms on the NNM CAB on May 2, 2013, the maximum amount allowed under EM-SSAB rules. Mr. Phelps has served with distinction as Vice-Chair of the NNM CAB for two terms and as Chair for three terms. Mr. Phelps has over 35 years of experience in all phases of the commercial nuclear power industry. He retired in 2005 as Division Manager of Engineering for Omaha Public Power District’s Fort Calhoun Station. Mr. Phelps holds a Master of Science Degree in Nuclear Engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer. Mr. Phelps also served in the U.S. Air Force and was honorably

discharged with the rank of Captain. He has also served on the Los Alamos County Council and currently serves on the Planning and Zoning Committee.

Ralph Phelps served the NNM CAB well as a devoted and hard working member who attended every meeting and led the members through complicated and very technical discussions and decisions. While Mr. Phelps is a very capable and talented engineer, he is most valued for his thoughtfulness and consideration of all views. We wish Mr. Phelps the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his service to the citizens of northern New Mexico.



Ralph Phelps attends the January 2013 NNM CAB Meeting



The NNM CAB is on YouTube, stop by our CHANNEL (NNMCAB) to view presentations, meeting footage, and activities. Hope to see you

New NNM CAB Chair Carlos Valdez

Mr. Carlos Valdez retired from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, where he was the chief financial officer. Previously, he served as bureau chief and budget and management analyst for the New Mexico Department of Children, Youth and Families, where he worked for more than 20 years. Additionally, Mr. Valdez worked for the New Mexico Department of Health. Mr. Valdez has a B.A. in Management from the University of Phoenix, Albuquerque. He served on the Board of Directors for St. Elizabeth’s Homeless Shelter in

Santa Fe. In 2002, he was appointed to Governor Gary Johnson’s Emergency Services and Security Issues Task Force, where he monitored and addressed issues relating to emergency services and security. Mr. Valdez resides in

Santa Fe, New Mexico. He was appointed to the board by site appointment in May 2010 and is currently serving his second full term.



Carlos Valdez at the Jan 30th NNM CAB Meeting

“Carlos Valdez was Elected as the new Chair of NNM CAB in September 2012”



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NNMCAB Combined Committee Current Project

The Waste Management Committee and the Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation Committee are currently working to draft a recommendation to DOE on the 33 Shafts. The 33 Shafts are located at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Area G. This recommendation was voted on and passed with amendments at the January 30th 2013 Board meeting, at Buffalo Thunder Resort.

Link to [Recommendation 2013-01](#) or find it under recommendations on the NNM CAB website.

Take Part in the Decision Process, Be a Part of the Board

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) is one of eight Site-Specific Advisory Boards established to involve local citizens in the Department of Energy (DOE) decision process at its Nuclear Facilities. The NNM CAB provides DOE with recommendations and advice on legacy waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory. These recommendations are drafted by the Board or by the two NNM CAB committees. Members of the public can serve on the Waste Management Committee or the Environmental Monitoring, and Remediation Committee, and work in conjunction with Board members to draft recommendations. Once drafted the Board must, consider the recommendation during a full Board meeting before the recommendation is submitted to DOE.

The NNM CAB has six bi-monthly meetings annually, each at a different venue in Northern New Mexico. The meetings are open to the public and feature public comment periods, designed to allow the citizens to express their concerns or ask questions of the board and liaison members. Members of the public can



December 4th 2012 Board Meeting at Cities of Gold

sign-up in advance for the public comment period, or ask to address the board during the public comment period.

The Board meetings also strive to provide the public with valuable information, often in the form of presentations presented by a range of sources: DOE, NMED, New Mexico Department of Health, LANL, non-government organizations, and special guests.

If you are interested in becoming a Board member or joining a committee, please contact the NNM CAB Executive Director Menice Santistevan at (505)995-0393 or e-mail menice.santistevan@nnsa.doe.gov. For additional information, visit our website at www.nnmcab.energy.gov.