



INL Site Environmental Management

C I T I Z E N S A D V I S O R Y B O A R D

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2009

The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site Environmental Management (EM) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) held its bi-monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho. An audio recording of the meeting was created and may be reviewed by phoning Support Services at 208-419-4158.

Members Present

R. D. Maynard, Chair
Richard Buxton
Doc DeTonancour
Harrison Gerstlauer
Seth Beal
Fred Sica

Damond Watkins
Willie Preacher
John Bolliger
Nicki Karst
Bruce Wendle
Robert Rodriguez

Members Absent

Tami Sherwood (excused)

Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Federal Coordinator, and Liaisons Present

Rick Provencher, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office (DOE-ID)
Bob Pence, Federal Coordinator, DOE-ID
Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10
Susan Burke, State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Daryl Koch, DEQ
John Fulton, CWI

Others Present

Lisa Aldrich, Project Manager
Ceri Chapple, Support Services
Lori Isenberg, Support Services Facilitator
Mark Arenaz, DOE-ID
Dave Sanderlin, Naval Reactors Facility (NRF)
Kathy Falconer, Areva
Guy Girard, DOE
Bruce LaRue, DEQ
Keith Locke, DOE
Richard Craun, DOE

Alan Jines, DOE
Nicole Hernandez, DOE
Roy Bartholomay, USGS
Brandi Dingman, DOE
Jim Van Vliet, Public
Danielle Miller, DOE
Jean Holdren, ICP
Richard Kauffman, DOE
Brandt Meagher, ICP

Opening Remarks

Chairman R. D. Maynard welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Provencher welcomed everyone, thanked the CAB for their efforts, and provided brief updates. Additionally, the liaisons provided brief updates.

Recent Public Involvement

Mr. Provencher provided an overview of public involvement since the last meeting.

Progress to Cleanup

Mr. Provencher provided a status of the cleanup progress with active discussion among the CAB. The status included safety performance (CWI and Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project [AMWTP]), transuranic (TRU) waste disposition, low-level and mixed low-level waste, and the AMWTP. Mr. Provencher discussed the Waste Area Group (WAG) 7 and the Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC). In regard to WAG 7, Mr. Provencher outlined the Subsurface Disposal Area (SDA) Record of Decision and the Accelerated Retrieval Project interim actions. Mr. Provencher discussed the status of the Idaho Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Disposal Facility and CERCLA Remediation Projects: WAG 1 – Test Area North (TAN), WAG 3 – Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (INTEC), and WAG 10 – Site wide Miscellaneous Sites/Snake River Plain Aquifer. He continued, discussing the status and objectives of Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D), TAN (completed), Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) Complex, INTEC, and the RWMC. Mr. Provencher included the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) work: Power Burst Facility and Materials Fuels Complex (Completed). Mr. Provencher outlined the Nuclear Materials Completion Project objectives, the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU) (Sodium-Bearing Waste) Project objectives, the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU), INTEC Liquid Waste Facility (Tank Farm) Closure Project, the Spent Nuclear Fuel Disposition Project objectives, and the Calcine Disposition Project. Mr. Provencher summarized to the CAB key activities and completion dates on the aforementioned projects. Additionally, Mr. Provencher outlined where the six billion dollars of ARRA money is going and broke down the Idaho DOE Operations Office Recovery Act projects. He also briefed the CAB on how many jobs will be saved and created here in Idaho.

Mr. Provencher notified the CAB of upcoming items of potential interest: the EBR II fuel removal from ARRA work scope, Mercury Facility Scoping Meeting, New EM Organization, and the Yucca/ Blue Ribbon Panel.

Discussion

Fred Sica inquired about the EM fuel that is to be moved from the Wet Basin to dry storage by June, 2010, wondering if that date wasn't a little optimistic. Mr. Provencher responded, saying that they do believe it is possible to complete this project within the projected time frame, pointing out that the EM fuel to be removed is just a portion of the fuel in the Wet Basin.

Susan Burke inquired what the status and timeline is for the MFC Dry Storage Unit License. Mr. Provencher responded by explaining they were still working through the process and they hope to get the license by this calendar year, possibly in the next few months.

Fred Sica asked why the State of Idaho and DOE couldn't get together and discuss the possibility of the Calcine staying in place, if the Calcine could be safely stored indefinitely. Susan Burke responded, explaining that the state of Idaho expects DOE to comply with the terms of the settlement agreement. The Record of Decision (ROD) would outline how DOE plans to treat the Calcine; the state of Idaho is looking for DOE's best proposal and expects the Calcine to be road ready by 2035.

RD Maynard asked what the potential may be for Idaho to acquire more ARRA money if other sites do not spend their ARRA money or drop the ball. Rick Provencher explained that the contractors must submit a monthly report to DOE. DOE is actively looking at performance and will continue to do so for the three year period. Mr. Provencher anticipates by the end of 2010 there will be a possible decision point whereby DOE will have an accurate evaluation of those sites as to whether or not they are meeting goals with the ARRA money. He continued by explaining that all of the ARRA money must be spent by 2011. There may be a reallocation of those funds either at the particular sites where the money was originally allocated or to other sites if the funds are not being spent properly. CWI has other work if more money is made available. Mr. Provencher introduced Ben Roberts from DOE

Headquarters. He is in Idaho for the duration of the ARRA projects to ensure that the plans put in place by the contractors are followed through, meeting requirements and performing the work.

Doc DeTonancour inquired about the table on slide #43, asking if it reflects the money actually distributed thus far. Mr. Provencher outlined the table, explaining \$468 million was the total allotment of funds, \$370 million was the initial allotment of funds, the contractor was authorized \$112 million and the contractor has spent \$20 million so far (July, 2009). The table demonstrates the spend plan. The contractor will spend \$70 million by the end of FY2009 and will spend approximately \$160-\$170 million per year for the next two years. The contractor will continue receive incremental authority. A DOE Headquarters team will review contractor baselines at the end of August. These baselines need approval before the next allotment of ARRA funds can be approved.

RD Maynard asked about slide #42 concerning jobs saved and jobs created in Idaho with the ARRA money. He expressed concern about major layoffs once the stimulus money has been spent. John Fulton explained that they hope "natural attrition" will account for some of the current job growth in the future. He explained that natural attrition, people leaving the company either by retirement, relocation, termination, or death, accounts for approximately 100 jobs a year. CWI normally has around 1100 employees, with the stimulus it will grow to around 1600. They hope natural attrition will cushion the job growth back to their normal 1100 over the next three years. Dennis Faulk commented that hopefully congress will keep the budget funding levels up with a demonstration of good progress.

Nicki Karst inquired about the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU) injury shutdown. John Fulton explained it was a one day shutdown due to minor injuries caused by some construction workers not paying attention. Doc DeTonancour asked if the injuries were with the new crews. Mr. Fulton explained that the new hires are incorporated in with the experienced crews.

Robert Rodriguez asked who the Blue Ribbon Panel consisted of and what their mission will be. Rick Provencher explained that they don't really know too much about the Blue Ribbon Panel at this point. Mr. Fulton explained that the Blue Ribbon Panel is a response to the Yucca Mountain closure. He thinks that they will possibly evaluate other alternatives for the disposal and storage of high level waste, both DOE and commercial.

Willie Preacher inquired about what happened to the fuel discovered at 603? Rick Provencher responded that it is still there. They performed a safety evaluation to determine if it was critically safe. Place other fuel in there in dry storage ports. The evaluation included the possibility of finding more fuel. Once they get through the full capacity of the dry storage and determine what they have then they will come to point of accountability.

Bruce Wendle asked in what state the fuel is shipped. Mr. Provencher explained that it comes out of the basin and is dried; if it comes from offsite it is typically dry. All fuel shipped is dry. Mr. Provencher explained that the benefit of wet storage is to allow the waste to decay thermally. Once it is placed in dry storage it does still decay thermally as well as radioactively.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Snake River Plain Aquifer Briefing

Roy Bartholomay briefed the CAB on the Iodine-129 in the Snake River Plain aquifer at and near the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), Idaho, 2003 and 2007. Mr. Bartholomay outlined the background information on Iodine-129. He explained the history of the USGS Iodine-129 sampling at the INL. Mr. Bartholomay provided maps of the location of the wells sampled in 2003 and 2007. He provided a map of the areal distribution comparison between 2003 and 2007 and the location of the multi-level monitoring wells. Mr. Bartholomay outlined the advantages of the multi-

level systems. He explained the aquifer results from 2003 and 2007. Mr. Bartholomay outlined the results of the water samples collected from the multi-level monitoring systems. He finished by summarizing the data and outlining the conclusions that were determined by the sampling information. The report can be viewed at <http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/usgspubs/sir/sir20095088>

Discussion

Fred Sica inquired if the wells were being tested from the site to Twin falls. Mr. Bartholomay explained that yes, they had tested in Twin Falls and the results came back as background. Mr. Sica asked what they do with the information if they do find higher than background levels. Mr. Bartholomay said that they make the public aware of that information and it will eventually go into a report. Mr. Sica then inquired if the USGS has a mechanism in place to find out where significant levels have come from. Mr. Bartholomay explained that they will perform re-runs in the lab, resample and do a press release with DOE. The USGS has found that DOE has kept fairly good waste water disposal records at the INL.

Robert Rodriguez inquired how the sampling was performed. Mr. Bartholomay explained that they tap into the aquifer, which will flow into the valve, which will fill a 2liter bottle with water; the USGS tries not to fill any bottles with two different runs. Mr. Rodriguez inquired if the USGS will continue to monitor wells. Mr. Bartholomay responded as long as they are funded, the USGS has been monitoring INL site wells since 1949.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Waste Area Group 7 (OU 7-13/14) Buried Waste Remediation Status Update

Mark Arenaz began by giving a brief background and history of the Subsurface Disposal Area (SDA) and buried waste. He continued by briefing the CAB on the progress to date (06/30/2009) on targeted waste retrievals. Mr. Arenaz outlined the path forward for targeted waste retrievals, explaining that they will continue waste retrievals in Accelerated Retrieval Project (ARP) II and ARP III and outlined the plans for ARP IV. Mr. Arenaz also explained the tentative schedule for ARP V. He provided a map of the 5.69-acre retrieval progress, additionally providing photos of the waste retrieval process, the generating of new waste packages for off-site shipment, and an aerial view of the targeted waste retrieval areas. Mr. Arenaz outlined the CERCLA document status. Mr. Arenaz concluded by briefing the CAB on the Phase I Remedial Design/ Remedial Action Work Plan status.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Sodium Bearing Waste Treatment Project Overview and Status

Richard Craun briefed the CAB on the Sodium Bearing Waste Treatment Project. Mr. Craun outlined the mission and provided a detailed description of the project. Mr. Craun described the project baseline and the project's evolution. He continued by explaining the baseline change proposal summary. Mr. Craun reviewed the summary of drivers for project cost growth. He explained the impact of the re-baseline effort. Mr. Craun provided an overview of the highlights of the project's progress. He briefed the CAB on what's next for the Sodium Bearing Waste Treatment Project. Mr. Craun provided a timeline to summarize the project plan. He provided a table to explain the IWTU project receipt and placement of process vessels schedule. Mr. Craun provided tables for the fabrication

shop resource planning and construction resource planning. He presented a chart of the project analysis as of May, 2009. Mr. Craun concluded by providing a multitude of progress photos.

Discussion

John Bolliger inquired if there is any plan to use the IWTU after its initial 15 month usage plan. Rick Provencher responded that there is a potential that it may be used for Calcine.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Update on Site-wide Groundwater, Miscellaneous Sites, and Future Sites (Operable Unit 10-08)

Nicole Hernandez briefed the CAB on the site-wide groundwater, Waste Area Group (WAG) 10-08. Ms. Hernandez outlined the scope for Operable Unit (OU) 10-08. She provided an overview of the INL CERCLA background and outlined the CERCLA process. Ms. Hernandez explained the proposed plan for site-wide groundwater; there are 83 miscellaneous sites, there will be no action sites, no further action with institutional controls, transferred from other operable units for remedy implementation sites, and remove, treat and dispose sites. They will use a Plug-In approach for future sites. Ms. Hernandez explained the findings of the current groundwater investigation and the future groundwater assessment. Ms. Hernandez outlined the Plug-In approach and the schedule. She continued by briefing the CAB on the Remedial Design/ Remedial Action work plan. Ms. Hernandez summarized the findings and plans for site-wide groundwater at the INL. Ms. Hernandez concluded by briefing the CAB on the TSF-07 Disposal Pond at Test Area North Alternative 2 and outlined the schedule for the remediation project.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste Update, Progress and Plans

Alan Jines briefed the CAB on the current waste status, planned approach and schedule of the Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste (RH-TRU). Mr. Jines outlined the remaining INL site RH-TRU Waste. Mr. Jines outlined the scope of the Nuclear Energy (NE) Environmental Management (EM) transferred RH-TRU scope. Mr. Jines explained that 67 sludge pan containers are being shipped to INTEC from NRF and another 25 will follow later. He provided a detailed outline the Radioactive Scrap and Waste Facility (RSWF) at MFC. Mr. Jines provided photos of the HFEF-5 Canisters, HFEF-5 Can removal, the interim storage containers, the new trailer, the Flourinel Dissolution Process (FDP) Hot Cell, the new FDP Hot Cell hatch covers, and the cutting table. Mr. Jines concluded by outlining the schedule for the remaining RH-TRU Waste at the INL.

Discussion

Seth Beal asked what the determining factor is capping. Ms. Hernandez explained that they haven't fully determined what the exact criteria are in the decision to cap or not. Some of the decision is based on cost efficiency. Dennis Koch explained that is difficult to come up with tight criteria to determine whether to cap vs. disposal and removal.

Nicki Karst asked how the sites are identified. Mr. Hernandez explained that a site-wide study was performed for releases, from the agencies, DOE and the contractors. Ms. Hernandez said that once D&D has been done to a facility it makes it much easier to determine and remediate the sites.

Decisions/Disposition

The report satisfied the informational need for the CAB.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Announcements and Other Board Business

The next meeting will be held September 10, 2009, in Idaho Falls, Idaho at the Hilton Garden Inn.

A teleconference call will be held prior to the public meeting on mercury storage August 11th.

Planning calls will be held to discuss the Chair's meeting.

CAB Work Session

The CAB discussed the chairs meeting that will be hosted by DOE-Idaho, September 21-24.

The CAB developed an agenda for topics of the September meeting:

OU-10-08 Site-Wide Groundwater, Miscellaneous Sites and Future Sites ROD

Remediation of TSF-07 under EE/CA and Action Memo

Hot Cell

EBR II

Chairs Meeting

Calcine ROD

The CAB reviewed and voted on three member candidates to submit to DOE for a final decision for two INL EM CAB member positions from the choices made by the CAB Membership Committee.

Action Items:

1. Support staff will schedule a conference call for the Executive Committee to finalize the September meeting agenda. A Full Board call will be scheduled for August 11, at 2:00pm for a presentation on the Mercury Storage EIS prior to the public meeting that evening.
2. Support staff will coordinate and distribute travel information to CAB members attending the September meeting in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Members provided written feedback forms to support services at the conclusion of the meeting.

Attachments (8) to these minutes are available on request from the INL Site EM CAB support office.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the July 14, 2009, meeting of the Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board.

R. D. Maynard, Co-Chair

September 28, 2009



Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board
RDM/cc