



MEETING MINUTES

Budget Committee

February 20, 2008 – NSF, Sedan Conference Room

Members Present: Robert Gatliff, David Hermann, Robert Johnson, Harold Sullivan, James Weeks

Members not Present: Jackson Ramsey

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE): Kelly Snyder, DDFO; K.C. Thompson, UGTA Task Manager; Bill Wilborn, UGTA Federal Sub-Project Director; John B. Jones, Federal Sub-Project Director, Jhon Carilli, Federal Sub-Project Director; Kevin Cabble, Federal Sub-Project Director

CAB Facilitator: Rosemary Rehfeldt, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

The facilitator opened the meeting with the following remarks:

- 1) The committee will receive briefings from each DOE Environmental Management (EM) federal sub-project director on the fiscal year (FY) 2010 sub-project activities
- 2) After the briefings, the Budget Committee will discuss and rank each of the projects according to where they want funding allocated
- 3) If the Committee chooses, they have the opportunity to prioritize specific activities within the sub-project
- 4) A recommendation letter will be created, to be approved by the Budget Committee via e-mail, for Full Board review and approval at the March 11, 2008 meeting in Beatty, Nevada.

The meeting agenda was reviewed, as follows:

9:00 – 9:05	Opening Remarks	Rosemary Rehfeldt
9:05 – 9:30	Underground Test Area (UGTA)	Bill Wilborn
9:45 – 10:15	Low-Level & Mixed Low-Level Waste	Jhon Carilli
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK	
10:30 – 11:00	Soils	John Jones
11:00 – 11:45	Industrial Sites	Kevin Cabble
11:45 – 11:55	2009 Budget Rollout	Kelly Snyder
11:55 – 12:00	Meeting Wrap Up / Assessment	Rosemary Rehfeldt

Each DOE Nevada Site Office EM Federal Sub-Project Director presented their FY 2009 and FY 2010 budget baselines and planned activities to the Budget Committee. For sub-project details, a copy of the meeting handouts will be provided with these minutes on the CAB website at: www.ntscab.com.

For the UGTA Sub-Project, the Committee asked what occurrences might disrupt the drilling program. Mr. Wilborn told the Committee that drilling costs have significantly gone up, which includes equipment rentals, availability for contractor staffing, and potential blasting of drill pads.

Regarding the Low-Level and Mixed Low-Level Waste Sub-Project, the Committee asked whether there are alternative waste disposal sites if the NTS no longer accepted waste. Mr. Carilli explained that there are plenty of disposal sites for Class A waste. For Class B and C waste, under the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, DOE has limited places for disposal.

The term "SAFER" report was used during the briefing for the Soils Sub-Project, and Mr. Jones explained that a Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Closure Report is a streamlined approach to cleanup on sites where the contaminants are known, rather than producing a Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) and having the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) approve a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) and a Closure Report (CR). He also told the Committee that the FY 2009 plan will potentially close 10 sites that were historic atmospheric testing sites, listed in the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) as contaminated sites.

The Committee asked if the contamination in the soils will move. Mr. Jones explained that the areas are fenced off. Additionally, the soil has a crust and there is minimal airborne dispersion. The committee also asked about the status of Clean Slates. Mr. Jones told the group that the areas are fenced, posted and monitored. Cleanup decisions are postponed pending collaboration between the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

With respect to Industrial Sites, the Committee asked if there would be any post-closure monitoring after the ending date of 2012. Mr. Cabble explained that EM will continue scheduled maintenance until EM is no longer needed. At that time, NNSA, or whoever is the NTS landlord, will continue monitoring activities. The Committee also asked for an explanation on injection wells and Mr. Cabble told them that these shallow wells were injected with radioactive and non-radioactive materials.

Kelly Snyder provided the committee the FY 2009 budget roll out information (available at www.em.doe.gov) and the baseline numbers for FY 2009 and FY 2010. Ms. Snyder encouraged the CAB to provide any comments they had on the FY 2009 budget roll out to the U.S. Department of Energy.

The committee prioritized and justified the Sub-Projects as follows:

- 1) Underground Test Area (UGTA)
 - a. Drilling – to calibrate and validate flow models
 - b. Potential impact on the public, particularly off-site rural communities
- 2) Low-Level and Mixed Low-Level Waste
 - a. Complex-wide impact
 - b. End in sight – for 92 acres
 - c. Economic necessity for uninterrupted operation
 - d. Transportation of waste has an impact on the public
- 3) Industrial Sites
 - a. Closure date – finite plan for site closures
 - b. All CAUs planned for closure by 2012
- 4) Soils Project
 - a. Controversy with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Department of Defense
 - b. Stability of soil
 - c. No immediate identifiable need/risk

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.