

General

ENTERED



January 23, 2013

Dear NNM CAB and Liaison Members,

Enclosed is the information you will need for the NNM CAB meeting scheduled for January 30th, at the Buffalo Thunder Resort in the Caldera A Meeting Room. Please see the enclosed map for parking and entering on the north side of the resort.

You will hear a presentation from the New Mexico Department of Health on Radiation and Health, as per your request. Also, Michael Brandt will present the Long Term Strategy for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Plan.

Chairman Valdez requests that members arrive before 1:00 p.m., so that a quorum may be established promptly. Please bring this packet of information with you to the meeting.

If you are not able to attend the meeting, please request an excused absence from Ed Worth at: Edwin.Worth@nnsa.doe.gov

Kindest regards,

Menice B. Santistevan

Menice B. Santistevan
Executive Director
NNM CAB Support Office

35711



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting
January 30, 2013
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Buffalo Thunder Resort, Caldera A Meeting Room
20 Buffalo Thunder Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

AGENDA

<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
1:00 p.m.	Call to Order	Ed Worth, DDFO
	Establishment of a Quorum (11 needed)	
	a. Roll Call	William Alexander
	b. Excused Absences	
	Welcome and Introductions	Carlos Valdez, Chair
	Approval of Agenda	
	Approval of Minutes of Sept. 26, 2012	
	Approval of Minutes of Dec. 4, 2012	
1:30 p.m.	Public Comment Period	
1:45 p.m.	Old Business	
	a. Written Reports – See Packet Enclosures (5 minutes)	
	b. EM-SSAB Draft Recommendations (4)	
2:00 p.m.	New Business	
2:15 p.m.	Items from DOE	Ed Worth
	Presentation of Long Term Strategy for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Plan	
		Michael Brandt
3:15 p.m.	Break	
3:30 p.m.	Presentation on Radiation and Health	NM Department of Health
4:20 p.m.	Presentation on Occupational Illness Compensation	Jim Ferguson
4:30 p.m.	Items from Liaison Members	
	a. Los Alamos National Laboratory	Jeff Mousseau
	b. New Mexico Environment Department	John Kieling
	c. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 6)	Ed Worth for Rich Mayer
	d. Department of Energy	Pete Maggiore
5:00 p.m.	Dinner Break	
6:00 p.m.	Public Comment Period	
6:15 p.m.	Consideration and action on Draft Recommendation(s) to DOE	Carlos Valdez
	• Draft Recommendation 2013-01, Recommendation for Action in Analysis of Disposal Pathways for Disposition of 33 Shafts: <i>Remote –Handled Waste Buried in 33 Shafts at Technical Area 54 (TA-54)</i>	
6:45 p.m.	Wrap-up and Comments from Board Members	Carlos Valdez
7:00 p.m.	Adjourn	Ed Worth, DDFO



Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting
September 26, 2012
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
1508 Paseo Del Pueblo Sur
Sagebrush Inn and Conference Center
Taos, New Mexico 87571

MINUTES

Meeting Attendees:

Department of Energy:

- Pete Maggiore, Assistant Manager for Environmental Operations, Los Alamos Site Office
 - Ed Worth, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)
 - Christina Houston, DOE/EPO
-

NNMCAB Members:

- 1. Ralph Phelps, NNMCAB Chair
 - 2. Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB Vice Chair
 - 3. Brenda Gallegos
 - 4. Mike Loya
 - 5. Joey Tiano
 - 6. Nicole Castellano
 - 7. Robert Villarreal
 - 8. Manuel Pacheco
 - 9. Lawrence Longacre
 - 10. Art Mascarenas
 - 11. Nona Girardi
 - 12. Allison Majure
 - 13. Deb Shaw
 - 14. Joseph Viarrial
-

Excused Absences:

- 1. Adam Duran
 - 2. Nick Maestas
 - 3. Bonnie Lucas
 - 4. Lawrence Garcia
 - 5. Kyle Harwood
 - 6. Doug Sayre
-

- 1 **NNMCAB Support Staff:**
- 2 **Menice Santistevan, Executive Director**
- 3 **Grace Roybal, Senior Cost Analyst**
- 4 **Keith Flodstrom, Senior Cost Estimator**
- 5 **Edward Roybal, Sound Technician**
- 6 **Candyce Valerio, Videographer**

7

8 **Guests:**

- 9 **Jeff Mousseau, Associate Director for Environmental Programs (ADEP), LANS**
- 10 **Stephen Schmelling, Public**
- 11 **Jeff Genauer, ASNNML**
- 12 **Michelle Jacquez-Ortiz, Senator Tom Udall's staff**
- 13 **Colleen Curan, LANS**
- 14 **Danny Katzman, LANS**
- 15 **Dave Cobrain, NMED**
- 16 **Howard Barnam, Public**

1 **MINUTES**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
 4 (NNMCAB) meeting was held on September 26, 2012 at The Sagebrush Inn and
 5 Conference Center in Taos, New Mexico. Mr. Ed Worth, Deputy Designated Federal
 6 Officer (DDFO), stated that on behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), the meeting of
 7 the NNMCAB was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

8 Mr. Worth recognized Mr. Ralph Phelps as NNMCAB Chair. The Chair presided at
 9 the meeting.

10 The meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the public and posted in The Federal
 11 Register in accordance with The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).
 12

13
 14 **II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 needed)**

15 **A. Roll Call**

16 Mr. Flodstrom conducted roll call as the members arrived. Fourteen members
 17 were present at the meeting at the time of roll call, which comprised a quorum for
 18 conducting business.

19 **B. Excused Absences**

20 Mr. Flodstrom recorded that Adam Duran, Nick Maestas, Bonnie Lucas,
 21 Lawrence Garcia, Kyle Harwood and Doug Sayre had excused absences for this meeting.
 22

23 **III. Welcome and Introductions**

24 Mr. Phelps welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked for introductions from
 25 the members and guests in attendance. Mr. Jeff Mousseau, the new AM ADEP for
 26 LANS, gave a short biography of his background and experience in waste handling and
 27 waste disposal.

28
 29 Mr. Phelps stated that during this meeting, the Board would review and approve
 30 the work plans for the committees, discuss one recommendation, and appoint the ad-
 31 hoc committee for the annual survey.

32
 33 **IV. Approval of Agenda**

34 The board reviewed the September 26, 2012 NNMCAB meeting agenda. The
 35 board would hear a presentation regarding an update to the Chromium/Perchlorate
 36 Groundwater Plume, and consider action on Draft Recommendation 2012-03 "Fiscal
 37 Year 2013 and 2014 Budget Appropriation Recommendation"

38 Mr. Mike Loya moved to approve the agenda and Dr. Deb Shaw seconded the
 39 motion. The meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

40
 41 **V. Approval of Minutes of August 29, 2012**

42 The board reviewed the minutes from the August 29, 2012 NNMCAB special
 43 meeting. By ongoing instructions from DOE Headquarters, the minutes were previously
 44 reviewed and certified by the NNMCAB Chair, Mr. Ralph Phelps. Mr. Phelps stated that

1 the August 29, 2012 minutes were included in the board packets and presented at this
2 meeting for board approval. A correction was noted as being needed on page seven,
3 line 8, the incorrect date of September 27th should be September 26th.

4 Mr. Manuel Pacheco made a motion to accept the August 29, 2012 Meeting
5 Minutes. Mr. Carlos Valdez seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously
6 approved.

7
8 **VI. Old Business**

9 **A. Written Reports**

10 **1. Report from the Chair and the Executive Director – NNM CAB September**
11 **26, 2012 Board Meeting**

12 **i. Mr. Phelps opened the floor to comment or discussion.**
13

14 **B. Other Items**

15 Mr. Lawrence Longacre stated that he had written a letter to the Chair and the
16 DDFO requesting a compiled a list of recommendations for the last three years, and
17 what was done with the recommendations. Mr. Longacre has a list of the 2012
18 recommendations and there are only two on the list. Mr. Longacre believes that the CAB
19 is not doing a good job forwarding recommendations to LANL or DOE. The CAB is not
20 producing very much product with only two recommendations generated in nine
21 months.
22

23 Mr. Longacre stated that Senator John McCain was in Albuquerque yesterday
24 talking about budget cuts in programs in New Mexico. Mr. Longacre feels the people of
25 NM are not getting "the bang for their buck" with regard to LANL funding. He has
26 written a letter to the Controller General complaining about the efficiency of the
27 NNM CAB. Mr. Longacre stated he will not post the letter for six months, to see if things
28 change under the new leadership. Mr. Longacre wants more meaningful production for
29 the CAB over the next six months.
30

31 Mr. Phelps replied that the feedback is generally good from the DOE EM folks at
32 Headquarters and LASO/LANL and that the NNM CAB recommendations are valued. He
33 also noted that the NNM CAB approved nine recommendations in 2011.
34

35 Dr. Nona Girardi asked if the Chairman and the DDFO take into account the
36 questions asked at the meetings. Mr. Ed Worth replied that all questions are of value.
37

38 Dr. Deb Shaw tends to agree with Mr. Longacre (somewhat) regarding the
39 recommendations, but she feels the real value is that the NNM CAB members are here
40 to get themselves informed and can pass on the information to friends, family. She
41 personally feels that all the money which is spent on the NNM CAB should be put into
42 removing the waste, though she understands the value of the specialized committees,
43 such as the NNM CAB.
44

1 Ms. Allison Majure stated that she studied the history of science at Berkley and
2 values the work done here by the CAB and the general public places a high value on
3 written records. She asks Mr. Longacre if he has provided written recommendations and
4 she offered to help Mr. Longacre develop recommendations.
5

6 At 1:30pm, Mr. Ralph Phelps officially opened the public comment period. Mr.
7 Jeff Genauer, a College student (senior) spoke, stated he attended the Taos CAB
8 meeting last year. He stated he feels good about the closure of the CMRR project, and
9 after attending all three public hearings in northern New Mexico, regarding the surplus
10 Plutonium Supplemental Environmental Impact Studies, and believes that 99% of the
11 public comment was opposed bringing in 13 tons of Plutonium from the Plutonium pits /
12 decommissioned nuclear war heads to Los Alamos. The only positive comments were
13 from LANL scientists who were not considered actual citizens. Mr. Genauer suggested
14 the CAB review the public comments from these three sessions. Mr. Genauer closed
15 with a summary of the public comments:
16

- 17 1. Not enough alternatives were considered for the disposition of this Plutonium.
18 Plutonium should be disposed of in other ways rather than being turned into
19 MOX fuel. He felt there should be 15 to 25 different alternatives proposed in the
20 SEIS rather than 4.
- 21 2. He stated that it appeared the Lab is not interested in "environmental justice"
22 and is more concerned with production waste versus environmental clean-up.
- 23 3. Concern about producing more toxic waste; the funds and energies should be
24 focused on Jeff environmental clean-up.
- 25 4. He felt there were outright lies in the SEIS, and that the overwhelming public
26 opinion was that the SEIS should be redone in a much broader and scientific
27 accountable manner, and the plan to do the research at LANL should be
28 rejected.
- 29 5. There seem to be more suitable locations to create the MOX fuel if that is the
30 ultimate selection, such as Pantex or SRS, rather than the plateaus of Los
31 Alamos.
32

33 Mr. Jeff Genauer was the only public speaker, and offered to share a video link
34 regarding the SEIS. Mr. Phelps allowed Mr. Manuel Pacheco the opportunity to
35 question Mr. Genauer. Mr. Pacheco commended Mr. Genauer for participating and
36 sees it as a good thing that young people are getting involved in the CAB process. Mr.
37 Pacheco asked if Mr. Genauer was currently enrolled in a Northern New Mexico College
38 and wants to know what Mr. Genauer's career goal is, to which Mr. Genauer replied he
39 wanted to become a high school teacher.
40

41 Mr. Manuel Pacheco asked what Mr. Genauer wanted to see done at for Los
42 Alamos and the area in general, especially as a future educator, knowing that he would
43 have an impact on the children of the future? Nuclear clean-up, money invested in
44 education, health care and positive sciences such as renewable energy and beneficial

1 science. Mr. Genauer would like to see money better spent on beneficial ways which
2 are in-line with public concerns and less money spent on nuclear programs.
3

4 Mr. Phelps officially closed the public comment period, and continued the "Old
5 Business" period with a comment from Mr. Mike Loya who stated that the primary focus
6 of Los Alamos has been the weapons, and he concurred with Dr. Shaw in that he sees
7 more of the money should be going to the clean-up efforts. He stated that he
8 commended the site for spending more money on a better, safer drilling procedure and
9 commended the current State leadership for being more adept in spending the money
10 on clean-up efforts rather than imposing fines. Mr. Loya wanted CMRR to continue as a
11 project.
12

13 Mr. Ralph Phelps thanked Mr. Loya for his comments, and recognized the arrival
14 of Ms. Michelle Jacquez-Ortiz from Senator Tom Udall's staff, and asked if there were
15 any other items which needed to be covered under Old Business.
16

17 Mr. Robert Villarreal spoke about his understanding that there are a lot of
18 people that are anti-nuclear, anti-research and anti-plutonium. He stated that the
19 Middle East is close to war and if war happens LANL will be asked to produce weapons
20 that can attack underground bunkers and LANL clean-up may take a back-seat to
21 supporting the war effort.
22

23 Ms. Menice Santistevan made a statement regarding new NNMCAB member
24 nominations. The NNMCAB is looking for new members and is looking to attract
25 students through engaging schools and universities to get more involved in the
26 NNMCAB.
27

28 Ms. Santistevan also noted that board member Bonnie Lucas has been ill, and
29 she is passing a get well card around for signatures.
30

31 Dr. Nona Girardi stated that she hoped that neither Israel or Iran were interested
32 in starting a nuclear war, and if either of them were to be so foolish to use a nuclear
33 weapon, she does not think that LANL would save us from anything. By making nuclear
34 weapons, the clean-up efforts would have to move from LANL to where the weapons
35 were used, and there would be a lot to clean up there. She stated that she did not think
36 anyone should say anything that would encourage anyone to have a nuclear war.
37

38 Mr. Ralph Phelps thanked Dr. Girardi for her statement, and for re-directing the
39 board to its core mission which is focusing on the environmental restoration activities.
40 Mr. Phelps concluded the Old Business portion of this agenda.
41

42 **VII. New Business**

43 **A. Consideration and Action on FY '13 Committee Work Plans**
44

1
2 Mr. Ralph Phelps turned the meeting over to the Chairs of these committees to
3 lead the discussion of the work plans.
4

5 Mr. Manuel Pacheco spoke on behalf of Mr. Doug Sayer with regards to the
6 committee meeting input at the last meeting. There were no additional comments or
7 required revisions to either committee's work plans, and made a recommendation to
8 approve them as is.
9

10 Mr. Carlos Valdez made a motion for approval of the FY '13 Committee Work
11 Plan. Mr. Joey Tiano seconded the motion. A discussion ensued.
12

13 Dr. Nona Girardi mentioned that during the last committee meeting, there were
14 questions regarding native species which was added to the work plan by Dr. Deb Shaw.
15 She requested clarification of that topic.
16

17 Dr. Shaw responded that during anytime the Lab is working on restoration
18 projects, the Lab should be using native species because they are adapted to the
19 climate, do not require extra care, and do not become evasive as non-native species
20 can.
21

22 Mr. Manuel Pacheco stated that the reason the question regarding the topic of
23 native species was because there is a discussion of Best Management Practices which
24 includes the use of appropriate native species. The committee decided to leave the
25 agenda item on the work plan, and highlighting the subject of native plants for use in
26 the riparian system would not be a bad thing.
27

28 Dr. Shaw reiterated that Best Management Practices should indeed incorporate
29 the use of native species; however there are several examples in that area where non-
30 native species have been used. This is the reason that the topic was added to the work
31 plan. She is agreeable to whatever decision the board makes regarding this topic.
32

33 Mr. Carlos Valdez stated that regarding the Waste Management sub-committee
34 work plan, he had received an email with information pertaining to the 33 Shafts project
35 at Los Alamos. Mr. Valdez was unable to open the email, and was curious what that
36 pertained to. He asked that Mr. Maggiore respond to what the options were available
37 for addressing the 33-Shafts.
38

39 Mr. Ralph Phelps recalled that the email contained a link to a web report on the
40 33 Shafts which was completed in 2012. A detailed description of the contents of the
41 shafts was included in the report. It was provided as data for use by the committee
42 while making recommendations regarding corrective measures.
43

1 Mr. Pete Maggiore stated that the topic of the 33 shafts has been one that has
2 been reviewed intensely, and deferred the topic to Mr. Jeff Mousseau. Mr. Maggiore
3 understands that the proposal for the 33 Shafts will be included in the deliverable to the
4 State (NMED) in December, 2012 as part of the Framework Agreement requirements. It
5 is the DOE's hope that they will be able to share those thoughts with the CAB in the
6 November meeting, prior to formally submitting the work plan to NMED.
7

8 Mr. Jeff Mousseau concurred with Mr. Maggiore's statements.
9

10 Mr. Phelps asked how many Board members actually had a chance to look at the
11 afore-mentioned report, and stated that he personally thought it was a very interesting
12 and enlightening report. The board is forming a recommendation on the 33 Shafts. Mr.
13 Phelps encouraged the Board members to review the report before the final
14 recommendation is made.
15

16 Mr. Carlos Valdez stated that it was difficult to make a recommendation of this
17 topic if the Board does not have the information regarding the proposed path(s)
18 forward. He asked if it was possible to revisit an older recommendation regarding the
19 33 shafts. Mr. Phelps confirmed that all former recommendations are available for
20 review.
21

22 Dr. Nona Giardi inquired about the specifics of the report, stating that there was
23 additional information regarding the contents of shafts, pits and trenches. Some areas
24 have well defined content listings, while the content of other areas seemed to be less
25 clear. Dr. Giardi stated that the review of the report would have to include separating
26 out the pertinent information with regards to the pending recommendation on the 33
27 Shafts area.
28

29 Mr. Bob Villarreal stated that the Lab actually knows exactly what is in the 33
30 shafts, and because of the way they wanted it to be analyzed. Removing everything
31 from a hot cell to identify it would be too expensive. The Board previously
32 recommended an alternative and has not heard what alternatives have been accepted.
33 It is a very difficult situation that develops because the cost of addressing radioactive
34 waste is very high depending on what the chosen alternative is, and that is what the Lab
35 is looking at now.
36

37 Mr. Ralph Phelps stated he felt the Board was on track to wait until the
38 November presentation from the DOE regarding the path forward for the 33 shafts.
39

40 Mr. Lawrence Longacre stated that the Board's composition is good but feels the
41 Board really needs more people with expertise and of higher education and experience
42 to sit on board. He feels that sometimes the Lab tries to buffalo board members with
43 complex information. He urges the board to bring on more PhDs to help with more
44 complex issues.

1
2 Mr. Phelps thanked Mr. Longacre for his thoughts, and stated that he made
3 some really good points, and the Board should think hard about that and see if they can
4 discover an approach to take to address this topic.
5

6 Mr. Ed Worth stated that there was a push by the DOE HQ to limit the amount of
7 technical experts and PhDs on the Board.
8

9 Dr. Deb Shaw also agreed with Mr. Longacre, stating that the Board should take
10 advantage of local expertise, as well as having well educated members of the
11 community on the Board.
12

13 Mr. Ralph Phelps polled the current Board members on the topic of obtaining
14 additional technical experts as Board members as a positive enhancement to the Board.
15 The Board, by a show of hands, unanimously decided that this endeavor would be
16 beneficial to the Board.
17

18 Mr. Mike Loya stated that practical people that have actually done the work at
19 Los Alamos, like he has, are also very beneficial to the Board.
20

21 Mr. Ralph Phelps asked that Mr. Valdez, Mr. Pacheco and Mr. Worth take the
22 sentiment that the Board is very strongly in favor of increasing the membership with
23 citizens who have higher education and technical expertise back to the Chairs meeting.
24

25 Mr. Phelps reminded the board that there was a motion and a second on the
26 floor to approve the FY '13 Committee Work Plans for both committees, and asked for a
27 final voice vote. The FY '13 Committee Work Plans were unanimously approved.
28

29 **B. Discuss Meeting Locations and Schedule for 2013**
30

31 Mr. Ralph Phelps asked Ms. Santistevan to review the proposed schedule which
32 was attached to the CAB meeting handouts. Ms. Santistevan stated that she had
33 presented the schedule to the Executive Committee, who had tentatively approved it.
34 She went on to state the schedule included the normal bi-monthly meetings and the
35 budget included for two special meetings if they were to be requested by DOE. No
36 contracts for facilities have been established at this time.
37

38 Mr. Mike Loya asked if considerations for Board meeting locations had included
39 any areas further to the south. Ms. Santistevan replied that further south than
40 Albuquerque is not considered northern New Mexico so the board has historically not
41 held meetings there. Mr. Loya then stated that Mesquite would not be an appropriate
42 meeting area, and Ms. Santistevan agreed, stating that if DOE requested that Board
43 members attend a public hearing outside of their jurisdiction, that would be
44 appropriate.

1
2 Mr. Carlos Valdez questioned the reason for the next two consecutive meetings
3 being proposed to be held in Pojoaque. Ms. Santistevan stated that in January, it is
4 expected that there is less snow in the Pojoaqua valley area and because the offices are
5 centrally located on the Pojoaqua Pueblo, it seemed most appropriate to hold the
6 meetings there during this time frame. However, Ms. Santistevan stated that if there
7 were other opinions regarding the meeting location in January, it should be decided
8 quickly, so that she had time to make arrangements. Most agreed that keeping the
9 meetings as shown on the draft schedule was appropriate.

10
11 **C. Appoint Ad Hoc Committee for Annual Self Evaluation**

12
13 Mr. Ralph Phelps asked for volunteers to serve on an Ad Hoc committee to work
14 on the annual self evaluation forms to be filled out by each board member. Mr. Phelps
15 requested that Mr. Carlos Valdez take the lead on getting the Ad Hoc Committee
16 together. Mr. Valdez requested for two or three volunteers to review last year's
17 evaluation procedure to determine if any modifications need to be made. Allison
18 Majure, Mike Loya and Brenda Gallegos volunteered.

19
20 Mr. Loya questioned if the same evaluation sheets which had been used in
21 previous years would be the same format for this year's evaluation. Mr. Phelps stated
22 that using the same format is a good way to maintain a consistent perspective, but the
23 committee can certainly add or delete items from the questionnaire. Mr. Loya agreed.

24
25 Ms. Santistevan clarified that the survey would be distributed by the NNM CAB
26 staff. The staff will also complete the compilation of the data and report to the
27 NNM CAB at the November meeting. The DDFO or the Executive Director would then
28 submit the results to DOE HQ by the end of December, as required by the NNM CAB
29 Bylaws.

30
31 Mr. Loya requested that the survey be in an editable format, so that answers to
32 the questions could be typed, and not be required to be hand written.

33
34 Mr. Phelps requested nominations for the Ad Hoc Committee for Annual Self
35 Evaluation. Mr. Loya was nominated and approved. Ms. Allison Majure and Ms. Brenda
36 Gallegos volunteered to participate. Mr. Phelps thanked all for their participation.

37
38 **D. Other Items**

39 No other items were discussed.

40
41 **VIII. Items from DDFO**

42 **A. Update from DOE**

43 Mr. Ed Worth began with recognizing Mr. Ralph Phelps for serving as Chair for
44 the NNM CAB for three consecutive years. Mr. Worth stated that Mr. Phelps lead the

1 NNMCAB in many difficult discussions and is a great facilitator. Mr. Worth then
2 presented Mr. Phelps with a Certificate of Appreciation and stated that it had been a
3 pleasure working with him.
4

5 Mr. Ed Worth addressed questions from the previous meeting regarding the split
6 between the number of men and women who work at the Lab and DOE. Just for the
7 NNSA has a total work force of 2,707 employees, of that 65% are male and 35% are
8 females; 49% white males, 19% white females, 8% Hispanic males and 7.5% Hispanic
9 females; 6% are African American females and 3.6% are African American males. The
10 average age of the workforce is 46.8 years old and 3.8% have Doctorate degrees, 29.8%
11 with Masters degrees, and 33.7% with Bachelor's degrees and 32.7% with no degree.
12 These numbers are reflecting only the NNSA portion of the workforce. Mr. Worth
13 stated that the EM breakdown was being compiled for future release to the CAB.
14

15 Mr. Worth stated things are going well at the Lab. The CAB will be receiving
16 some end of the year wrap up from some of the liaison members during this meeting,
17 including an interesting update from Mr. Danny Katzman regarding the Chromium
18 project. Mr. Worth opened the floor to questions.
19

20 Mr. Manuel Pacheco asked if there are any Native Americans employed at the
21 Lab. Mr. Worth stated that there were 1.3% Native American females and 1.1% Native
22 American males employed at the Lab under NNSA.
23

24 Mr. Mike Loya asked what the impact for EM of the potential sequestration will
25 be, and if there were any known figures. Mr. Worth deferred to Mr. Maggiore's
26 upcoming presentation which will address this question.
27

28 Mr. Ralph Phelps asked for an update on the most recent recommendation from
29 the NNMCAB, requesting an expansion of its mission to include future use of WIPP. Mr.
30 Worth stated that the initial response was negative, but it is currently being
31 reconsidered. Mr. Worth asked for a little more time to prepare a more definitive
32 response.
33

34 Mr. Bob Villarreal stated that the response to the WIPP recommendation was
35 negative, but if there were a recommendation and the vote is 60% in favor and 40%
36 opposed, can there be a way that those who voted "no" can have some sort of a write
37 up which reflects the 40%. In some cases there are things that are very difficult for the
38 NNMCAB to evaluate the positives and negatives of a certain recommendation to the
39 point it would be difficult to put the information all together, and those that voted and
40 lost should have their say.
41

42 Ms. Santistevan asked for clarification of Mr. Villarreal's statement. Mr.
43 Villarreal confirmed that he was speaking on voting on a recommendation. Ms.
44 Santistevan stated that a recommendation must be approved by 75% of the voting

1 Board, but there is always the option of having a minority report submitted along with
 2 the approved Recommendation, if someone wants to draft that information.

3
 4 Mr. Villarreal stated he would like to pursue the topic again.

5
 6 Mr. Longacre confirmed Ms. Santistevan's statement regarding the minority
 7 report, stating that the NNM CAB operates under Robert's Rules of Order. Mr. Longacre
 8 then asked Mr. Worth if the NNM CAB truly had an impact on the WIPP facility. Mr.
 9 Worth stated that in general, the public does have an impact on the operations of WIPP
 10 as recognized by Mr. Dave Huizenga in a number of different venues. The last
 11 recommendation regarding expanded mission of the NNM CAB may end up showing that
 12 the CAB may have more impact on WIPP in the future.

13
 14 Mr. Phelps also addressed Mr. Longacre's question, stating that his concerns
 15 were discussed prior to submitting the recommendation, and the recommendation was
 16 crafted narrowly to try to reflect impact on items within the state of New Mexico.

17
 18 Mr. Worth stated that members of the EPA could not attend this meeting today,
 19 as their travel budget is small. Mr. Worth noted that he had not received an update
 20 from Mr. Rich Mayer. Mr. Worth stated that he would have an EPA update by the next
 21 CAB meeting.

22
 23 Mr. Manuel Pacheco asked about the new administrator for EPA Region 6. Mr.
 24 Phelps responded that the topic was also approached during a conference call with PNM
 25 earlier in the week, and it affects them more directly. The Board will be dealing with
 26 Mr. Ron Curry again.

27
 28 Mr. Carlos Valdez stated that there was a Plutonium update on this meeting's
 29 agenda, and asked if there were any way to get an update on the Framework items as
 30 well. Mr. Worth stated that perhaps Mr. Maggiore or Mr. Mousseau could respond to
 31 that request if the information was available to them during their liaison reports.

32
 33 **B. Other Items**

34 No other items were discussed.

35
 36 The NNM CAB took a 15 minute recess.

37
 38
 39
 40 **IX. Items from Liaison Members**

41 **A. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 6)**

42 Mr. Ed Worth had already given the report for this agenda item, and the
 43 Board continued to the next item on the agenda.

1 **B. New Mexico Environment Department**

2 Mr. Ralph Phelps stated that no one was available to present from NMED, and
3 the Board continued to the next item on the agenda. (Mr. Dave Cobrain arrived later in
4 the meeting).

5
6 **C. Los Alamos Site Office**

7 Mr. Pete Maggiore offered an update on LASO and the budget and the continued
8 uncertainty with regards to this topic. The FY '13 starts on October 1, 2012, and LASO
9 has not been able to provide LANS with formal direction on what work to execute as
10 embargoed information is all that is available from DOE HQ. Mr. Maggiore stated the
11 Continuing Resolution has passed by the House and Senate but he is unclear if the
12 President has signed it. The language covers operational activities through March, 2013
13 which is complicated by several factors. First, the Continuing Resolution is much more
14 constrained to move money between or across sites than in the past. Secondly, the
15 Resolution establishes budget marks based on the lowest of three inputs; the House
16 mark, the Senate mark or the actual budget of the previous FY. The Senate mark was
17 \$239M, the House mark was \$219M, and the FY12 operating budget was \$188M. These
18 figures represent about a \$50M difference between the Senate mark and the FY12
19 operating budget which represents a significant amount of uncertainty.

20
21 Mr. Maggiore mentioned that there is a provision in the Budget Control Act of
22 2010 that would impose mandatory 7-10% budget cuts. Mr. Maggiore stated that he
23 has been in close contact with DOE HQ and they are strong advocates for the budget.
24 Two letters went out this month one from NMED Sec. David Martin on Sept. 7th to U. S.
25 Senators Udall and Bingaman and Congressman Lujan, expressing serious concerns over
26 the Continuing Resolution for Los Alamos and appealing for the President's budget. A
27 copy of a letter from the delegation to Mr. D'Agostino was received in response to Sec.
28 Martin's letter, expressing extremely strong support for the facilities, budget and the
29 work being done at Los Alamos, and encouraging the Mr. D'Agostino to do whatever he
30 could to provide additional funding for the site.

31
32 Mr. Pete Maggiore wanted to talk about the FY '13 Work Plan during this
33 meeting; however it is not yet completed. In November, he will present that
34 information as well as information regarding the below grade waste.

35
36 Looking ahead, LASO has some pretty aggressive milestones for FY13 of moving
37 1,800 cubic meters of TRU waste from the site. This goal will far surpass anything that
38 has ever been done at the site, and includes a tremendous amount of work. In addition,
39 there is a very important work plan due to the State which includes the plan for moving
40 the below grade inventory. This plan will be presented to the NNM CAB during the
41 November meeting, in preparation for the deliverable in December, providing the
42 NNMCAB with an opportunity to provide LASO with its comments and concerns.

43
44 Mr. Maggiore closed by outlining his intentions for future NNM CAB meetings. In

1 October, the FY '13 Work Plan; in November, the below ground TRU, and in December,
2 share a report from an expert panel on how to proceed with the Chromium
3 groundwater issue. Mr. Maggiore stated that Mr. Jeff Mousseau, the new LANS ADEP,
4 would be speaking next, and expressed his excitement in working with such a
5 credentialed professional.

6
7 Mr. Phelps opened the floor to any questions for Mr. Maggiore. Mr. Bob
8 Villarreal asked how it is determined how much work can be done if the Lab does not
9 know how much money will be available. Mr. Maggiore responded that the Lab takes a
10 Risk Based Approach and works with NMED, with the highest priority continuing to be
11 the 3,706 TRU Campaign.

12
13 Mr. Mike Loya asked if there was contamination getting into the aquifer to which
14 Mr. Maggiore replied that waste is above ground and contained and contamination has
15 not entered into the aquifer.

16
17 Mr. Mike Loya also asked about the effects of a wild fire to which Mr. Mousseau
18 replied during forest fires there is a possibility that fiberglass coated plywood boxes
19 could burn and could release toxins into the environment.

20
21 Mr. Longacre spoke about Los Alamos history and waste legacy, and asked why it
22 takes 70 years to clean up this waste. Mr. Maggiore responded that this one of the
23 largest clean-up projects in the country with several complexities. There are time and
24 money constraints; we are in the process of working on plans.

25
26 Mr. Bob Villarreal stated that waste was not the priority in the 1950s and 60s.
27 The Labs were not equipped to handle the waste at that time. Mr. Maggiore stated that
28 it is an evolutionary process, applying safe cleanup technology as it is developed. Mr.
29 Mousseau also added regulations have changed, money is tight and LANS is working to
30 stretch every dollar possible.

31
32 Ms. Allison Majure asked if the current waste handled properly? Mr. Pete
33 Maggiore state that yes, current waste is handled correctly, current practices are
34 correct.

35
36 Ms. Brenda Gallegos asked what happens if current waste plan is not met to
37 which Mr. Maggiore responded that DOE EM would be subject to several penalties and
38 fines if the results are not achieved.

39
40 Mr. Art Mascarenas asked if the TRU-PAC containers are fireproof, to which Mr.
41 Mousseau responded that they are tested and approved for use. Mr. Art Mascarenas
42 then asked if the above ground be repackaged and stored on-site to which Mr.
43 Mousseau responded positively stating it can be done, but the current plan is for
44 removal.

1
2 Mr. Phelps delayed Mr. Mousseau's presentation so that Mr. Dave Cobrain could
3 provide an update from NMED. Mr. Cobrain stated that NMED had granted
4 approximately 51 extensions to the Lab this past year; the extensions range from a time
5 period of two weeks to two years. The extensions primarily addressed groundwater
6 issues. A list detailing the extensions is available.
7

8 Mr. Carlos Valdez asked if there were any extensions which moved passed
9 Consent Order deadlines to which Mr. Cobrain replied positively. These extensions
10 (which extend beyond the Consent Order date) have come up very recently.
11

12 Mr. Bob Villarreal asked Mr. Cobrain when does ground water become
13 something else to which Mr. Cobrain responded by stating that in the State of New
14 Mexico, ground water is considered any surface water saturation. He also talked about
15 other types of water categories.
16

17 Mr. Mike Loya questioned the meaning of surface water, stating that his
18 understanding is that once water is purged from the alluvial layer to the surface it is
19 called surface water, to which Mr. Cobrain responded positively stating examples such
20 as a spring or output from a well. He went on to discuss the Chromium issue, stating
21 that to his knowledge, Chromium is present in ground water, not surface water.
22

23 Ms. Nicole Castellano asked for clarification on the Consent Order being
24 discussed to which Mr. Cobrain replied the one dated March, 2005. Ms. Castellano
25 followed up with another question asking if the state had granted extensions prior to
26 2011 and asked to have a consolidated list of all extensions presented to the CAB at the
27 next meeting. Mr. Cobrain agreed to provide that information at the November CAB
28 meeting.
29

30
31 **D. Los Alamos National Laboratory**

32 Mr. Ralph Phelps introduced Mr. Jeff Mousseau who would provide an FY12
33 summary which included the following accomplishments:
34

- 35 • Shipped 60 more TRU shipments than last year
- 36 • 32% higher/riskier shipments made
- 37 • 1000 shipment celebration
- 38 • In last two weeks, 10 shipments have been shipped to WIPP
- 39 • The Lab has developed a good working relationship with NMED
- 40 • Between 400/500 people working for LANS EP
- 41 • No reportable injuries since January 04, 2012

42
43 Mr. Mousseau went on to describe some of the FY '13 challenges:

- Once above ground waste is gone, underground waste is next
- 2013 next, double waste shipments, focus on double boxes
- Funding issues; six month CR
- Balancing priorities
- Reviewing Risk issues

Mr. Ralph Phelps opened the floor to questions for Mr. Mousseau.

Mr. Manuel Pacheco inquired about the January 04 accident to which Mr. Mousseau replied that he would have to research it and get back to the CAB, but he was fairly confident it was related to slips, trips and falls.

Ms. Allison Majure asked if LANS was going with volume and Material at Risk (MAR) which Mr. Mousseau replied positively stating the Lab is still focusing on high Pico-curie waste and volumes, trying to balance loads to maximize each shipment and still reducing MAR onsite. Ms. Majure then asked what is the geographical range of testing. Mr. Cobrain replied that it was mostly on site property but also included a few other locations off site.

She then asked what the difference was between the Consent Order and the Framework Agreement to which Mr. Maggiore replied that the Framework Agreement is not enforceable but the Consent Order is. Ms. Majure then asked if the 400 people employed at LANS are casual or full-time employees (FTEs) to which Mr. Mousseau replied that they were mostly FTE with a mix of contractors & LANS employees; 40% LANS and 60% contractors.

Mr. Lawrence Longacre asked about a letter from the Congressional Committee stating that RLW and other Lab areas are not living up to Consent Order requirements and congress is not happy with progress. Mr. Pete Maggiore replied that RLW is now being upgraded and will improve facility processes. Storage capital improvements are being made. A new RLW is being considered and permits are in review. Mr. Maggiore requested a copy of the letter for review and response. He stated that RLW is a central rad-waste collection facility.

X. Update on Chromium/Perchlorate Groundwater Plume

Mr. Carlos Valdez introduced Mr. Danny Katzman (LANS) who provided a briefing on the Chromium/Perchlorate Groundwater Plume. Historically, Chromium was used in protecting cooling tower systems and was occasionally released into the environment. A very intensive investigation been conducted.

Mr. Valdez thanked Mr. Katzman for a great oversight presentation. An audio and paper copy of the presentation can be obtained at the NNMCAB office.

1
2 Questions regarding Mr. Katzman's presentation included a question from Ms.
3 Nicole Castellano asking if the Chromium plume was heading south. Mr. Katzman
4 reported that it was moving in a southerly direction, but not into Santa Fe.

5
6 Mr. Lawrence Longacre asked if anyone was being held accountable for the
7 damage done to the Environment due to the Chromium, and Mr. Katzman replied that
8 there were no regulations against the use of Chromium at this time. Mr. Longacre
9 followed up asking if Sulfuric acid was used during this time period, and Mr. Katzman
10 stated that sulfuric acid was utilized, but no sulfate has been detected.

11
12 Ms. Allison Majure asked if there were issues with iron in the groundwater, and
13 Mr. Katzman concurred that there were.

14
15 Dr. Deb Shaw asked if there were PCB's which required clean-up to which Mr.
16 Katzman replied there was no plan for recovering PCB's. Ms. Shaw then stated that if
17 there were PCB's on her property, she would most certainly have them removed. Mr.
18 Katzman provided that PCB's were a Toxic Substances Control Act (TOSCA) requirement
19 and not under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations.

20
21 Mr. Art Mascarenas asked if clean up (of PCB's) was very expensive to which Mr.
22 Katzman replied that cost is not the issue. The issue is regulation driven, not cost.

23
24 Mr. Lawrence Longacre asked what can the Board do to help solve these
25 problems to which Mr. Katzman replied that the NNM CAB's evaluation and input is
26 valuable and the insight helped LANS see the issue from a different prospective.

27
28 Mr. Carlos Valdez polled the NNM CAB members, asking who was returning after
29 the dinner break because there is the need of a quorum to vote on the next agenda
30 item.

31
32 The NNM CAB took a 60 minute dinner break.

33
34
35 **XI. Public Comment Period**

36 Mr. Carlos Valdez opened the Public Comment period and noted there were no
37 members of the public present to make comment.

38
39 **XII. Consideration and Action of Draft Recommendations(s) to DOE**

40 Mr. Carlos Valdez explained the budget process and the background for Draft
41 Recommendation 2012-03, "Fiscal Year 2013 and 2014 Budget Appropriation
42 Recommendation".

43
44 Mr. Lawrence Longacre asked if there was a way to plead "no money" and get

1 out of the Consent Order requirements to which Mr. Ed Worth replied that there is no
2 get out of jail card for free and Mr. Maggiore agreed with that statement.

3
4 Mr. Carlos Valdez further explain the budget process and Dr. Girardi asked if
5 fines come out of existing budget to which Mr. Maggiore replied that for all clean-up
6 projects, the fines come out of the existing budget. Mr. Pete Maggiore requested the
7 CAB obtain language about fines and penalties coming out of existing budgets for the
8 next meeting.

9
10 Mr. Carlos Valdez asked the NNM CAB for a motion to approve the draft
11 recommendation. Mr. Tiano made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Manuel
12 Pacheco. Recommendation 2012-03 was unanimously approved by the NNM CAB.

13
14 **XIII. Wrap-Up**

15 Mr. Valdez opened the floor to general comments from the members.

16
17 Mr. Art Mascarenas, Ms. Alison Majure, Dr. Nona Girardi, Dr. Deb Shaw, Mr. Bob
18 Villarreal, Mr. Pete Maggiore, Mr. Ed Worth, and Mr. Joey Tiano all stated that this was
19 a good meeting.

20
21 Ms. Menice Santistevan thanked everyone for their participation.

22
23 Mr. Lawrence Longacre stated that any meeting is as good as the
24 recommendations made to DOE.

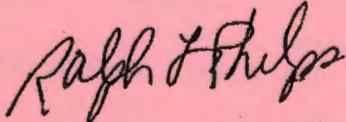
25
26 Mr. Manuel Pacheco thanked Mr. Pete Maggiore, Mr. Ed Worth and Ms. Menice
27 Santistevan and stated that the NNM CAB needed to get the recommendations out.

28
29 Ms. Brenda Gallegos and Mr. Joey Tiano also thanked everyone.

30
31
32 **XIV. Adjournment**

33 With no further business to discuss, Mr. Joey Tiano moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr.
34 Deb Shaw seconded the motion. Mr. Carlos Valdez adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

35
36
37 **Respectfully submitted,**



38
39 **Ralph Phelps, Chair, NNM CAB**

40
41 **Minutes prepared by Carolyn Bateman, Sr. Cost Estimator, PT&C*

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Attachments:

1. Final 9-26-2012 NNMCAB Meeting Agenda
2. Final 8-29-2012 NNMCAB Meeting Minutes
3. Report from Ralph Phelps, NNMCAB Chair
4. Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director

Public Notice:

 *All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audiotapes have been placed on file for review at the NNMCAB Office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506.

 *Reference documents listed in the Appendix section of these minutes may be requested for review at the NNMCAB office in Pojoaque by calling (505) 989-1662.



Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board Meeting

December 4, 2012

1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Cities of Gold Conference Center

Pojoaque, New Mexico 87506

Minutes

Meeting Attendees

Department of Energy

Ed Worth, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)

Christina Houston, DOE Environmental Projects Office

Lee Bishop, Federal Project Director, Los Alamos Site Office

Thomas Longo, DOE Headquarters

Robert Pfaff, DOE Environmental Projects Office

Pete Maggiore, Assistant Manager Environmental Projects Office

David Nickless, DOE Environmental Projects Office

Laura Day, DOE Environmental Projects Office – Project Time & Cost

Bob Zulick, DOE Environmental Projects Office – Project Time & Cost

NNMCAB Members

1. Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB Chair

2. Manuel Pacheco, NNMCAB Vice Chair

3. Lawrence Longacre

4. Joey Tiano

5. Nona Girardi

6. Robert Villarreal

7. Joseph Viarrial

8. Deborah Shaw

9. Art Mascarenas

10. Lawrence Garcia

Excused Absences

1. Nicole Castellano

- 1 2. Bonnie Lucas
- 2 3. Nick Maestas
- 3 4. Allison Majure
- 4 5. Ralph Phelps
- 5 6. Douglas Sayre

6
7 **Absent**

- 8 1. Adam Duran
- 9 2. Brenda Lee Gallegos
- 10 3. Kyle Harwood
- 11 4. Mike Loya

12
13 **NNMCAB Support Staff**

- 14 **Menice Santistevan, Executive Director**
15 **Edward Roybal, Sound Technician**
16 **Tiffany Ortiz, Administrative Assistant**
17 **William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach**
18 **David, Video Technician**

19
20 **Guests**

- 21 **Daniel Cox, Los Alamos National Security**
22 **Stephen Schmelling, Public**
23 **Daniel French, Los Alamos National Security**
24 **Dave Cobrain, New Mexico Environmental Department**
25 **Hvtce Miller, Santa Fe County**
26 **Brett Henrikson, Los Alamos National Security**
27 **Michael Brandt, Los Alamos National Security**
28 **Carolyn Bateman, Project Time & Cost**
29 **Jim Ferguson, Project Time & Cost**
30 **Chris Edgmon, EDI**
31 **John Branch, LATA**
32 **Allan Chaloupka, Public**
33 **Katie Roberts, Los Alamos National Security**
34 **Jim Davis, New Mexico Environmental Department**
35 **Alison Dorries, Los Alamos National Security**
36 **Tori George, Los Alamos National Security**
37 **Lorrie Bonds Lopez, Los Alamos National Security**
38 **Colleen Curran, Los Alamos National Security**

- 1 **Kathy Johns-Hughes, Los Alamos National Security**
- 2 **Pattie Jones, Los Alamos National Security**
- 3 **Steve Clemmons, Los Alamos National Security**
- 4 **Scott Kovac, Nuclear Watch New Mexico**
- 5 **Alex Puglisi, City of Santa Fe**
- 6 **Joni Arends, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety**
- 7 **Pat Dentler, LATA**
- 8 **Rick Ulibarri, Los Alamos National Security**

9
10

1 **MINUTES**

2 **I. Call to Order**

3 The bi-monthly meeting of the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
4 (NNMCAB) was held on December 4, 2012 at the Cities of Gold Conference Center in Pojoaque,
5 New Mexico. Mr. Ed Worth Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO) stated that on behalf of
6 the Department of Energy (DOE) the meeting of the NNMCAB was called to order at 1:13 p.m.

7 Mr. Worth recognized Mr. Carlos Valdez as NNMCAB Chair. The Chair presided at the
8 meeting.

9 The meeting of the NNMCAB was open to the Public and posted in the Federal Register
10 in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

11 Mr. Valdez, stated that this NNMCAB bi-monthly meeting was originally scheduled to be
12 held on November 28, 2012. However, when the New Mexico Environment Department
13 (NMED) was unable to attend at that time the meeting was rescheduled to December 4, 2012.
14

15
16 **II. Establishment of a Quorum (11 Needed)**

17 **A. Roll Call**

18 Mr. William Alexander conducted roll call as the members arrived nine members were
19 present at the meeting at the time of roll call. The board was left two members short of the
20 quorum required for conducting business. Lawrence Garcia arrived at 1:20 p.m; the NNMCAB
21 was still one short of the quorum required to conduct business.

22 **B. Excused Absences**

23 Mr. Alexander recorded that Nicole Castellano, Bonnie Lucas, Nick Maestas, Allison
24 Majure, Ralph Phelps, and Douglas Sayre had excused absences for this meeting

25 **C. Absences**

26 Mr. Alexander recorded that Adam Duran, Brenda Lee Gallegos, Kyle Harwood, and
27 Mike Loya were absent
28

29
30 **III. Welcome and Introductions**

31 Mr. Valdez welcomed attendees to the meeting. He asked for introductions from board
32 members and attending guests.
33

34
35 **IV. Approval of Agenda**

36 The board reviewed the agenda for the December 4, 2012 NNMCAB meeting. The board
37 would hear a presentation from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) on the Framework
38 Agreement.

1 The agenda was not considered since the necessary quorum was not present to conduct
2 a vote.

4
5 **V. Approval of Minutes from the September 26, 2012 Meeting**

6 The board reviewed the minutes from the September 26, 2012 NNM CAB meeting By
7 ongoing instruction from DOE Headquarters, the minutes were previously reviewed and
8 certified by the NNM CAB Chair, Mr. Carlos Valdez. Mr. Valdez stated that the September 26th
9 minutes were included in the board packets. Dr. Deborah Shaw noted that a clarification was
10 needed on pg 17 lines 15-19. Clarifying that the discussion was to what level PCB's need to be
11 cleaned up at the sites in question, the response was that PCB cleanup requirements depend on
12 which law is regulating the cleanup.

13 The minutes were not considered as the necessary quorum was not present to conduct
14 a vote.

16
17 **VI. Public Comment Period**

18 Mr. Valdez announced the first public comment period. No members of the public were
19 signed up to address the board. Mr. Valdez closed the public comment period.

21
22 **VII. Old Business**

23 **A. Written Reports.**

24 **1. NNM CAB Chair's Report**

25 A printed copy of the Chairs report was included in the meeting packets, and a
26 copy may be obtained upon request from the NNM CAB office at (505) 989-1662.

27 **Mr. Valdez opened the floor for discussion and comment.**

28
29 Dr. Nona Girardi asked for clarification on who had written the comments
30 regarding the draft recommendations. Mr. Valdez informed the board that the
31 comments were provided by Mr. Phelps.

32 Mr. Valdez noted that with no additional comments on the written reports
33 that board would move on to the EM-SSAB Meeting.

34
35 **B. EM-SSAB Chairs Meeting**

36 Mr. Valdez stated that semi-annually the Site Specific Advisory Board
37 Chairs (SSAB) convenes for national meetings. The fall meeting was held in
38 Washington DC on October 2nd and 3rd. The NNM CAB was represented by Mr.

1 Valdez, Mr. Manuel Pacheco, Ms. Brenda Gallegos, Ms. Menice Santistevan, and
2 Mr. Ed Worth. During the meeting four draft recommendations were developed
3 to be voted on by the individual boards. Voting on these recommendations
4 would be postponed until the January 30th meeting of the NNMCAB.

5 Mr. Valdez asked if the Vice chair Mr. Pacheco had any additional
6 comments. Mr. Pacheco addressed the board and asked that if the board
7 members or members of the public had recommendations they would like to see
8 drafted, to please bring them before the board for consideration. Mr. Valdez
9 stated that the next meeting of the SSAB would be hosted by the Hanford CAB in
10 April 2013.

11
12 **C. Other Items**

13 Mr. Valdez recognized Mr. Lawrence Longacre. Mr. Longacre addressed
14 the board with concerns on item number seven of the Chairs report (Upcoming
15 board member travel). Mr. Longacre noted that only the Chair, Vice Chair and
16 who ever volunteers first get to attend meetings outside Los Alamos and Santa
17 Fe. Mr. Longacre recommended that in the interest of making travel for the
18 members of the board more equitable, the board adopt a lottery system. Mr.
19 Longacre recommended that once a member was picked for a trip they move to
20 the end of the draw to give everyone a chance to go on travel.

21
22 Mr. Longacre added a second recommendation, suggesting that when a
23 member goes on travel that within 24 hours they submit a written report, or
24 recommendation to the board. This would serve as a validation for the tax
25 dollars spent in sending the NNMCAB member on the trip.

26
27 Mr. Valdez noted that the Executive Committee plans the upcoming
28 travel for the year, and makes the decision on who goes on that travel. Mr.
29 Valdez stated that the first trip in 2013 would be the Waste Conference in
30 Phoenix Arizona in February. Ms. Santistevan noted that DOE Headquarters has
31 asked Mr. Ralph Phelps to present a paper at the meeting; the NNMCAB will be
32 sponsoring Mr. Phelps at this meeting. Mr. Valdez noted that there was budget
33 to send two individuals, and that two people were already signed up.

34
35 Mr. Valdez informed the board that the next available opportunity for
36 travel would be the Spring Chairs meeting held at Hanford in April. The meeting
37 is for the Chair and Vice Chair, and one other NNMCAB member may attend. The
38 Executive Committee would like to take down names of members who would

1 like to attend. Members that were recommended were Douglas Sayre, Joey
2 Tiano, and Michael Loya.

3
4 Mr. Valdez recognized Dr. Shaw. Dr. Shaw agrees with Mr. Longacre on
5 the recommendation for travel. Dr. Shaw would like to see a more formal system
6 in place for travel, providing advance information to the NNMCAB members on
7 what the upcoming travel will be.

8
9 Mr. Valdez agrees that it is a good idea. Mr. Valdez also agrees that
10 coming back and developing a recommendation is key, it is what the NNMCAB is
11 here for. Mr. Valdez noted that the NNMCAB is a little light on recommendations
12 this year; however feels that is in part due to where Los Alamos is in its site
13 cleanup.

14
15 Mr. Valdez suggested that the members who should have first pick on
16 attending the Chairs meeting are those who the Executive Committee is looking
17 at to replace the Chair and the Vice chair. Attending the Chairs meeting allows
18 the upcoming replacements to have exposure to the requirements of the
19 position.

20
21 Mr. Longacre would still like to see a lottery system. Additionally he
22 asked where the budget for the NNMCAB comes from and if it was possible to
23 adjust the budget to accommodate additional travel.

24
25 Mr. Worth replied that the budget for the NNMCAB is provided by DOE
26 through a subcontract with Project Time and Cost. The budget anticipates the
27 reimbursement for mileage, one trip for the group, and meetings, and he
28 acknowledged more could be done to anticipate the travel needs and it can
29 definitely be looked into.

30
31 Mr. Valdez advised that the board was looking at a possible trip to the
32 Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in 2013.

33
34 Dr. Shaw agreed that some meetings are more beneficial to specific
35 members than others. Meetings that have a specific purpose could have a lottery
36 system that takes into account which members would benefit most from
37 attending the meeting.

38

1 Mr. Valdez asked that NNM CAB members think about the Fall Chairs
2 meeting and who would be interested in holding the Chair or Vice chair
3 positions.
4

5 Mr. Robert Villarreal asked the Chair for information on the average
6 number of recommendations produced by different advisory boards.
7

8 Mr. Worth stated that currently we do not have that information but we
9 could certainly look into that. Mr. Valdez asked Mr. Longo if he had any idea on
10 the number of recommendations.
11

12 Mr. Tom Longo noted that there is no threshold for the number of
13 recommendations required; however most boards produce only a hand full
14 during the year. Mr. Longo called out Savanna River as a fairly active CAB and
15 noted production along the lines of 6 recommendations a year.
16

17 Mr. Villarreal asked what initiates the need for a recommendation. Noted
18 that the Chairs report item nine states that possible recommendations were
19 discussed, would like to know what was discussed.
20

21 Mr. Longo responded that what the NNM CAB feels is important or
22 technical issues that need to be communicated to DOE, is often the driver
23 behind recommendations.
24

25 Mr. Villarreal stated that the NNM CAB had addressed the 33 shafts, that
26 this was a large scale project at LANL. Large scale projects such as this might take
27 three or four recommendations to satisfy the needs to be addressed.
28

29 Mr. Pacheco responded that each site within the DOE complex is unique;
30 some sites are going to generate more recommendations than others due to the
31 level of cleanup required. He noted that at the Chairs Meeting specific numbers
32 were not discussed; however some sites were more active than others. Savanna
33 River, Hanford, and Nevada were given as examples.
34

35 Mr. Longacre stated the no one really knows what happens at LANL, and
36 he has been critical of the board due to its level of inaction. However it is not all
37 the board's fault, Mr. Longacre notes that the only outside consultants that show
38 up at meetings or provide information is LANS. During the NNM CAB trip to Rocky

1 Flats Mr. Longacre states that he specifically asked the person in charge how
2 much influence the CAB at Rocky Flats had on the cleanup. The response was
3 that it had only minor influence on the cleanup. The Board is only as good as the
4 parent company in this case DOE is willing to accept. The point is, unless the
5 NNM CAB can change the culture at LANS to show that we are a representative
6 group of the people, the NNM CAB will continue to be digging in the same hole.
7

8 Mr. Valdez stated that it is reassuring to know that NMED is here at the
9 table. NMED is going to hold LANLs feet to the fire, if things are not getting done
10 at LANL they are the first to know and make the correction.
11

12 Mr. Longacre stated that NMED was tough on LANL under Bearzi, not
13 sure how tough the new administration at NMED is on LANL.
14

15 Mr. Valdez responded that he appreciated Mr. Longacre's comments and
16 would encourage him to submit them as a draft recommendation to be
17 presented to the NNM CAB for consideration.
18

19 Dr. Girardi would like to see Mr. Longacre's recommendation and could
20 see offering her support of the recommendation. Dr. Girardi stated that she sent
21 an e-mail to Ms. Santistevan requesting a presentation on the health problems
22 that effect workers at LANL.
23

24 Mr. Valdez replied that the board is working on providing a presentation
25 on health effects, possibly at the January 30th meeting of the NNM CAB.
26

27 Mr. Villarreal asked if there were any cleanup jobs at LANL that included
28 legacy waste and new waste mixed in percentages that the NNM CAB was
29 overlooking. The NNM CAB only gets involved with legacy waste. Are there LANL
30 projects where the two come together; can we address these?
31

32 Mr. Jeffrey Mousseau responded that there is a lot of work that goes on
33 related to the timely disposition of newly generated waste, to the requirements
34 that NMED lays out in the regulations. There are currently new facilities that are
35 being permitted and constructed for the disposition of new waste. An example
36 of this is the new facility that will be replacing Material Disposal Area G (MDA
37 G) and the work that goes on there. I don't know if that answers your question,
38 but there is a lot of work that goes on in regards to newly generated waste.

1
2 Mr. Villarreal responded that he is just looking to see if there are waste
3 forms that are a mix of legacy waste and newly generated waste, even just five
4 or ten percent. If there are can the NNM CAB address them?
5

6 Mr. Pete Maggiore referred to Mr. Worth on the Charter for the
7 NNM CAB, and what the board had purview to address.
8

9 Mr. Worth stated that the Charter of the NNM CAB was to provide
10 recommendations to the DOE on legacy waste at LANL.
11

12 Dr. Girardi stated that in discussing legacy waste the NNM CAB needs to
13 understand the risks and hazards imposed by that waste. What are the risks of
14 leaving it in place in relation to the risk incurred by the handlers if it is moved?
15

16 There being no further discussion under Old Business, the board moved
17 on to consideration of the 2012 Annual Self Evaluation.
18

19 **VII. Consideration and Action on 2012 Self Evaluation**

20 **A. Other Items.**

21 Mr. Valdez stated that if the results from the Board were put on a grade scale,
22 the results reflect a strong B. This is not bad but it could be better. Mr. Valdez
23 would like to recommend that question number 12 (support provided by CAB
24 staff both technical and administrative), be separated into two parts. These two
25 functions are different aspects that are difficult to combine and grade together.
26 He would like this change in the survey in 2013. Mr. Valdez noted that question
27 17 needs to be changed to ask the members how they would like to receive their
28 information. Would members prefer information in synopsis form or the
29 complete report?
30

31 Dr. Shaw suggested that information could be provided in both forms, allowing
32 each member to address the information in the format easiest for that individual.
33

34 Mr. Valdez noted that the NNM CAB support staff received high marks for 2012,
35 as in previous years.
36

37 Mr. Worth presented Eddie Roybal with a certificate of appreciation in
38 recognition of his work at the NNM CAB office. Mr. Roybal also accepted a certificate

1 of appreciation on behalf of Grace Roybal. Eddie and Grace are retiring at the end of
2 the year.

3
4 **IX. Items from DDFO**

5 **A. DOE Update**

6 Mr. Worth announced that Secretary of Energy Stephen Chu and the Head of the
7 NNSA Tom D'Agostino would be leaving; no information on who will be their
8 replacements. It was also noted that Kevin Smith would be leaving LASO to be the
9 Site Manager at Hanford.

10 Mr. Worth stated that LASO has looked for ways to provide additional
11 information to the NNM CAB that is not related directly to waste but has relevance
12 to the waste arena. An example of this was the outfalls project. The project manager
13 for the outfalls was brought in to provide information to the NNM CAB on the
14 outfalls. This provided the NNM CAB with hooks into other programs that are not
15 directly related to legacy waste, but provide information that expands the NNM CAB
16 members overall knowledge base.

17 During the last week of November five potential NNM CAB board members were
18 interviewed by Mr. Worth and Ms. Santistevan. Paperwork required for the
19 appointment of the new members has to be approved by DOE HQ; if approved the
20 new members would be appointed in spring 2013.

21
22 **The NNM CAB took a fifteen minute recess.**

23
24 **B. LANL Informational Video**

25 Mr. Kurt Steinhaus presented a three minute informational video on science and
26 development at LANL. The footage that was used to create the video is from LANL's
27 YouTube channel; however LANL does not have the rights to this video and it cannot
28 be posted to any portals. However, LANL does have permission to show the video at
29 public venues.

30
31 **X. Update on Framework Agreement**

32 **A. Presentation**

33 Mr. Maggiore, Mr. Mousseau, and Mr. Dan Cox gave a presentation to the
34 NNM CAB on the plan for above ground TRU waste disposition and Priorities for
35 FY13(Fiscal Year 2013 Planning Continuing the Governor's Priorities). A hard copy of
36 the presentation was provided in the meeting packets and can also be found on the
37 NNM CAB site at <http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov> under Presentations.

38

1 **B. Questions**

2 Mr. Valdez asked what was your methodology for the decision on the 33 shafts,
3 was it based on risk or cost.

4
5 Mr. Cox stated the decision on the 33 shafts was based on worker risk. Other
6 factors affecting the decision are cost, and the lack of a facility to handle the type of
7 waste found in the 33 shafts.

8
9 Mr. Villarreal noted that each of the 33 shafts has waste that would fit into a 55
10 gallon drum, or the equivalent of thirty-three 55 gallon drums. One shaft contains a
11 nuclear reactor, and some individuals are afraid of that but they shouldn't be. The
12 reactor contains Plutonium which presents the least danger in terms of exposure.
13 The others contain Cesium-137 and Strontium-90; these would present a potential
14 problem. LANL has an opportunity with some innovative thinking to reduce the cost
15 of the project. Mr. Villarreal said that he is convinced that it can be done. LANL
16 should think about it now and have a plan for how to address the 33 Shafts when
17 the time comes. Mr. Villarreal recommended the possibility of extraction using
18 pipes, and packing the waste into drums which can be easily placed into WIPP
19 containers. He also suggested the use of remote handling to remove the
20 contaminated pipes and package them for transport to WIPP. It can be done and this
21 is LANL's challenge.

22
23 Mr. Cox responded that over the next several years LANL will continue to
24 research ways to remove the waste safely. He agreed that everything can be done
25 from an innovative standpoint but LANL will have to stay within the federal and local
26 requirements.

27
28 Mr. Villarreal replied that he would hate to see the 33 shafts left in place and
29 stated "I will work very hard to make sure it doesn't happen."

30
31 Mr. Cox said we want to make sure that we look at the safety aspects, and ask as
32 we go forward what are our benefits; what our risks?

33
34 Dr. Girardi asked if LANL does decide to remove the 33 shafts would the facility
35 and training be similar to the facility and training needed for the reprocessing of
36 plutonium oxides? Secondly, if the material is left in place would another type of
37 containment need to be put in place? Thirdly, could you explain more about the
38 dose and its risks to the workers?

1
2 Mr. Cox responded for your first question the training required would be
3 different from what is required for plutonium oxide processes. The facility would
4 also be different and would require a new hazard category two facility to be
5 constructed, likely on the Pajarito Corridor.
6

7 Dr. Girardi asked how long the new facility would be in service?
8

9 Mr. Cox stated it would be a very robust facility to process a small amount of
10 waste. In answer to the second question on containment, until the NEPA process is
11 complete; anything said at this point would be speculation.
12

13 Mr. Cox continued, on the question of dose, most of the containers at LANL have
14 a dose rate of around 10 mrem per hour. The dose rate on the shafts would be 100s
15 of mrem per hour this is orders of magnitude greater than the dose from the drums.
16

17 Mr. Longacre asked if LANL communicates with other sites around the country as
18 to how it handles these types of complex problems.
19

20 Mr. Cox explained that, this is the foundation of the strategy for the 3706; if you
21 look at my team we have personnel from Savannah River, Rocky Flats, and Hanford.
22 The team looks at how other sites are working these problems every day. Secondly
23 we are engaging the scientists at LANL to help us to solve these types of problems
24 using new ideas.
25

26 Mr. Mousseau added that Dan Cox did study drum retrieval at similar sites,
27 looking for specific technologies and methodologies for successful accomplishment
28 of the 3706 task.
29

30 Mr. Valdez asked if the below ground waste is part of the Consent Order?
31

32 Mr. Cox replied no, it is not part of the Consent Order, and it is only indirectly
33 related through the corrective measures for MDA G.
34

35 Mr. Valdez asked what is the time frame for turning TA-21 over to Los Alamos
36 County?
37

1 Mr. Mousseau stated that there is quite a bit of work still at TA-21 to completely
2 take all the structures to grade. At this point it is still speculation; possibly in the four
3 year time range.

4
5 Mr. Valdez asked if we continue under a continuing resolution (CR) is there a
6 work plan in place for what LANL will be doing?

7
8 Mr. Maggiore replied if we continue under a CR, Carlos, LANL would need to sit
9 down with NMED and make some decisions. The current work plan for FY13 is only
10 for six months because that is the only period of time with any certainty.

11
12 Mr. Valdez said he would like to hear from Jim Davis on this matter.

13
14 Mr. Davis NMED stated that he has been talking with Mr. Mousseau and Mr.
15 Maggoire for the last six weeks on what you have heard here. At this point the
16 biggest question is what the federal government is going to do about the budget.
17 Currently every agency is in operation under a CR. NMED has asked for certain
18 amounts of state money for the coming year. The question from the Legislative
19 Finance Committee is what will the impact be on NMED if its federal grants are
20 diminished? At this point NMED honestly doesn't know. NMED agrees with LANL
21 that at this point only the first six months of the year can be addressed with any
22 certainty. As outlined here, the Framework Agreement is a logical approach;
23 however, at its foundation it relies on funding from one level or another. Depending
24 on those levels NMED will sit down with LANL and move forward on the second half
25 of the year.

26
27 Mr. Valdez asked what happens if LANL is not able to meet the Framework
28 Agreement, will there be fines.

29
30 Mr. Davis responded that the Framework Agreement is a nonbinding agreement,
31 not signed by NMED or DOE, it's not enforceable. The Consent Order is still in effect,
32 and its end date is currently 2015. He stated that he was not involved with the
33 original negotiations on the Consent Order, and it's my understanding that
34 knowledgeable persons were of the opinion that 2015 was not achievable from the
35 beginning. It was a very ambitious goal, that was likely overly ambitious. These types
36 of goals can lead to misconceptions with the citizens. If you make a public
37 commitment to accomplish a task it sets up a reasonable expectation in the minds of

1 the citizens. As public officials if we go back on these commitments it can appear
2 that the obligation was not taken seriously.

3 I believe that it was a serious commitment but it was overly ambitious. NMED
4 has said that it will consider renegotiation of the Consent Order and an
5 establishment of a new final date. However NMED will not engage in negotiations on
6 the Consent Order until we have made it clear that unless we are convinced that
7 progress has been achieved and will be maintained in the 3706 campaign. At this
8 point what do we substitute for the 2015 date? NMED will need to sit down and
9 discuss this internally, addressing how much time after the below grade inventory is
10 removed, and how much longer after that to determine a final remedy. We will need
11 to determine a logical basis for obtaining a new end date.

12
13 Mr. Valdez asked if this was the first the state had heard of the plan for the 33
14 shafts.

15
16 Mr. Davis stated that NMED has been in talks with LANL on the plan for the 33
17 shafts since summer of FY12, approximately seven or eight months.

18
19 Mr. Villarreal responded that about one third of the shafts are nicely packaged in
20 one gallon containers, while an additional third were packaged in a way that is more
21 difficult. The last third will be the most difficult, in this case the waste was dropped
22 into the shaft and broken, and these shafts are the ones to worry about.

23
24 Mr. Valdez asked Bob Pfaff to give an update on what is happening with the
25 federal budget.

26
27 Mr. Pfaff stated that he is the Business and Technical Services Supervisor for Mr.
28 Maggiore at DOE. The budget is a key driver in our work scope. For FY'13 we are
29 under a six month CR operating to less than half of the \$188 million for FY'12. Both
30 the House and the Senate marks are at \$239 million, if they act there is a good
31 chance that LANL will get \$239 million. DOE is in full support of the \$239 million, and
32 is cautiously optimistic that it will happen. If we get a \$188 million for the CR we are
33 not going to be able to meet all of our commitments, it is vitally important that we
34 get \$239 million or close to it.

35 For FY'14 we are hoping that OMB gives us what our full request is. When the
36 President rolls out his budget in February then we can discuss where we are for
37 FY'14.

38

1 Mr. Valdez asked what about the ten percent sequestration?
2

3 Mr. Pfaff replied that if Congress has taken no action on the sequestration by
4 January 2nd, LANL would face an immediate 9.4 percent budget hit. Moving the
5 budget from \$188 million to \$169 million; this would affect jobs and work scope.
6

7 Dr. Girardi asked within the LANL budget is there any flexibility for moving
8 money from one fund to another.
9

10 Mr. Pfaff replied that most of the money is on the NNSA side. This money cannot
11 be mixed into the EM budget or it would constitute a violation of the appropriations
12 law. Within the EM budget the only ability we have is moving money from Nevada or
13 Livermore, however there is not very much flexibility there.
14

15 Mr. Valdez asked if anyone had additional questions.
16

17 Ms. Joni Arends with Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety said that she had
18 questions on the proposal for the new facility at LANL for processing TRU waste.
19 What problems would you see with designing that facility to handle the waste from
20 the 33 shafts?
21

22 Mr. Cox responded that the new facility would not be processing any waste; it
23 would be basically a staging area for waste until it is shipped to WIPP. It would
24 require a significant redesign to have remote handling of waste.
25

26 Ms. Arends asked would the RULOB facility be a possibility.
27

28 Mr. Cox responded the RULOB facility does not have the necessary shielding, or
29 meet the Haz Cat 2 facility requirements.
30

31 Ms. Arends continued by asking which facilities at LANL are currently Hazard
32 Category 2 facilities?
33

34 Mr. Cox answered that CMR, TA-55, Area G, WCRR, WIPP shipping facility, and
35 the Tritium Facility, are all currently Hazard Category 2 facilities.
36

37 Ms. Arends asked could you use any of those facilities to process this small
38 amount of waste?

1
2 Mr. Cox responded that again these facilities do not meet the requirements; the
3 closest facility would be the CMR.

4
5 Ms. Arends asked what would be happening to the existing low level waste that
6 is in the trenches at Area G?

7
8 Mr. Cox replied that currently that will remain in place.

9
10 Ms. Arends stated that the presentation slide showing that LANL met all of the
11 regulatory milestones needs to be clarified with respect to the number of extensions
12 that have been granted.

13
14 Mr. Davis noted that over the past year 60 extensions had been granted for
15 deliverables.

16
17 Mr. Valdez asked what was the latest on the Greater than Class C Waste?

18
19 Mr. Longo responded that due to the sensitivities surrounding such an
20 announcement, it was postponed he believed until January 2013.

21
22 Mr. Valdez noted that an answer was promised in December. He proceeded to
23 ask what the latest was on the MOX facility, and how it would impact Los Alamos?

24
25 Mr. Longo replied that unfortunately there was no information.

26
27 Mr. Valdez asked about the Chromium plume what is happening with that.

28
29 Mr. Mousseau responded that LANL has been working on that and has put
30 together an interim measure and is currently in discussions with NMED on it.

31
32 Mr. Davis added that Mr. Mousseau is exactly correct and NMED has requested
33 that LANL begin analyses and provide a proposal by the end of the calendar year.

34
35 Mr. Valdez asked what can the NNMCAB do to help expedite the proposal?

36
37 Mr. Maggiore responded that it should be kept on the NNMCAB's agenda.
38

1 Mr. Valdez stated that on the table was the draft board meeting schedule for
2 Calendar Year 2013. It was noted that at this time without a quorum that the
3 schedule could not be voted on.
4

5 Ms. Santistevan stated that for the Albuquerque meeting, we are looking at
6 having Cochiti Pueblo do a presentation on the effects of the Los Conchas fire. For
7 the May 22nd meeting a tour of the Buckman site in Santa Fe has been arranged.
8 There is also a possibility of a tour of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in October.
9

10 **The NNM CAB took a sixty minute dinner break.**

11
12 **XI. Public Comment Period**

13 Mr. Valdez announced the second public comment period. No members of the
14 public were signed up to address the board. Mr. Valdez closed the public comment
15 period.
16

17 **XII. Wrap-Up**

18 Mr. Valdez opened the floor for general comments from members of the board.
19

20 Mr. Longacre noted that the board could use more members that have a higher
21 level of education. We do need more expertise or possibly we could hire an outside consultant.
22 At present we only have what LANL tells us and we have no way to argue with them. So I would
23 like to see more expertise on the board.
24

25 Mr. Worth stated that historically so long as there was no conflict of interest any
26 individual may be appointed. Some of the boards were becoming a bit too technical and were
27 missing the opinions of lay people. I feel that with the mix of new candidates that we will see
28 some additional expertise coming on board.

29 There is no way that we can get around the process that is required to appoint a
30 board member; however, we can make every effort to get additional members with more
31 technical expertise.
32

33 Mr. Longacre asked who establishes that there are only six board meetings, why
34 not four why not twelve.
35

36 Ms. Santistevan stated the historically the board has met bi-monthly, this can be
37 changed. The six meetings for FY'13 were determined by the Executive Committee based on
38 the results of the annual survey, and the requirements of the EM-SSAB Charter.

1
2 Mr. Longacre stated that he would like the board to be more independent, to
3 not depend on LANL and DOE as much. I really don't know what the charter states I only know
4 that the board is supposed to make recommendations to DOE.

5
6 Mr. Worth responded if you want to be independent you can do that, that is how
7 the citizens groups are; however then you don't have the DOE funding and support that creates
8 venues like we are at today. That is the structure that we have as a CAB and you can't really
9 change that.

10 Ms. Santistevan noted that the Member Tool Kit contains the FACA, Charter, the
11 Guidance, and the boards Bylaws. The NNMCAB staff could provide an updated copy to Mr.
12 Longacre if the original copy was misplaced.

13
14 Mr. Davis thanked everyone and stated he was glad to have the opportunity to
15 be present at the meetings. If anyone has questions NMED would be glad to answer them and
16 would make every effort to be responsive.

17
18 Mr. Mousseau stated that LANL uses this forum to communicate what is coming
19 up at LANL, the NNMCAB offers challenging questions and comments that help LANS.

20
21 Mr. Maggorie, Mr. Worth, Mr. Pacheco, and Ms. Santistevan all thanked
22 everyone for attending.

23
24 Dr. Girardi thanked the board members and presenters for their work. Dr.
25 Girardi reiterated the need to look at legacy health issues; the need for a presentation to the
26 board on these issues, and also the need for more information on the member appointment
27 process.

28
29 Mr. Worth noted that he would take an action to get a briefing set up on why the
30 appointment process is set up like it is.

31
32 Mr. Villarreal and Mr. Tiano thanked everyone for their participation.

33
34 Mr. Garcia said that I have learned since becoming a board member, that LANL
35 cares about the environment and that they push hard to find the safest best way to clean up
36 the waste. Mr. Garcia thanked everyone for participation in the meeting today.

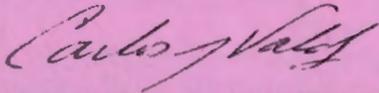
37

1 Mr. Valdez stated that the Executive committee's next meeting would be
2 January 9th 2013. It was also noted that the combined committee meeting would also be taking
3 place on January 9th 2013. Mr. Valdez informed the members that the next full NNMCAB
4 meeting would be January 30th 2013.

5
6 **XIII. Adjournment**

7 With no further business to discuss, Mr. Worth adjourned the meeting at 6:32
8 p.m.

9
10
11
12 **Respectfully submitted,**



13 **Carlos Valdez, Chair, NNMCAB**

14
15 ***Minutes prepared by William Alexander, Technical Programs and Outreach, NNMCAB**

16
17 **Attachments:**

- 18 1. Final NNMCAB Meeting Agenda for 12/04/2012
- 19 2. Final NNMCAB Meeting Minutes for 9/26/2012
- 20 3. Report from Carlos Valdez, NNMCAB Chair
- 21 4. Report from Menice Santistevan, Executive Director
- 22 5. Draft Recommendations Package from the 10/03/2012 EM-SSAB Chairs Meeting
- 23 6. Draft Schedule for 2013 NNMCAB Board Meetings
- 24 7. LANL Fiscal Year 2013 Planning Continuing the Governor's Priorities Presentation

25
26 **Public Notice:**

27 ***All NNMCAB meetings are recorded. Audiotapes and Video disks have been placed on file**
28 **for review at the NNMCAB Office, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506.**

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

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

JANUARY 30, 2013 BOARD MEETING

POJOAQUE, NEW MEXICO

I. Routine Chair Activities since last NNM CAB meeting on 12/04/12:

A. Executive Committee and WM/EM Committee meetings were held on Jan. 9, 2013

1. Discussion was held regarding the 2012 Annual Self-Evaluation results. The Executive Committee agreed that as a full Board, we did pretty well last year; but we can do better. Some changes will be made to the 2013 survey.
2. The agenda for the 01/30/13 NNM CAB meeting was discussed and approved.
3. A presentation from the Department of Health on Legacy Health Issues was confirmed for our 01/30/13 Board meeting.
4. Possible recommendations on the 33 shafts as well as certain MDA's were discussed. Fact sheets will be provided to Board members regarding the MDA's included in our Work Plans.
5. A possible public forum/workshop was discussed as a NNM CAB outreach and public information event.
6. Membership attendance as it pertains to establishing a quorum was discussed. Reminders will be sent to all Board members on the importance of attending Board meetings.
7. Possible upcoming board member travel was discussed.
8. Changes in leadership at the federal and state levels were discussed.
9. Possible future presentations were discussed.
10. Intense conversation was held during our combined committee meeting regarding the 33 shafts. It seems the board is split on whether to remove the waste contained in the shafts or leave it buried. More conversation will be held on this project in the near future. Allison Majure agreed to author a draft recommendation for NNM CAB consideration on 1/30/13.

II. SSAB Related Chair Activities since last NNM CAB meeting on 12/04/12:

- A. Participated in the Chair's teleconference on Dec. 18, 2012. Representatives from all sites participated as well as representatives from DOE/HQ. The Chairs discussed the draft agenda and plans for the tour of Hanford Site.

- B. Four (4) draft national recommendations were voted on and approved during our combined committee meeting on Jan. 9, 2013. Unfortunately, it seems that we were one short of a quorum at this meeting, so the NNM CAB will have to reconsider these items on Jan. 30th.

III. Other Related Chair Activities

- A. The Chair attended the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities meeting on Jan. 18th in Espanola. The Chair and/or the Executive Director will be attending these meetings in the future to keep abreast of issues that the RCLC are covering and to offer NNM CAB collaboration with environmental remediation issues.
- B. The Chair will participate in the EPO Legislative Breakfast to be held at La Fonda in Santa Fe on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2013, the same day as our full Board meeting. Menice has helped with the planning of this breakfast and will also be in attendance as staff support.

Submitted by:

Carlos Valdez

Chair, NNM CAB

January 10, 2013

**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Executive Director's Report**

January 30th, 2013

Board Membership: The NNM CAB currently consists of 20 members. A nomination package has been submitted to DOE Headquarters, requesting that six individuals be appointed to the NNM CAB. In addition, Bonnie Lucas and Joey Tiano have agreed to serve another term. Ralph Phelps' service on the board will end on May 2nd as he has served three (2 year) terms, the maximum allowed under EM-SSAB rules.

Executive Committee Meetings: The Committee met on Jan. 9th at the NNM CAB Office. The committee heard reports from the Chair, Committee Chairs, DDFO and Executive Director. The committee finalized the agenda for this meeting and discussed meeting presentation requests and draft recommendations for future CAB consideration. The committee also discussed future tours, NNM CAB membership and attendance and out of state travel requests.

Board Meeting Preparations: I prepared the Draft Agenda for this meeting, and submitted the notice to *The Federal Register* on Dec. 14th, in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. I made all arrangements at the Buffalo Thunder Resort, including meeting room set-up, catering and video and audio support. Ed Worth and I coordinated the speakers and the Liaison Member attendance. All meeting materials were copied and collated by Tiffany Ortiz and meeting packets were mailed out on Jan. 23rd. An advertisement for the meeting was placed in *The Albuquerque Journal North* and on the NNM CAB website and on Facebook. Press releases were also sent to area news media by William Alexander.

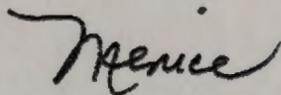
Outreach: I have made a concerted effort to contact Pueblo Governors, local Mayors and civic organizations to recruit new members to the NNM CAB. I also contacted Santa Fe Community College; two environmental science students have applied for membership. The staff will work on the next NNM CAB newsletter for distribution throughout northern New Mexico.

NNM CAB Support Staff: Tiffany Ortiz has been hired as the Administrative Assistant and William Alexander has been hired as the Technical Writer. David Smith with Action Audio and Visual has been hired to support the NNM CAB for audio and video.

Important Upcoming Dates:

February 13th, Combined Committee Meeting at NNM CAB Office
March 20th NNM CAB Bi-monthly in Albuquerque

Respectfully submitted,



Menice B. Santistevan
Executive Director
NNM CAB Support Office

EM SSAB Chairs Meeting
Washington, D.C.
Draft Chairs' Recommendation
October 3, 2012

The EM SSAB has noted with considerable interest and support that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) has been remarkably successful in disposing of transuranic waste (TRU) throughout the DOE complex for approximately ten years. The success of the TRU waste program is among DOE's most notable achievements during this time frame.

The EM SSAB is also aware that the mission of the WIPP is being assessed for possible expansion to include disposal of some surplus plutonium from defense programs weapons production activities and certain other nuclear waste such as Greater-Than-Class-C Waste from NRC-related programs.

The success and activity of the WIPP program represents an opportunity for the DOE to make still further progress in addressing some of DOE's legacy waste streams.

The EM SSAB encourages the DOE to evaluate additional storage and disposal options for DOE legacy waste that could result from an expansion of the WIPP disposal mission.

For example, one specific test program that would support this concept involves shipment of a small number of SRS Defense Waste Processing Facility Canisters from SRS to WIPP for storage and evaluation for disposal. Such a test program would permit DOE to evaluate significant issues in DOE's complex-wide high-level waste disposition program such as:

- Shipment container development issues
- Packaging and shipment/receipt issues for both the shipper and the receiver
- Other transportation issues
- Dealing with consent-based approvals

It is the intent of this test program to provide valuable input and to serve as a precursor for the DOE program for the disposal of DOE's high-level waste.

PRE-DECISIONAL DRAFT

EM SSAB Chairs Meeting
Washington, D.C.
Draft Chairs' Recommendation
October 3, 2012

The EM SSAB would like to offer one recommendation that should increase the effectiveness and timeliness of addressing the disposal of DOE high-level waste.

It is recommended that DOE work with other national leaders to separate the disposition programs for the Defense Program high-level waste and the commercial nuclear industry high-level waste.

The DOE high-level waste program is at a more advanced stage relative to disposition than the commercial nuclear power industry waste-disposal program. For example, DOE presently has over 3,000 canisters at SRS awaiting the next step in the disposition process. Further, the waste form characterization and content is well known and understood. The same will be true for the waste forms in canisters that will be produced at Hanford and Idaho.

Also, the amount of DOE high-level waste is only 10% of the commercial nuclear volume. It is the intent of this recommendation to afford DOE an opportunity to address a much reduced quantity of high-level waste with well known forms. Disposition of the smaller volume in this manner could serve as an excellent learning tool for addressing the commercial high-level waste-disposition program.

PRE-DECISIONAL DRAFT

EM SSAB Chairs Meeting
Washington, D.C.
Draft Chairs' Recommendation
October 3, 2012

The EM budget is composed of several components, including costs to maintain the EM complex in a safe 'operations ready' state, out-year compliance costs to meet future regulatory milestones, current-year compliance costs to meet regulatory milestones in the current fiscal year and other costs not directly tied to regulatory milestones.

Included in these costs is funding for the development of new technology that will improve the productivity of cleanup projects across the complex. The enhanced solvent for the Salt Waste Processing Facility at SRS is an example of a successful R&D project.

As the current federal budgeting activities continue to constrain EM cleanup activities, the EM SSAB recommends that DOE not constrain funding in areas of technology research and development. The EM SSAB recognizes that without innovative solutions for the future, the cost and timing of cleanup projects could jeopardize compliance with regulatory milestones and extend cleanup costs beyond reasonable expectations.

PRE-DECISIONAL DRAFT

EM SSAB Chairs Meeting
Washington, D.C.
Draft Chairs' Recommendation
October 3, 2012

The EM SSAB recommends that DOE place more emphasis and priority on evaluating technologies that could make recycling excess materials cost effective. Decontaminating these materials for resale can have many positive benefits:

- Saving space in onsite CERCLA disposal cells
- Adding more dollars for cleanup from the sale of excess
- Reducing cumulative environmental insult
- Reducing long-term monitoring and stewardship costs

To facilitate continuous cost-effective recycling, the EM SSAB recommends that DOE identify and establish a national recycling center of excellence, incentivize contractors to recycle and repurpose items, and add a recycling and repurposing element to future Requests for Proposals.

PRE-DECISIONAL DRAFT

NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD (NNMCAB)

Waste Management Committee

Recommendation to the Department of Energy

No. 2013-01

**Recommendation for Action in Analysis of Disposal Pathways for Disposition of 33 Shafts:
*Remote-Handled Waste Buried in 33 Shafts at Technical Area 54 (TA-54)***

Background

NNMCAB Recommendation 2010-01 of Jan. 27, 2010 received a response from NNSA's Los Alamos Site Office stating, "...These recommendations from the NNMCAB will assist us in determining the proper path forward. While a number of the recommendations address issues or questions that are necessary to perform this project, LASO is not able to provide a response at this time. The contractor and LASO project team continue to work with other DOE Sites (Hanford, Carlsbad Field Office, etc.) to evaluate technologies and approaches in executing this work. ...".

Discussion

To date, the NNMCAB has learned of no activity toward evaluating technologies and approaches which would enable the execution of the work of disposing of materials within the 33 shafts. In the three years passed since the recommendation was made, the NNMCAB believes that collaboration with other DOE sites has had time to occur to inform and enable a current evaluation of the best technologies and approaches for disposition of the 33 shafts.

Recommendation

The NNMCAB respectfully requests that DOE respond to the recommendations made in Recommendation No. 2010-01 on Jan 27, 2010 providing analysis of suggested methods (Nos. 1-6), a discussion of viability, and possible alternatives to those suggestions.

Intent

The intent of this Recommendation 2013-01 remains the same as 2010-01, namely to discourage inaction in addressing the permanent disposition of the 33 shafts.

Effect

The effect of implementing this recommendation is to foster the engagement of DOE/NNSA/LANS with the EPA, State of New Mexico, and associated Pueblos in arriving at an approach to permanent disposition of the 33 shafts which will resolve real and perceived risks to the satisfaction of the public.

NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD (NNMCAB)
Waste Management Committee

Recommendation to the Department of Energy

No. 2010-01

**Recommendation for Disposition of Remote-handled Waste Buried in 33 Shafts at
Technical Area 54 (TA-54)**

Background

The Consent Order between the State of New Mexico, the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) and Los Alamos National Security (LANS) requires that TA-54 Material Disposal Area G (MDA-G) corrective actions be completed by October, 2015. This means that the Remote-Handled Transuranic (RH-TRU) waste must be retrieved from MDA-G, preferably by the summer of 2011, to provide adequate time for retrieval, processing, characterizing, certifying, and packaging for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) that is designed to handle and dispose of RH-waste. The RH-TRU Waste Retrieval and Disposition program is part of the TA-54 Closure Project scheduled to complete remaining Area G corrective actions before October 2015. The RH-TRU Waste Retrieval and Disposition Project is a major part of the overall LANL Legacy Waste Disposition Program, which is to result in closure of TA-54 and is one of the highest priorities within the DOE Environmental Management (EM) program and is consistent with the DOE Strategic Plan to accelerate cleanup of weapons sites.

The cleanup of MDA-G has been previously considered as one of the three top priority remediation sites by the NNM CAB in Draft Recommendation 2009-05.

Typical waste materials and waste material parameters are summarized below.

1. There are 193 packages of waste (~27 m³) in 1-2 ft. diam. metal pipes buried in 33 shafts (#200-232) that are 13 to 20 ft. length. The wastes in the metal pipes were generated and emplaced at different times (1970 to 1995) and in different configurations. RH wastes are defined as having surface doses >200 milliroentgen/hr (mR/hr) @ contact. (Wastes <200 mR/hr are considered to be Contact Handled waste.)
2. Nineteen of 33 shafts has waste that is >1000 R/hr contact but only 10 shafts have radiation levels > 100 R/hr @ 1 meter.
3. The principal beta-gamma activities are from Mixed Fission Products (MFP):
 - Cs-137 30.1 yr half-life 662 kev gamma-ray
 - Sr-90 28.2 yr half-life Pure beta-emitter
 - Eu fission product activity is low level
 - Combined MFP radioactivity is ~2000 Ci (corrected to 2009)
4. There is ~1.54 Kg of Pu with ~128 Ci of alpha-activity with Am-241.
5. According to the current governing document CCP-TP-500 Revision 8 (7-24-08), the waste must be examined item-by-item for prohibited items and for characterization of Waste Material Parameters. (There may be negotiation or exception to this requirement but it may take an unacceptable length of time)
6. Shaft #212 contains the core of the Los Alamos Molten Pu Reactor Experiment (LAMPRE I) that reportedly contains 200 gm of Pu and weighs over 7200 Kg. There may be residual Na coolant in the concreted core.

7. There is a final radiation limit of 1000 R/hr per packaged drum prepared for shipment to the WIPP.
8. Typical waste items in the 33 shafts are highly radioactive materials contaminated with irradiated fuel claddings, grindings, metallurgical fuel sample mounts, stainless steel and fuel cut remains. There are no gross fuel pin samples in the waste.

Discussion

Disposition of the wastes from the 33 shafts is very complex and requires a diversity of facilities, technical expertise, regulatory protocols, administrative policies, environmental concerns, industrial and radiation safety practices, and collaborative approaches that must come together to achieve success. There are a large number of disciplines that are necessary to provide solutions to the challenges of this undertaking, particularly, personnel capable of making shielding calculations, exposure calculations, trained hot cell operators, trained radio-chemists, experienced EM and mechanical engineers, safety-based scientists and technicians, radiation protection and control workers trained to handle highly radioactive materials, etc. If expertise in these areas is lacking, DOE/NNSA, and LANL must recognize that they must provide appropriate technical training for key personnel to address these type of challenging initiatives. Without adequately trained personnel, working in a collaborative manner, the cost of this and other challenging EM projects will be ineffective and inefficient and cost the taxpayer an unreasonable amount of money while yielding unsatisfactory results. This project could be handled as a model that could be implemented on a national basis.

Comment

To comply with the 2015 time limit established by the Consent Order, at least six methodologies have been considered and are briefly summarized below. In order to select the most appropriate methodology, the NNM CAB recommends that DOE/LANL complete and implement the Sampling and Analyses Plan that was previously drafted before any of the listed methodologies are initiated.

(Note that the methodologies are categorized as "ideal" or "non-ideal" depending on how extensive deviations, exceptions, or modifications to already approved agreements and standard practices must be made. Also, in how readily the methodologies are accepted by the Pueblo Tribes, environmental, and citizen groups.)

No. 1—(Ideal Method) Retrieve the 3 types of waste pipes in order from the 33 shafts and conduct item-by-item characterization (or whatever is currently acceptable) in the Chemical and Metallurgical Research (CMR) hot cells according to CCP-TP-500 and package and send to the WIPP. There are no deviations, exclusions, or modifications.

No. 2—(Alternative-ideal Method) Retrieve the wastes from the 33 shafts according to method of emplacement so that those pipes that can be directly inserted into the CMR Hot Cells for an item-by-item characterization. The pipes from the remaining shafts could be retrieved into a mobile or portable hot cell system built at TA-54 for handling the larger diameter concreted pipes. A modified characterization can be conducted that is less extensive within the portable hot cells at TA-54 if this approval is achievable. This will require a deviation or exclusion from

CCP-TP-500 and new agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED), and other pertinent agencies. (Alternatively, the concrete from the pipes could be cut away or otherwise removed from within transportable hot cells at TA-54. The cleaned pipes could then be transferred to the CMR Hot Cells for total characterization of the wastes. Treatment and characterization of a specific waste form such as the LAMPRE I in Shaft 212 could be completed in the CMR Hot Cells. Recognize that greater reliance on the portable hot cells will necessarily call for greater compliance with regulations for non-reactor nuclear facilities as stipulated in DOE Order 420.1, Facility Safety.

No. 3—(Non-ideal Method) Conduct In-Vitro Solidification on each of the 33 shafts and allow molten material to cool for 2 years and monitor the effectiveness of this methodology for an agreed time frame into the future. This will require new reviews and agreements with all pertinent parties.

No. 4—(Non-ideal Method) Leave the wastes in place and monitor the entire waste field in accordance with a long term legacy waste management program. Future actions will be as determined by new agreements with all pertinent agencies including the affected Pueblos.

No. 5—(Limited ideal Method) Retrieve the wastes from the 33 shafts and move to another location or site for storage and characterization at a later date.

No. 6—(Combined Form) A modified or combined form of Method 1 through 5 or some other innovative methodology depending on availability of hot cells, technologies, RH-waste capabilities and time frame to implement. This form will require extensive new agreements.

Observations and Descriptive Comments

- The selection of a means to comply with the Consent Order without modification can be accomplished with budget estimates that can range from \$50M to \$200M for the first two Methods outlined above.
- Conducting the work with a modified Consent Order and/or modified characterization plan might be less costly and can still result in the removal of wastes from TA-54 and transferal to the WIPP.
- What may seem like a quick fix (Methodology No. 4) may outwardly seem attractive but would require consideration of input and consequences from a variety of agencies and the most affected Tribes and could result in endless mistrust from environmental and citizen groups in northern New Mexico. These negotiations could extend beyond the year 2015. Also, should a future monitoring system indicate a radioactive leak, the cost of remediation could be unacceptable.
- The San Ildefonso Tribe considers the land around TA-54 to be sacred and they have said that "ideally" they would prefer to have the waste removed rather than pass this unwanted waste on to future generations. However, they are cognizant of certain cost/risk/benefit analyses and limitations that have to be considered.
- In time, DOE/NNSA and/or LANL may maintain that they no longer have the technical capability to effectively comply with the Consent Order.

- Although this is considered to be a DOE-EM problem, the NNSA must recognize that the 33 Shafts waste is NNSA derived waste and they too have a responsibility to help reduce the risks inherent in these type wastes and cooperate with available RH waste facilities, technologies, and expertise and in sharing the expense associated with this special, indeed unique, waste problem.

Recommendations

Note: The 33 Shafts project is highly complex and requires cooperation between many agencies, organizations, and disciplines. EM must establish a needs breakdown structure and assign responsibilities and roles required to accomplish this project in a unified manner.

No. 1—Complete and implement the Sampling and Analysis Plan to determine the integrity of the inner and outer pipe wall by sampling the inner-outer annulus fill material.

No. 2—Assure sufficient funding is available for completion of the project within time limitations and all safety requirements.

No. 3—Assure the necessary technology, trained expertise, and infrastructure is available to implement any selected methodology.

No. 4—Based on the results of implementation of Recommendations No. 1, 2, and 3, select an “ideal” or “non-ideal” methodology for disposition of the waste.

No. 5—Determine the non-acceptability/acceptability of time delays required for seeking and obtaining deviations, exceptions, and/or modifications from pertinent agencies for less extensive and more reasonable characterization and handling methodologies for highly radioactive RH-mixed wastes that have been “stable” for 20 to 30 years. Acceptance of more reasonable methodologies will result in great reductions in time, effort, expense, and radiation exposure to workers.

Intent

The intent of this recommendation is to remove the highly radioactive RH-TRU wastes from TA-54 in a safe manner with a minimum of radiation exposure to workers at all levels. Accomplishing this will result in a successful closure of the site. If the “ideal” methodology is not feasible, then a secondary or “non-ideal” methodology should be considered. Equally important, this recommendation is to discourage inaction to result in a final “no action” decision/non-decision for the disposition of the 33 shafts.

Effect

The effect of implementing this recommendation is to help maintain public confidence in the ability of DOE/NNSA/LANS in collaboration with the EPA, State of New Mexico, and associated Pueblos to effect a complex but dynamic approach to disposition the RH waste in the 33 shafts at TA-54 leading to eventual closure of MDA-G.



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



JUL 22 2010

Mr. Ralph L. Phelps
Chairman
Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board
1660 Old Pecos Trail, Suite B
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



Dear Mr. Phelps:

Reference:

- 1.) Contract Number DE-AC52-06NA25396, Los Alamos National Security, LLC and the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration

Subject: Response to Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation 2010-01

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Los Alamos Site Office (LASO) has reviewed the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) recommendation 2010-01. LASO's response to the recommendation is provided in the enclosure.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact M. L. Bishop at (505) 606-1804 or Ed Worth at (505) 606-0398.

Sincerely,

George J. Rael
Manager
Environmental Operations

EPO:15LB-120-266169

Enclosure

cc: w/enclosure
M.L. Bishop, LASO
E. Worth, LASO
M. Graham, LANS
Records Center, LASO
Official Contract File, LASO

ATTACHMENT

**Recommendation No. 2010-01
By the Waste Management Committee**

**Recommendation for Disposition of Remote-handled Waste Buried in 33 Shafts at
Technical Area 54 (TA-54)**

Recommendations

Note: The 33 Shafts project is highly complex and requires cooperation between many agencies, organizations, and disciplines. EM must establish a needs breakdown structure and assign responsibilities and roles required to accomplish this project in a unified manner.

No. 1—Complete and implement the Sampling and Analysis Plan to determine the integrity of the inner and outer pipe wall by sampling the inner-outer annulus fill material.

No. 2—Assure sufficient funding is available for completion of the project within time limitations and all safety requirements.

No. 3—Assure the necessary technology, trained expertise, and infrastructure is available to implement any selected methodology.

No. 4—Based on the results of implementation of Recommendations No. 1, 2, and 3, select an “ideal” or “non-ideal” methodology for disposition of the waste.

No. 5—Determine the non-acceptability/acceptability of time delays required for seeking and obtaining deviations, exceptions, and/or modifications from pertinent agencies for less extensive and more reasonable characterization and handling methodologies for highly radioactive RH-mixed wastes that have been “stable” for 20 to 30 years. Acceptance of more reasonable methodologies will result in great reductions in time, effort, expense, and radiation exposure to workers.

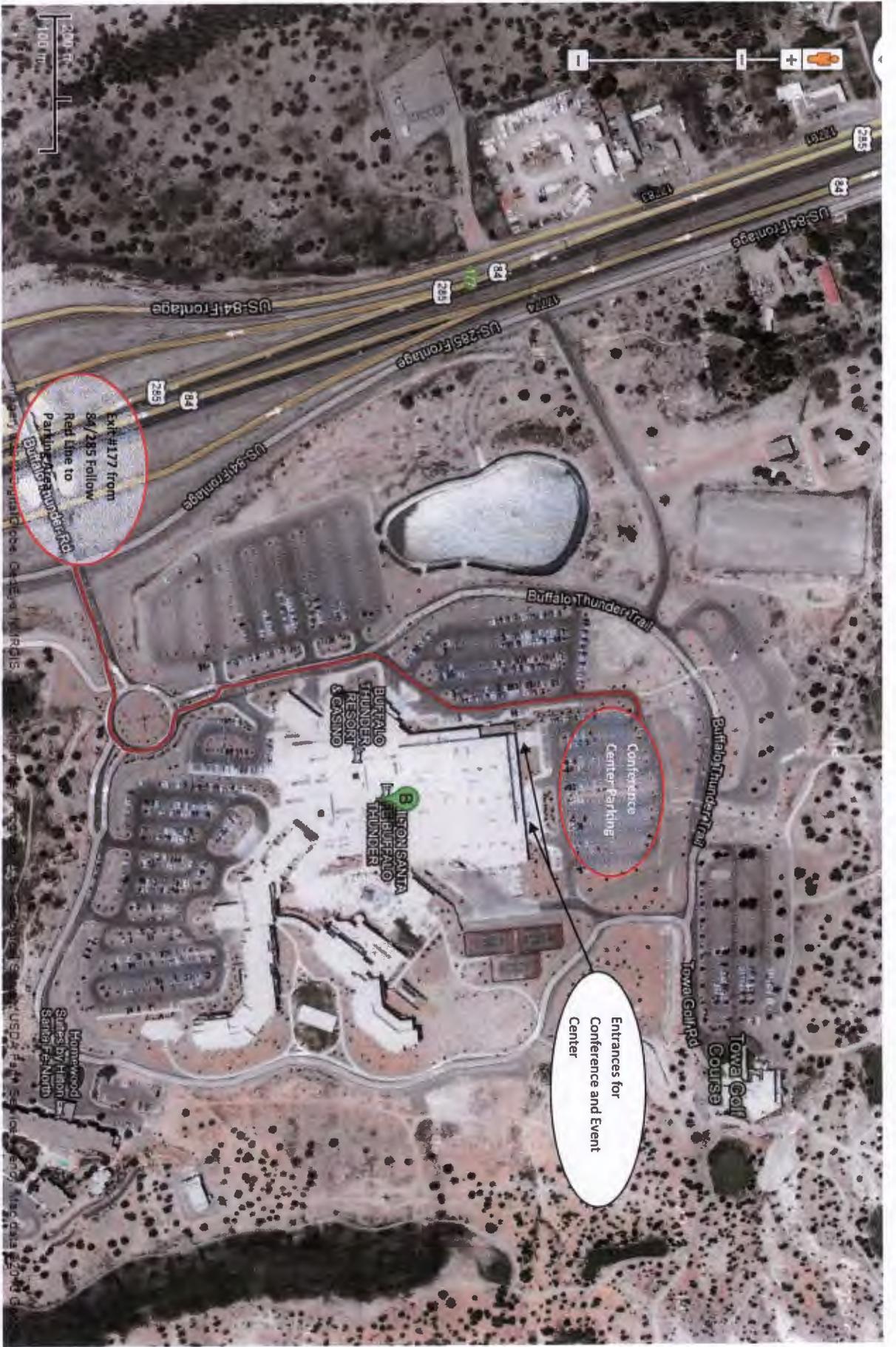
Response

Los Alamos Site Office agrees that this complex problem requires extensive cooperation and completion in a unified manner. These recommendations from the NNM CAB will assist us in determining the proper path forward.

While a number of the recommendations address issues or questions that are necessary to perform this project, LASO is not able to provide a response at this time.

The contractor and LASO project team continue to work with other DOE Sites (Hanford, Carlsbad Field Office, etc.) to evaluate technologies and approaches in executing this work. The 33 shafts is one of our most challenging projects and worker safety is very important due to the Remote Handling Component.

LASO wishes to especially thank the NNM CAB for the extensive research and historical data included in the recommendation. LASO believes this information will be very helpful as DOE evaluates options for a path forward.



North Side Parking Area
 Circled in Red on Parking
 Map



The Location:
 20 Buffalo Thunder Trail
 Santa Fe, New Mexico
 United States 87506
 Tel: (505) 455-5555
 Fax: (505) 455-0200

Caldera A will be on
 left side as you enter
 from North Parking Area
 See Asterisk on Map

