



Meeting Minutes

November 14–15 2006



The Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) held its bi-monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, and Wednesday, November 15, 2006, at the AmeriTel Inn in Idaho Falls. An audio recording of the meeting was made and may be reviewed by phoning Support Services at 208-227-1361.

Members Present

Seth Beal John Bolliger, Vice Chair
Richard Buxton, Co-Chair
Bill Flanery, Co-Chair
R.D. Maynard
Willie Preacher
Fred Sica
Damond Watkins
Doug Weir
Bruce Wendle

Members Absent

Doc DeTonancour
Lila Gold
Robert Rodriguez

Deputy Designated Federal Officer and Liaisons Present

Richard Provencher, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office (DOE-ID)
Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10
Daryl Koch, State of Idaho
Bruce LaRue (acting for Kathleen Trever), State of Idaho
William Johnson, Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP)

Others Present

Lisa Aldrich, Support Services
Lane Allgood, Partnership for Science and Tech.
Melvin Amos, DOE-ID
Eva Auman, DOE-ID
Shannon Brennan, DOE-ID Federal Coordinator
Doug Burns, ICP
Dan Coyne, ICP
Bruce Culp, ICP
Tom Dieter, ICP
Wendy Dixon, NR-IBO
Scott Edwards, AREVA
Kathy Falconer, AREVA
Jim Floerke, ICP
Kathleen Hain, DOE-ID

Bill Harker, DOE-ID
David Hutchison, ICP
Lori Isenberg, Support Services Facilitator
Alan Jines, DOE-ID
Tracy Leatham, Support Services
Amy Lientz, ICP
Keith Lockie, DOE-ID
Kliss McNeel, ICP
Allen Nellesen, ICP
Scott Reno, ICP
Mark Shaw, DOE-ID
Erik Simpson, ICP
John Tanner, Coalition 21
Scott Van Camp, DOE-ID

Opening Remarks

Co-chairman Richard Buxton welcomed everyone to the meeting and then invited Richard Provencher (DDFO) and the liaisons to give any opening remarks. Mr. Provencher, Mr. Faulk, and Mr. Koch all provided brief updates from DOE, EPA, and the State. Mr. Koch introduced Bruce LaRue who was attending for Kathleen Trever.

Recent Public Involvement

Mr. Provencher summarized the EM public outreach handout. The State of Idaho provided the latest copy of the *Oversight Monitor*.

Progress to Cleanup

Mr. Provencher provided a status of the cleanup progress with active discussion among the CAB. The status included the Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP) scope, safety performance, the transuranic waste disposition project, low-level and mixed low-level waste project, Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project, Waste Area Group 7 Project, other Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remediation projects, Idaho CERCLA Disposal Facility (ICDF), Pit 9 decontamination and decommissioning (D&D), D&D Test Area North, D&D Reactor Technology Complex, D&D Power Burst Facility, D&D Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (INTEC), Special Nuclear Materials Disposition Project, Integrated Waste Treatment Unit Project, INTEC Liquid Waste Facility closure project, Spent Nuclear Fuel Disposition Project, Idaho Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage Project, and Calcine Disposition Project. The presentation concluded with key activities and completion dates for these projects.

Decisions/Disposition

Presentation satisfied the information need for the CAB.

Engineering Test Reactor (ETR) Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)

Bill Harker provided a history of the ETR including its location and a cross-section view of the vessel. He also explained the current status and the decommissioning approach. He then explained the removal action objectives and all of the alternatives presented in the EE/CA. Mr. Harker explained why DOE is recommending Alternative 3 and included the alternative evaluation criteria. He had ICP staff help answer questions.

Decisions/Disposition

The CAB had many questions and concerns. Mr. Harker came back on Wednesday to provide the CAB with additional answers. The CAB further discussed this topic the next day (see below, recommendation on the ETR EE/CA).

Tank Farm Update

Keith Lockie provided a short status on the waste determination. The document has been submitted to the Secretary for his signature.

Decisions/Disposition

Presentation satisfied the information need for the CAB.

Groundwater Monitoring Update

Mark Shaw provided informational updates on the Test Area North (TAN) Groundwater Project and on the INL Groundwater Monitoring Well Network. He explained that the TAN Groundwater Project has a plume that is broken into three zones: the hot spot, medial zone, and distal zone. Mr. Shaw explained each zone and its remedy. He concluded with the results to date and the next step. He then explained the INL well network and the well closure program. He concluded with the progress to date and the typical methods of removal.

Decisions/Disposition

Presentation satisfied the information need for the CAB.

Disposition of Legacy Spent Nuclear Fuel

Kathleen Hain provided a history of the legacy ICP-managed spent nuclear fuel. She explained what nuclear fuel is and the mission for ICP legacy spent nuclear fuel. Ms. Hain explained wet storage, dry storage, and storage at Ft. Saint Vrain, Colorado. She then discussed the strategy for removing legacy spent nuclear fuel from Idaho and Colorado. Ms. Hain discussed the treatment challenges and the plans for the monitored geologic repository. She concluded by explaining the recycle possibilities for aluminum clad and other spent nuclear fuel.

Decisions/Disposition

Presentation satisfied the information need for the CAB.

Membership and Meetings Committee Discussion

The committee members shared concerns (listed below) discussed in committee regarding the recently adopted set of procedures related to CAB membership recruitment and selection process and suggested the CAB review the procedures.

- Are the changes in procedure being applied complex-wide, or just in Idaho?
- Are the changes because of lack of diversity on the CAB?
- Perception is reality to the public. The CAB could lose credibility if the DOE has the ability to privately review applications and select CAB members who share the views of DOE in order to influence the CAB.
- The loss of credibility could weaken the CAB's ability to achieve its mission.

DOE (Shannon Brennan and DOE legal staff) responded that the goal is to become consistent complex-wide. DOE additionally answered that it is not a diversity problem with the board. DOE said this is a necessary step to become compliant with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and the Privacy Act.

The CAB asked for a comparison of how the new member selection process was handled in the past and the new procedures. It was explained that in the past, support staff sent out notice of openings (per the CAB request). Applications were sent to support services and then provided to the CAB committee during closed session for



review. The committee selected applicants that best fit the openings on the board at that time and those applicants were presented to the full board for vote. The CAB was careful to refrain from discussion of personal issues during any part of the open meeting. If discussion was needed, the board went into closed session. The board voted and then submitted their selections for DOE to appoint. In the updated procedures, DOE sends out the notice of openings, receives the applications and then sensors out the sensitive information. The modified applications are then submitted to the CAB for consideration.

There was lengthy discussion among the CAB regarding the new procedures. The CAB voted to retract CAB operating procedures from headquarters while they revisit the issue of membership selection.

The CAB noted they understand the need for DOE to comply with the Privacy Act. The CAB suggested the membership application could include a paragraph that gives the applicant the opportunity to authorize the CAB to review their application during closed session.

Decisions/Disposition

DOE will research the suggestion made, as well as any other possible avenues to allow CAB involved in the membership selection process and comply with FACA and the Privacy Act.

DOE/ Support Services will prepare a cross walk comparison between the new and old procedures with notations of why the changes were made for the Membership Committee.

Recommendation on ETR EE/CA

The CAB voted in favor of sending a recommendation to DOE in support of the DOE preferred Alternative 3

Public Comment

Layne Allgood, Partnership for Science and Technology, provided comments regarding the Tank Farm Facility Waste Determination.

John Tanner, Coalition 21, provided comments regarding the AMWTP contract and the ETR EE/CA.

John Tanner, Coalition 21, encouraged the CAB to pursue revisions to the membership selection procedures in order to maintain credibility with the public.

Announcements and Other Board Business

The next meeting will be held January 16–17, 2007 at the Red Lion Hotel in Idaho Falls. The following dates and locations are planned for Fiscal Year 2007.

January 16-17	Idaho Falls, Red Lion Hotel
March 20-21	Pocatello, Red Lion Hotel
May 15-16	Idaho Falls, Red Lion Hotel
July 17-18 (site tour 16th)	Idaho Falls, Red Lion Hotel
September 18-19	Jackson, WY, Teton Mountain Lodge
November 13-14	Idaho Falls, Red Lion Hotel

CAB Work Session

The CAB suggested topics for discussion on the next committee call agenda. The topics were divided among committees as follows.

Membership Committee—membership recruitment and selection process, procedures, new members

Strategic—ETR EE/CA recommendation, public comment results, workforce reduction

CC RWMC Committee—Well IE-6 update, Waste Area Group (WAG) 7 Feasibility Study

CC INTEC Committee—Calcine, Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage

Executive/Administrative Committee—update Annual Work Plan

The CAB additionally requested that the Progress to Cleanup presentation include updates on grouting and national issues.

Action Items

1. DOE will retract CAB operating procedures from headquarters.
2. DOE will research options to return to previous membership process and comply with FACA and the Privacy Act.
3. DOE/ Support Services will prepare a cross walk comparison between the new and old procedures with notations of why the changes were made.
4. CAB members will send opinions/comments to Lisa for development of the ETR EE/CA recommendation.
5. Lisa will schedule a Strategic Issues Committee call for Monday, November 20, 2006 for the CAB to discuss the draft recommendation for the ETR EE/CA. The recommendation is planned to be finalized and transmitted to DOE no later than Wednesday, November 22, 2006 (before the comment period deadline of Saturday, November 25, 2006).

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

Attachments (5) 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 September 19–20, 2006, meeting of the Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board.



Richard L. Buxton, Co-Chair
Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board
RLB/lja

December 5, 2006