



**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Combined Committee Meeting**

August 13, 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)
3. Tom Longo, Office of Environmental Safety & Health

NNMCAB Members

1. Stephen Schmelling, Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Committee Chair
2. Manuel Pacheco, Waste Management Committee Chair
3. Nona Girardi, Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Committee Vice-Chair
4. Carlos Valdez
5. Doug Sayre
6. Joey Tiano
7. Gerard Martinez
8. Mona Varela
9. Danny Mayfield
10. Alison Majure
11. Bob Villarreal

NNMCAB Student Members

1. Alyssa Schreiber

NNMCAB Members Excused Absences

1. Ashley Sanderson
 2. Deidre Roybal
 3. Angel Quintana
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NNMCAB Absences

1. Adrian Chavez, Sr.
2. Mary Friday
3. Bonnie Lucas
4. Tessa Jo Mascareñas
5. Alex Puglisi
6. Irene Tse-Pe
7. Joseph Viarrial

NNMCAB Support Staff

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

Guests

1. Karen Armijo, J. G. Management Systems
2. Katie Gallegos, PT&C, LLC.
3. Scott Kovac, Nuke Watch New Mexico

***All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audio CD'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 monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Waste Management (WM) and Environmental Monitoring & Remediation (EM&R) Committees was held on August 13, 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 2:04 p.m. Mr. Bishop recognized Mr. Stephen Schmelling the EM&R 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 9 members were present. Ms. Allison Majure arrived at 2:09 p.m. and Mr. Bob Villarreal arrived at 2:10 p.m. establishing a quorum.

b. Excused Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members had excused absences: Ms. Ashley Sanderson, Ms. Angel Quintana, and Ms. Deidre Roybal.

c. Absences

Mr. Alexander recorded that the following members were absent: Adrian Chavez, Sr., Ms. Mary Friday, Ms. Bonnie Lucas, Ms. Tessa Jo Mascareñas, Ms. Irene Tse-Pe, Mr. Alex Puglisi, and Mr. Joseph Viarrial.

III. Approval of Agenda

The Combined Committee (CC) reviewed the agenda for the August 13, 2014 meeting. Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for comments.

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

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Schmelling opened the floor for discussion on the minutes from the July 9, 2014 CC meeting.

Dr. Nona Girardi asked that the word "temporarily" be added to page six, line forty two before the word "store."

Mr. Joey Tiano made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2014 meeting as amended; Mr. Sayre seconded the motion. The members voted all in favor to approve the minutes, as amended.

V. Update from Executive Committee

Mr. Carlos Valdez stated that the Executive Committee had discussed the issues that the NNM CAB would be presenting during its presentation at the upcoming Idaho Chairs meeting. He noted that the three topics were: The diversity of the board, the relationship that the NNM CAB has with the local Pueblos, and the TRU waste issues.

Mr. Valdez noted that the upcoming travel for the board was the Rad Waste Summit in Nevada September 2, 2014 through September 5, 2014, the Chairs meeting in Idaho September 15, 2014 through September 19, 2014, and the NNM CABs board meeting in Taos September 24, 2014.

VI. Update from DDFO

Mr. Bishop stated that DOE Secretary Ernest Moniz had attended meetings in New Mexico Monday August 11th and 12th. He noted that the primary reason for the visit was meetings with the Pueblos to discuss energy policy and transmission lines. Additionally, he noted that Secretary Moniz had invited the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities to a meeting.

Mr. Bishop stated that DOE is also looking into disposal opportunities for high level waste in Southeast New Mexico and West Texas. Mr. Bishop noted that as the oil and gas industry winds down on the installation of oil pumps, new high level jobs would be needed in the area.

Mr. Bishop stated that the new carbon fiber camera boom was in its third week of fabrication and should be completed in the next three weeks. He noted that the boom would be used to reach back in the waste array in panel 7 at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) and gain much needed visual confirmation of the breached drum. Mr. Bishop noted that the waste team at LANL is currently working on proposals to remediate the suspect drums still at LANL. He stated that the proposed process includes quenching the drums and cementing the waste into a monolith for final disposal at WIPP. He noted that the suspect waste that is currently held at Waste Control Specialists (WCS) in Andrews, Texas has been placed into cement casks, put into the federal waste cell under river rock, and one foot of sand. He noted that the waste is actively monitored and that the temperatures of the drums have stabilized.

Mr. Bishop stated that ten corrugated metal boxes had been shipped to Idaho to be processed in the shredder and packaged into drums. He noted that Idaho can only store the waste for one year and that the one year time period would be up at the end of October 2014. Mr. Bishop noted that it is important to find a place to temporarily store that waste, whether it's at WCS, LANL, or some other facility.

Mr. Bishop stated that the presentations for the NNM CAB Taos meeting were on the chromium plume and an update on the Consent Order.

Ms. Majure asked if WCS was in compliance with their waste permit.

Mr. Bishop responded that WCS is a Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility, and that their permit allows them to store TRU waste on site for one year or less without the need for an extension request; however, the permit does not allow for the disposal of TRU waste.

1 Mr. Schmelling asked how the waste stored at WCS counts against the 3706 campaign
2 percent complete.

3
4 Mr. Bishop responded that the waste a WCS is counted as part of the completed
5 percentage, noting that the 3706 campaign required the waste to be off LANL's site.

6
7 Dr. Girardi asked if there is a risk of explosion during the drum quenching process.

8
9 Mr. Bishop stated that adding water to the waste is an endothermic reaction and will
10 make the waste in the drum cooler than the ambient air.

11
12 With no additional questions Mr. Schmelling moved on to the next agenda item.

13
14 **VII. Presentation**

15 **a. Long Term Stewardship**

16 Mr. Tom Longo, DOE Headquarters, presented to the NNMCAB on
17 "Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration Long Term
18 Stewardship Programs." An electronic copy of the presentation may be obtained
19 from the NNMCAB website at URL [http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-](http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm)
20 [presentations/presentations.htm](http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/7-presentations/presentations.htm).

21
22 **b. Questions**

23 Mr. Schmelling asked if the Legacy Management division had anything to do
24 with non-government remediation sites.

25
26 Mr. Longo responded that yes the Office of Legacy Management (OLM) has
27 many sites that are not government sites that it is responsible for.

28
29 Mr. Mayfield asked what the square boxes on the map represent.

30
31 Mr. Longo responded that the squares on the map are underground test sites.

32
33 Mr. Valdez asked how the control on land that is transferred to the county are
34 maintained.

35
36 Mr. Longo responded that many times the controls or restrictions are included
37 in the land transfer. For example, the deed may not allow for residential use, only
38 industrial.

39
40 Ms. Allison Majure asked if money could be an issue in the future.

41
42 Mr. Longo responded that yes projecting the budget costs and allocations into
43 the future are difficult. He noted that no assurances exist that the money will
44 actually be there in the future.

1 Mr. Bob Villarreal asked what the sites that OLM is responsible for are
2 contaminated with.

3
4 Mr. Longo responded that the contaminates range from radiological to
5 hazardous waste and explosives.

6
7 Ms. Majure asked what the 53 million dollar budget number covered in the
8 clean-up process.

9
10 Mr. Longo responded that for example OLM covers the long term expenses of
11 pump and treats that are turned over for stewardship.

12
13 Mr. Bishop responded that for example, LANL could clean-up the chromium
14 plume and install the pump and treat system and then turn that over for long
15 term stewardship. He noted that under that example the clean-up funds would
16 cover the installation and OLM funds would be used for the continued
17 maintenance of the pump and treat system.

18
19 Ms. Majure responded that if a site is close to being ready for long term
20 stewardship it could be turned over to OLM for final completion and long term
21 monitoring.

22
23 Mr. Schmelling asked if OLM had budget for the maintenance costs of pump
24 and treat systems.

25
26 Mr. Longo responded that maintenance budget is allocated so long as it is
27 within the scope of the project.

28
29 Mr. Sayre asked why the proposed budget was constant.

30
31 Mr. Longo noted that the flat level of funding comes from the fact that OLM is
32 not anticipating adding any new sites in the near future.

33
34 Mr. Pacheco asked how compliance is verified and who verifies it.

35
36 Mr. Longo responded that the long term stewardship responsibilities are
37 institutionalized in the Records of Decision. He noted that once the regulator picks
38 the remedy, the responsibilities are put in the post closure permit, very clearly laid
39 out as part of the requirements of the site closure.

40
41 **VIII. Public Comment**

42 Mr. Schmelling opened the public comment period at 3:15 p.m.

43
44 Mr. Scott Kovac from Nuke Watch New Mexico thanked the board for the opportunity
45 to speak. He noted that the theoretical location for the maximum exposed individual was at
46 Ashley Pond this year. He stated that in previous years the location had been out at

1 Eastgate. Mr. Kovac also noted that some of the waste contained that had been sent to
2 WIPP had been reclassified with Environmental Protection Agency D Codes. He noted that
3 the applied codes were D-001 and D-002, for corrosive and ignitable. Mr. Kovac stated that
4 makes 360 drums that are currently at WIPP, now illegally stored. He noted that the
5 NNM CAB should look into this issue.

6
7 With no additional comments, Mr. Schmelling closed public comment at 3:20 p.m.

8
9 At the close of the public comment the NNM CAB members resumed asking questions of
10 the presenter, the questions are addressed in section VII.

11
12 **IX. Adjournment**

13 Mr. Schmelling noted that due to time constraints the sub-committee breakout sessions
14 would take place at the September CC meeting. He noted that the September meeting
15 would be on September 10, 2014 at the NNM CAB office.

16
17 With no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

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19 **Respectfully Submitted,**

20 **William Alexander**

21 **Technical Programs and Outreach**

22
23 **Attachments:**

- 24 1. Final Combined Committee Meeting Agenda for 08/13/2014
- 25 2. Final Combined Committee Meeting Minutes for 07/09/2014
- 26 3. Site Transition Summary: Cleanup Completion to Long-Term Stewardship at DOE On-Going
27 Mission Sites
- 28 4. Presentation by Tom Longo, DOE HQ "Update on DOE/NNSA Long Term Stewardship
29 Programs"
- 30 5. Office of Legacy Management The First Decade 2006-2013
- 31 6. Legacy Management 2011-2020 Strategic Plan
- 32 7. Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Committees Thoughts and Ideas on Making
33 them Work Better, EM&R Chair Stephen Schmelling
- 34 8. Committee Rosters
- 35 9. FY'14 Committee Work Plans
- 36 10. Public Comments Submitted by Mr. Kovac Via e-mail

37
38 **Public Notice:**

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