



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting

May 21, 2014

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cities of Gold Conference Center

Pojoaque, New Mexico 87506



Minutes

Meeting Attendees

Department of Energy

1. Pete Maggiore, DOE Assistant Manager, Environmental Projects Office
2. Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer
3. David Rhodes, DOE Environmental Projects Office
4. David Nickless, DOE Environmental Projects Office
5. Dana Bryson, DOE Carlsbad Field Office
6. Toni Chiri, DOE Los Alamos Field Office
7. Arturo Duran, DOE Los Alamos Field Office
8. Silas DeRoma DOE Los Alamos Field Office

NNMCAB Members

1. Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB Chair
2. Doug Sayre, NNMCAB Vice-Chair
3. Joey Tiano
4. Nona Girardi
5. Danny Mayfield
6. Angel Quintana
7. Stephen Schmelling
8. Bob Villarreal
9. Ashley Sanderson
10. Mona Varela
11. Irene Tse-Pe
12. Gerard Martinez
13. Mary Friday

NNMCAB Student Members

1. Gary Johnson
 2. Deidre Roybal
 3. Jerry Trujillo
-

NNMCAB Excused Absences

1. Bonnie Lucas
2. Manuel Pacheco
3. Joseph Viarrial

NNMCAB Absences

1. Adrian Chavez Sr.
2. Allison Majure
3. Alex Puglisi

NNMCAB Support Staff

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

Guests

1. Rick Ulibarri, Los Alamos National Security
2. Patrick Woehrle, Los Alamos National Security
3. Mike Loya, Public
4. Vivian Valencia, Portage, Inc.
5. Kathy Walker, Public
6. Dave McInroy, Los Alamos National Security
7. Ken Kisiel, Portage, Inc.
8. L. Vinze Rodriguez, Energy Solutions
9. Laura Day, PT&C, LLC
10. Michele Jacquez-Ortiz, U.S. Senator Tom Udall's Office
11. Kaitlin Martinez, Los Alamos National Security
12. Cecilia Roybal, Public
13. Ronald C. Roybal, Public
14. Patti Jones, Los Alamos National Security
15. Scott Den Baars, Navarro Research and Engineering
16. Angelica Trujillo, Public
17. Kathy McClendon, Principal, Pojoaque Valley High School
18. Melville Morgan, Assistant Superintendent, Pojoaque Valley School District
19. Jeff Kendall, New Mexico Environment Department, General Counsel

***All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audio CD's and Video DVD's have been placed on file for review at the NNMCAB office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a synopsis of the meeting.**

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) was held on May 21, 2014 at the Cities of Gold Conference Center in Pojoaque, New Mexico. Mr. Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO) stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE) the meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order. The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Carlos Valdez the NNMCAB Chair. The Chair 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 (10 Needed)

a. Roll Call

Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived. At the call to order 12 members were present.

b. Excused Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had excused absences: Ms. Bonnie Lucas, Mr. Manuel Pacheco, and Mr. Joseph Viarrial.

c. Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Mr. Adrian Chavez Sr., Ms. Allison Majure, and Mr. Alex Puglisi.

III. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Valdez welcomed the members and public to the meeting. He asked for introductions from the board members and all attending guests.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The board reviewed the agenda for the May 21, 2014 meeting.

Mr. Doug Sayre made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mr. Danny Mayfield seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented was unanimously passed.

V. Approval of Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the March 26, 2014 meeting. By ongoing instruction from DOE Headquarters, the minutes were previously reviewed and certified by the NNMCAB Chair.

Mr. Valdez opened the floor for comments from the board, with no comments from the board Mr. Valdez asked for a motion.

Mr. Gerard Martinez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Joey Tiano seconded the motion. The members voted all in favor to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2014 meeting as presented.

VI. Old Business

a. Written Reports

Mr. Valdez opened the floor for comments on the written reports. With no comments on the written reports, Mr. Valdez moved on to the next agenda item.

b. Environmental Justice Conference Report

Mr. Valdez asked Ms. Irene Tse-Pe and Ms. Angel Quintana to give a synopsis of their experience at the Environmental Justice Conference (EJC).

Ms. Tse-Pe thanked the NNMCAB for sending her to the conference. She noted that she learned a great deal about the background of Environmental Justice and how it became a federal mandate. Ms. Tse-Pe stated that the EJC had representatives from across the U.S. noting that many of the stories were of a sad nature, with lack of responsiveness to concerns. She noted that the people in the Northern New Mexico are fortunate that so many individuals are working together on the issues. Ms. Tse-Pe stated that it was nice to see fellow New Mexicans in attendance at the EJC. Additionally, she noted that she had attended one of the face-to-face trainings and it had been a really good training.

Ms. Quintana also thanked the NNMCAB and noted that it had been an interesting conference. Ms. Quintana stated that the EJC had provided a broad range of useful information. She noted that the conference seemed to reach out to a large number of minority groups, and noted that she felt sorry for DOE as they were on the receiving end of numerous questions. Ms. Quintana also stated that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Forest Service were in attendance at the EJC.

Mr. Bishop stated that Ms. Christina Houston had agreed to provide the NNMCAB with an overview of Environmental Justice requirements and how it applies to the region.

c. EM-SSAB Spring Chairs Meeting Report

Mr. Valdez asked Mr. Sayre if he would provide the update on the Hanford Chairs meeting.

Mr. Sayre stated that Allison Majure, Carlos Valdez, and he had attended the Chairs Meeting hosted by the Hanford Advisory Board. Mr. Sayre stated that the group had attended a tour of the Hanford site, that had included the tank farms and waste treatment plant. Mr. Sayre noted that the meeting was a good opportunity for the different boards to interact. Additionally, he noted that the Hanford Site had been interested in getting student members and were looking at the NNMCAB as a model for that. Mr. Sayre submitted additional comments as a written report that is included as an attachment to the minutes.

Mr. Valdez stated that Mr. Sayre and Ms. Majure had taken an active role in developing recommendations at the National Chairs meeting. Mr. Valdez advised the members that the next Chairs Meeting would be in Idaho Falls in the fall of 2014.

1 Additionally, he noted that the NNMCAB would be hosting the fall 2015 Chairs Meeting,
2 in Santa Fe.

3
4 **d. Oak Ridge Tour and CAB Meeting Report**

5 Mr. Valdez asked Dr. Nona Girardi if she would give the members a synopsis of the
6 Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) site tour and Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory
7 Board (ORSSAB) meeting.

8
9 Dr. Girardi stated that she and Mr. Valdez had been given the opportunity to visit
10 the ORSSAB at the beginning of May. Dr. Girardi noted that the visit had included a tour
11 of the Oak Ridge Site; the tour had included the Y-12 building and K-25 building. Dr.
12 Girardi stated that the site also has issues with storm water runoff and groundwater. It
13 was noted that the site had just started its TRU campaign, which included dealing with
14 more remote handled waste than the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) site.
15 Additionally, she noted that Oak Ridge currently has three thousand barrels packed and
16 ready for disposal once the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant reopens.

17 Dr. Girardi stated that the ORSSAB seems to run its meetings differently than the
18 NNMCAB. She stated that most of the detailed presentations, discussions, and
19 development of recommendations take place in the committee sessions. Additionally,
20 she noted that the committees meet separately. Dr. Girardi stated that the ORSSAB has
21 its board meeting on a monthly basis for an hour and a half. She noted that the ORSSAB
22 also allows for submittal of written comments by hard copy or e-mail in addition to the
23 public comment period during the meeting.

24
25 Mr. Valdez stated that Oak Ridge reminded him a lot of LANL, in that most of the
26 workers commute to the work site, and the town shuts down after 5:00 p.m. Mr. Valdez
27 noted that the budget for the site is about twice that of LANL, with clean-up at the site
28 likely to take the next 20 to 30 years. He noted that the area is very green and the site
29 has no drought problems what so ever, with the water table about 8 feet down.

30 Mr. Valdez noted that the physical set-up of the board meeting was very similar to
31 the NNMCABs. He noted that the ORSSAB agenda order is set-up differently than the
32 NNMCABs, with the placement of the liaison member updates at the beginning of the
33 meeting rather than the end. Mr. Valdez asked the members to think about moving the
34 liaison member updates to the start of the meetings, and let the Executive Committee
35 know if they had a preference. Mr. Valdez also stated that the ORSSAB has an additional
36 officer position on its board, noting that the board has a secretary.

37
38 Mr. Stephen Schmelling asked if there had been any sense of the relationship
39 between the ORNL and the ORSSAB.

40
41 Mr. Valdez responded that it seemed to him that the people in the area are very
42 friendly, noting that the locals interact with each other on a daily basis. He stated that
43 the relationship appears to be good.

44
45 **e. Other Items**

46 Mr. Valdez asked Mr. Schmelling to provide an update on the Española Basin
47 Technical Advisory Group (EBTAG) meeting.

1
2 Mr. Schmelling stated that the EBTAG is a group of individuals that look at the
3 groundwater in the Española basin. He noted that there were eight presentations during
4 the morning session, two of which he felt would be of interest to the NNMCAB. One was
5 a presentation on water coming from Los Alamos and its effects on the Buckman well
6 field, he noted that the conclusion was that there is not likely transport of contaminants
7 to the well field. The second presentation was on uranium in groundwater, he noted
8 that the conclusion of that presentation was that the uranium in the groundwater is
9 naturally occurring.

10 Mr. Schmelling noted that he had not attended the afternoon session which had
11 included a tour of some local formations. Mr. Schmelling stated that the meeting had
12 been technical; however, he would encourage other members to attend.

13
14 Mr. Mayfield asked if Mr. Schmelling recalled who had given the groundwater
15 presentation.

16
17 Mr. Schmelling responded that Danny Katzman had been a coauthor on the paper;
18 however, he had not been the presenter at the EBTAG meeting.

19
20 Mr. Bishop noted that he would see if Mr. Katzman could provide the presentation
21 to the NNMCAB at a future meeting. Mr. Bishop also encouraged the members to
22 attend the local meetings as part of the NNMCAB outreach and member education.
23 Additionally, he stated that to the extent possible the NNMCAB is willing to support
24 members attending local meetings and forums.
25

26
27 **VII. Presentation of Certificates to Student Members**

28 Mr. Valdez, NNMCAB, Mr. Bishop, and Mr. Pete Maggiore, DOE, presented the student
29 members Gary Johnson, Jerry Trujillo, Deidre Roybal, and Kaitlyn Martinez with certificates
30 of appreciation.

31
32 Mr. Maggiore thanked Dr. Melville Morgan and Principal Kathy McClendon from the
33 Pojoaque Valley Schools for attending the NNMCAB meeting and for supporting this
34 endeavor. Mr. Maggiore also thanked the students for joining the NNMCAB and for their
35 participation at the meetings. He noted that having the students on the board had been a
36 great experience from DOE's perspective and noted that he would like to grow the
37 relationship between the school, NNMCAB, and DOE.

38
39 Principal McClendon thanked NNMCAB Executive Director Santistevan for the
40 opportunity to have student members on the board. She thanked the students for being
41 willing to step into the unknown and participate on the NNMCAB. Additionally, she stated
42 that she was very proud of the students for fitting the NNMCAB service into their busy
43 schedules.

44
45 **VIII. New Business**

46 **a. Report From Nominating Committee**

1 Mr. Schmelling stated that he and Angel Quintana had attempted to contact all of
2 the NNMCAB members. He noted that the committee had been unable to contact a few
3 of the members; however, had left messages for those members. Mr. Schmelling
4 reported that Mr. Doug Sayre was nominated for Chair, and Mr. Manuel Pacheco had
5 been nominated for Vice-Chair. Additionally, he noted that current Chair Mr. Valdez had
6 indicated that he did not wish to run again, in order to give others a chance at the Chairs
7 position.

8
9 Mr. Valdez stated that the elections would be held at the July 30, 2014 board
10 meeting and noted that nominations could be taken up to the time of the election.

11
12 Mr. Mayfield noted that he wanted it on the record that Mr. Valdez had done an
13 excellent job as Chair of the NNMCAB.

14
15 **b. Consideration and Action on Proposed EM-SSAB Chairs Letters**

16 • **EM Publicize Success**

17 Mr. Valdez asked the members to look over the proposed draft
18 recommendation. He noted that there could be discussion on the draft
19 recommendation; however, changes to the draft are not allowed, only a yes or no
20 vote.

21
22 The NNMCAB discussed the recommendation, consideration was given to the
23 question of funding and whether use of the currently limited funding to issue
24 publications was a good use of those funds.

25
26 Mr. Gerard Martinez made a motion to approve the recommendation; Mr.
27 Sayre seconded the motion. The NNMCAB voted twelve in favor one against, the
28 motion to approve the recommendation passed.

29
30 • **Funding**

31 Mr. Valdez opened the floor for discussion on the draft recommendation. He
32 noted that a similar recommendation had been presented at the National Chairs
33 meeting in 2013.

34
35 The NNMCAB discussed the recommendation at length. There was discussion on
36 who oversees the clean-up across the different sites across the country. Questions
37 on varied funding at the different sites were also discussed. It was noted that the
38 current draft recommendation had been drafted with consideration to previous
39 iterations of the recommendation.

40
41 Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the recommendation; Mr. Sayre
42 seconded the motion. The NNMCAB voted all in favor, the motion to approve the
43 recommendation passed.

44 **IX. Presentation on Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.**

45 **a. Update on WIPP**
46

1 Mr. Dana Bryson from the DOE Carlsbad Field Office gave a presentation entitled
2 "Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Update and Status of Recovery". An electronic copy of the
3 presentation may be obtained from the NNMCAB website;
4 <http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm> . Video of the
5 presentation is also available on the NNMCABs YouTube Channel (NNMCAB).

6 **b. Questions**

7 Mr. Bob Villarreal asked if the boxes were vented and if the magnesium oxide bags
8 can cause back pressure on the vent.
9

10 Mr. Bryson responded that all the boxes and drums are vented, and stated that
11 there is a spacer to prevent back pressure on the vent.
12

13 Mr. Villarreal asked if the suspect drum or drums had been identified.
14

15 Mr. Bryson responded that there is a drum that is being looked at; however noted
16 that due to the charring and video quality, the identification number on the drum has
17 not been retrieved.
18

19 Mr. Villarreal noted that in the original contamination that was released it was
20 stated that there was plutonium-239, and americium-241. He asked if plutonium-238
21 had been identified.
22

23 Mr. Bryson responded that there was one instance where a lab result returned a
24 positive for plutonium-238.
25

26 Mr. Martinez noted that he was concerned that the drum was still being identified.
27 He also stated that the WIPP site should know exactly where drums are placed.
28 Additionally, noting that we don't want to have legacy waste issues again.
29

30 Mr. Bryson responded that WIPP does know where all the waste material is
31 located. He stated that the issue is with this particular seven pack of drums. The
32 sequence of drums in the pack is known; however, the orientation of the seven pack in
33 the panel is not known.
34

35 Mr. Martinez responded that in the future that should be taken into account.
36 Additionally, he stated that a full and complete investigation needs to be done, that
37 includes what caused this, and how to keep it from happening in the future. Mr.
38 Martinez stated that he felt that there had to be a relation between the fire and the
39 release from the drum; however, noting that he could be wrong on that. Mr. Martinez
40 also asked about the inventory control on the lapel personal protective equipment
41 (PPE), and why the lapel PPE that was in inventory was expired.
42

43 Mr. Bryson replied that after the first incident the safety protocols had been
44 reevaluated and controls placed at a higher bar. He also noted that the lapel PPE was
45 available at the time scheduled for re-entry; however, a decision was made to wait for
46 delivery of the new model of the lapel PPE before re-entry into the underground.
47

1 Dr. Girardi asked if Mr. Bryson would please take some time to elaborate on the
2 other possible mechanisms and materials that are being investigated. She asked even if
3 this drum doesn't have the kitty litter mix, if there were any instances of organic kitty
4 litter being mixed with nitrates in any drums in any of the waste streams.

5 Dr. Girardi's last questions were why are there not drills done to prepare the
6 workers for this type of incident and why was maintenance on the facility behind.
7 Additionally, she noted that it had been stated that WIPP was not designed to run on
8 filtration; however, if its storing hazardous materials there may be times it would need
9 to run on filtration. She asked how does that work and how long would it work.

10
11 Mr. Bryson responded that he had been brought on in December 2012 by
12 management to address the maintenance issues and drills. He noted that as Dr. Girardi
13 had pointed out it had caught up to the facility. Mr. Bryson noted that the Accident
14 Investigation Board (AIB) is not just a review it is a very formal and in-depth
15 investigation to identify all the underlying issues and concerns. He noted that the
16 investigation is being taken very seriously. Mr. Bryson stated that review of the process
17 that characterizes and certifies waste for disposal at WIPP was being closely looked at.
18 Additionally, he noted that the acceptable knowledge process is being looked into for
19 process improvements to ensure that a release doesn't occur in the future.

20
21 Mr. Schmelling stated that Dr. Girardi had expressed very well the vagueness of the
22 information being issued. He noted that other than the mixture of organics and nitrates
23 no other specifics have been said. He noted that it is frustrating to people that most of
24 the information is in terms of we are looking at this or we are looking at that but never
25 specific.

26 Mr. Schmelling asked if there was any time table on when an answer on what
27 happened in that drum will be available and can you get to that answer without
28 physically examining that drum.

29
30 Mr. Bryson responded that if the drum can be examined remotely that is
31 preferable to sending workers in directly. He noted that at this time there is no specific
32 time table available on when the answer to what happened would be available.

33
34 Mr. Schmelling asked if there was any connection between the fire incident and
35 the radiological release.

36
37 Mr. Bryson replied that timing is obvious and it is hard to get around; however,
38 proximity is a factor and the two incidents occurred thousands of feet apart.
39 Additionally, he noted that he has not seen any mechanisms that would connect the
40 two.

41
42 Mr. Schmelling asked if there was any sense when, if ever WIPP would open again
43 and what DOE could do in the meantime.

44
45 Mr. Bryson responded that there should be operations in the mine within the next
46 couple of months. He stated that a plan needs to be laid out so that the mine can
47 resume operations safely. He noted that the plan is due at the end of May 2014.

1
2 Mr. Mayfield asked about the approval that is needed from the board and what
3 board is responsible for that approval.
4

5 Mr. Bryson stated that the AIB is what he was referring to and that the WIPP site
6 has to coordinate actions in the mine with the AIB.
7

8 Mr. Mayfield asked why the drums are vented.
9

10 Mr. Bryson responded that the drums are vented to alleviate possible pressure
11 from gas that can be generated within the drums.
12

13 Mr. Mayfield asked if the release was from one drum or multiple drums.
14

15 Mr. Bryson responded that it is clear that at least one drum ruptured; however,
16 there are multiple drums that show possible weepage.
17

18 Mr. Mayfield asked if DOE closes the panel based on the New Mexico Environment
19 Departments (NMED) administrative order if any remediation would be done on the
20 reputed drums.
21

22 Mr. Bryson replied that the intent of the WIPP Site is to entomb the waste in the
23 salt formation not the drums themselves.
24

25 Mr. Valdez asked the members if they would like to continue with the questions for
26 Mr. Bryson and delay the TA-21 presentation, or move on to the TA-21 presentation.
27

28 Due to scheduling constraints and time overages during the meeting, the members
29 voted to defer the TA-21 presentation to a later date.
30

31 Mr. Sayre asked about the upgrades to the ventilation system.
32

33 Mr. Bryson responded that the engineering and procurement is in progress and the
34 instillation of the upgraded system is expected to be completed by the end of 2014.
35

36 Mr. Sayre asked if all of panel seven had been surveyed for contamination or only
37 the room that contained the drum.
38

39 Mr. Bryson responded that panel seven only has waste in the very end of the panel.
40 He noted that he thought that the exhaust drift would also likely be contaminated;
41 however, the drift has not been surveyed yet.
42

43 Ms. Mary Friday asked if there were containers in the sealed panels that may pose
44 a release problem.
45

46 Mr. Bryson responded that once the panel is sealed there is no ventilation flow to
47 the panel and therefore no communication with the rest of the mine. He stated that

1 ultimately the salt will crush and entomb the drums within the panel. Mr. Bryson noted
2 that some of the panels are sealed with block walls, some are sealed with steel doors,
3 and all of the panels have cloth curtains.

4
5 Ms. Friday asked about the possibility of the containers that were shipped to WCS
6 having a release.

7
8 Mr. Bryson responded that there are various levels of concern. The nitrate salts
9 have identified a broad waste stream; however, within the waste stream there is not a
10 uniform risk across the drums. LANL is working to identify where the high risk drums
11 may be located.

12
13 Due to time constraints Mr. Valdez moved on to the next item on the agenda.

14
15 **X. Update from Liaisons**

16 **a. Update from New Mexico Environment Department**

17 Mr. Valdez recognized NMED General Counsel Mr. Jeff Kendall as the NMED
18 representative.

19
20 Mr. Kendall stated that NMED Secretary Ryan Flynn could not attend today's
21 meeting as he was in Washington, DC attending meetings. Mr. Kendall advised the
22 members that NMED would be happy to provide briefings to the NNMCAB at the
23 request of the members.

24 Mr. Kendall stated that from the outset of the WIPP incident NMED has taken all
25 available steps to ensure complete transparency. He noted the NMED posts all the
26 available information to the NMED website, and will continue to do so for the duration
27 of the incident. Mr. Kendall advised the members that NMED had issued two
28 administrative orders (AO) regarding the WIPP incident, one to LANL on Monday, May
29 19, 2014 and one to the Carlsbad Field Office on Tuesday, May 20, 2014. He stated that
30 the NMED was notified of the organic kitty litter nitrate mix theory on Friday, May 2,
31 2014, at which point NMED directed LANL to take whatever measures possible to secure
32 the suspect waste stream. Additionally, he noted the LANL had taken steps to secure the
33 waste stream. Mr. Kendall noted the AOs were issued under NMEDs authority granted
34 by the Hazardous Waste Act. He stated that both AOs call for an isolation plan to be
35 submitted to NMED for approval. Mr. Kendall noted that the LANL plan had been
36 submitted to NMED on Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

37 Mr. Kendall stated that NMED has been maintaining constant contact with LANL
38 and WIPP through daily calls.

39 Mr. Kendall noted that in regards to the closure of the panels, panel six does not
40 have a steel bulkhead. He noted that all of the panels are closed in a different fashion;
41 three of the panels are sealed with explosion isolation walls and two with steel
42 bulkheads. Mr. Kendall advised the members that when the WIPP incident occurred
43 there was a pending permit modification request concerning changes to the
44 requirements to seal the panels. Additionally, he stated that Secretary Flynn had
45 decided to pull the draft permit and gather additional information on the panel closure
46 issue.
47

1 Mr. Martinez asked how the NNMCAB could distinguish between reports and
2 investigations, making sure that a full investigation into the incident has been
3 completed.

4
5 Mr. Kendall responded that NMED has the AIB investigation report for the fire
6 incident and the Phase I Report on the radiological release. He noted that at some point
7 in the future Phase II of the report on the release would be issued. Mr. Kendall noted
8 that under the WIPP permit NMED does inspections; however, an inspection has not
9 been completed since the release. He noted that the state's role in an investigation is to
10 be determined; NMED is currently working through that issue.

11
12 Mr. Bryson stated that if the members would like to hear from the AIB he would be
13 happy to arrange that. He encouraged members to read the Phase I Report on the
14 release.

15
16 Mr. Villarreal asked if the waste was identified as LANL waste, would it be sent
17 back to LANL or remediated on site.

18
19 Mr. Kendall responded that if the release is from a LANL waste drum he does not
20 believe that the waste would be brought back to LANL.

21
22 Mr. Bryson noted that currently there are no plans to return the waste; the plan is
23 to deal with the waste in place.

24
25 Dr. Girardi asked where else are the same subcontractors working. She also asked
26 what was being done to protect the drums that are located at LANL as we go into the
27 fire season.

28
29 Mr. Kendall stated that he believed that LANL had the capability to keep the
30 boxes/drums in a location that can be cooled. He noted that 93% of the 3706 Campaign
31 was removed prior to the WIPP incident. Mr. Kendall stated that he was not sure at
32 what other locations the subcontractors were operating.

33
34 Mr. Maggiore responded that LANL has been taking actions to mitigate the fire
35 threat. He noted that 93% of the material at risk has been removed. Additionally, he
36 noted that LANL has the capability to store waste in domes that have fire protection
37 systems and ventilation, in addition to the mechanical thinning of vegetation around TA-
38 54. Mr. Maggiore noted that in regards to contractors any comment on what needs to
39 happen would be premature, until all the investigations and information on the incident
40 are available.

41
42 **b. Update from Los Alamos National Laboratory**

43 Mr. Jeff Mousseau from LANL submitted an update to the NNMCAB entitled
44 "Associate Directorate for Environmental Programs Update for May 21, 2014." An
45 electronic copy of the information may be obtained from the NNMCAB website;
46 <http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm>.

c. Update from Department of Energy

Mr. Maggiore stated that in response to the AO that was issued by NMED in regards to the imminent and substantial danger to human health and environment posed by the nitrate waste stream, DOE/LANL has submitted a response to NMED. He stated that DOE/LANL installed tamper indication devices on the drums that are part of the suspect waste stream. He noted that the tamper devices were installed to preserve the integrity of the drum. Mr. Maggiore advised the members that the drums that contained the remediated nitrate salts are stored in Dome 230 and the drums that contain the un-remediated salts are isolated in Dome 232. He stated that plans are in place to move all of the drums to Dome 375 or Dome 231. He noted that both of these domes have fire suppression systems, temperature control, and ventilation systems. Mr. Maggiore stated that the operating procedures for the processing facilities are all being updated.

Mr. Maggiore noted the DOE/LANL is working with other National Laboratories across the DOE Complex to identify what caused the release at WIPP.

d. Update from Deputy Designated Federal Officer

Mr. Bishop thanked the members who had gone on travel for submitting well written reports summarizing their experience. Mr. Bishop complimented the board on the amount of networking that the members have been doing: from its participation in the Environmental Impact Statement Public Comment Period, to working with the Regional Coalition, and attending local meetings. Mr. Bishop asked the members to bring opportunities for community involvement and travel to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Mr. Bishop welcomed Ms. Mona Varela to the board. Additionally, he noted that there is an additional member from the City of Española expected to join the board at its July meeting.

Mr. Bishop stated that at the Hanford Chairs meeting during the staff meeting a new set of by-laws had been handed out to the staff. He noted that the Executive Committee would be looking at the draft and submitting a revised draft back to EM. Additionally, he stated that the members could possibly see a revised set of by-laws by this summer.

Ms. Santistevan asked that the members please put the dates of upcoming meetings on their calendars. She noted that the next Committee Meetings would be on June 11, 2014 and July 9, 2014, followed by the Board meeting at La Fonda July 30, 2014. Ms. Santistevan asked that the members let the staff know if they would be attending the Rocky Flats tour August 19 – 21, 2014.

XI. Public Comment Period

Mr. Valdez opened the floor for public comment at 4:32 p.m.

Mr. Michael Loya thanked the NNMCAB for the opportunity to present public comment. He stated that he had many individuals that have contacted him and asked him to provide the following comment to the NNMCAB. "We are from every part of the state, from above Taos to Farmington to Mesilla and every point in between. We are cowboys and cowgirls that have done complex environmental projects to branding cattle. We come from every

1 walk of life; we live here in New Mexico. We are scientists, engineers, bankers,
2 homeowners, horse shoers, doctors you name it. We know about environmental cleanup
3 from a practical basis. We know the right people too, up at the round house. There are a
4 whole bunch of us and now we want to have our voices out there, and really speak about
5 this whole deal that's going on. So we are gonna saddle up and what we want to tell you all
6 right now is let's get this WIPP operation up and running and let's just get going." Mr. Loya
7 stated that was all he had come to say.

8
9 With no additional comments, Mr. Valdez closed the public comment period at 4:34
10 p.m.

11
12 **XII. Wrap-up and Comments**

13 Mr. Valdez opened the floor for comments from the members. He asked that the
14 members' address whether all their questions on presentations were answered and if they
15 had any requests for future presentations.

16
17 Mr. Tiano stated that all of his questions were answered and that he had no
18 recommendations at this time.

19
20 Dr. Girardi stated that her questions were mostly answered. She recommended that a
21 presentation on chromium from the perspective of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso would be
22 good.

23
24 Mr. Maggiore stated that Mr. Jeff Mousseau sent his regrets for not being able to
25 attend. He stated that Mr. Mousseau was busy putting the finishing touches on the report
26 that was submitted to NMED and making sure the drums were in a stable configuration. Mr.
27 Maggiore also thanked the NNMCAB for its consideration and acceptance of the moving of
28 the new Campaign Rollout to a future date.

29
30 Mr. Sayre stated that most of his questions were answered and that the presentations
31 were good. For future presentations he recommended having the presentation that had
32 been given at the EBTAG.

33
34 Ms. Quintana noted that her questions had been answered. She suggested more follow-
35 up information on WIPP at future meetings.

36
37 Mr. Schmelling stated that most of his questions were answered. For future
38 presentations he suggested the chromium perchlorate plume and discussion on WIPP until
39 the situation is resolved. Additionally, he stated that the press conferences that WIPP has
40 been holding on Thursdays have been very informative and are much more detailed than
41 the press releases.

42
43 Mr. Villarreal recommended a discussion on substitutes for chromium remediation.

44
45 Ms. Friday stated that the presentations were very good and that she felt additional
46 information on WIPP would be good.

1 Ms. Ashley Sanderson asked if the heat generated in panel seven had possibly caused
2 the fire.

3
4 Mr. Bryson responded "that the heat in panel seven is evidence of heat not actually
5 hot".
6

7 Ms. Mona Varela noted that she was new to the NNMCAB and not sure what questions
8 to ask yet. She stated that the information that was presented had been informative.

9 Ms. Tse-Pe thanked Dr. Girardi for bringing up the chromium issue and stated that she
10 would bring up the possibility of the pueblo addressing the NNMCAB to the Governor. She
11 noted that she would like to see the students on the agenda to address the board with their
12 issues and concerns. Additionally, she noted that she would like to see a pueblo student on
13 the board and that she would work on that issue.
14

15 Mr. Martinez welcomed the new member to the board. He also thanked the state and
16 the representative from the senator's office for attending the meeting. He noted that the
17 NNMCAB was going to continue to ask questions of the parties involved with the waste
18 work. Mr. Martinez also thanked Mr. Valdez for his leadership of the board.
19

20 Mr. Valdez asked that Mr. Bryson address if he could the information that is contained
21 on the daily WIPP press releases. He noted that the information that is contained on the
22 releases is very generic. He stated that it would be nice to have more meaningful
23 information in the releases. Additionally, he noted that when we have to hear it after the
24 media has already heard it, that doesn't do us any good.
25

26 Mr. Bryson stated that the town hall meetings would be continuing for the foreseeable
27 future. He noted that he would bring the concerns regarding the press releases to the WIPP
28 site. He advised the NNMCAB that the meeting had been informative for him and stated
29 that he would like to make sure that hard copies of the accident investigation reports were
30 made available to the NNMCAB.
31

32 Mr. Bishop thanked Mr. Bryson for coming up from the WIPP site to attend the meeting.
33 He noted that for future meetings the NNMCAB would look into video technology to allow
34 remote locations like WIPP to attend, without the need to travel. Additionally, he stated
35 that he would love to see a student from the pueblo on the board.
36

37 **XIII. Adjournment**

38 Mr. Valdez noted that the next NNMCAB meeting would be July 30, 2014 at La Fonda on
39 the Plaza from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
40

41 With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Bishop adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

42 **Respectfully Submitted,**



43 **Carlos Valdez, Chair, NNMCAB**

***Minutes prepared by William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach, NNMCAB**

Attachments:

1. Final NNMCAB Meeting Agenda for 05/21/2014
 2. Final NNMCAB Meeting Minutes for 03/26/2014
 3. Report from Carlos Valdez, Chair, NNMCAB
 4. Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
 5. Report on Environmental Justice Conference from Angel Quintana and Irene Tse-Pe, NNMCAB
 6. Environmental Justice Conference Letter from Irene Tse-Pe, NNMCAB
 7. Report on Hanford Site Chairs Meeting from Douglas Sayre, Vice-Chair, NNMCAB
 8. National Recommendation on EM Publicizing Success
 9. National Recommendation on EM Funding
 10. Presentation by Dana Bryson CBO, "Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Update and Status of Recovery"
 11. Update from LANL, Environmental Programs, Jeff Mousseau
 12. Final NNMCAB Bi-Monthly Meeting Schedule for Summer/Fall 2014
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Public Notice:

***All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audio CD's and Video DVD's have been placed on file for review at the NNMCAB office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506. The written minutes are intended as a synopsis of the meeting.**

***Reference documents listed in the attachments section of these minutes may be requested for review from the NNMCAB Office by calling (505)989-1662.**