



MEETING MINUTES

Budget Committee

February 25, 2009

Nevada Support Facility, Sedan Conference Room
232 Energy Way, North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Members Present: Jackson Ramsey, Chair; Bob Gatliff; Robert Johnson;
John McGrail; Jim Weeks

U.S. Dept. of Energy: Kelly Snyder, DDFO; Rob Boehlecke; Jhon Carilli;
Tiffany Lantow; Bill Wilborn

Facilitator: Denise Rupp, Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.

Absent: Robert Gamble, Liaison

The Committee's meeting agenda and objectives were to:

- 1) Review and discuss FY 2011 baseline activities for Environmental Management sub-projects
- 2) Develop a Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) recommendation letter

Presentation: Soils Sub-Project FY 2011 Outlook, Rob Boehlecke

- Increase in FY 2011 funding is due to ramping up of activities
- Planned activities for FY 2011 include:
 - Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) and pre-fieldwork for Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 365
 - CAIP and pre-fieldwork for CAU 366
 - Field work for CAU 370
 - Completion of Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for CAU 371
 - Completion of Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD) and CAP for CAU 372
- Reduced FY 2011 funding would result in:
 - Postponing pre-fieldwork for CAU 365
 - Postponing fieldwork and CADD for CAU 366
- Increased FY 2011 funding would result in:
 - Accelerated CAIP pre-field and fieldwork for CAU 106
 - Accelerated CAIP and pre-fieldwork for CAU 367

Following are Mr. Boehlecke's clarification of specifics posed by the Committee:

- Environmental Management (EM) staff met with the Air Force February 10, 2009. The Air Force concern was if Tonopah Test Range was closed with contamination in place the Air Force would have to accept future liability. EM would retain liability and has suggested language clarifying this. The efforts toward resolution have been well received by the Air Force and EM is awaiting Air Force feedback.
- Relative to soil stability, there is no or limited identifiable risk based on current knowledge. It does not appear as though soil contamination is moving or not moving quickly. While it must be assumed there would be some water erosion, the area is in the enclosed valley of the site.
- Soils sub-project end date is 2022

- The possibility of receiving a portion of the anticipated Federal stimulus funds may change some of the near-term activities which would result in a shift to the long-term activities as well. Department of Energy Headquarters is working on the possibility of disposition of funds and we have no specifics at this time.

Presentation: Industrial Sites Sub-Project FY 2011 Outlook, Rob Boehlecke

- Decrease in FY 2011 funding is due to gearing down of activities
- Planned activities for FY 2011 include:
 - Surveillance and maintenance of closed-in-place sites at Nevada Test Site (NTS) and Tonopah Test Range (TTR)
 - Fieldwork for CAU 116 and Closure Reports for CAU 116 and CAU 547
- Reduced FY 2011 funding would result in postponement of fieldwork and waste disposition at CAU 114
- Increased FY 2011 funding would result in acceleration of pre-fieldwork for the demolition of CAU 113 and CAU 117

Following are Mr. Boehlecke's clarification of specifics posed by the Committee:

- With only a few CAUs remaining to be closed, Industrial Sites end date is 2012 with some demolition extending beyond that point.
- Upon completion, contractor staffing will decrease while there will not be significant change to Federal staffing. As Industrial Sites activity declines and Soils activity increases, EM will be looking for the contractors to shift staffing over the next couple of years based on skill sets.
- The possibility of accelerating Soils activity with additional funding may be limited. This sub-project is working intensely with Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP). Acceleration could be detrimental relative to technical development and contractor support. EM's goal is to limit contractor layoffs while ensuring completion of the sub-project in the best possible manner.
- Environmental Restoration (ER) will continue to perform surveillance until the entire project is completed in 2027 at which time National Nuclear Security Administration will take over as landlord. Mr. Boehlecke will advise the CAB of the plans for Industrial Sites at the time of sub-project completion.
- While the addition of more facilities being transferred to Industrial Sites is not under EM's control, any additions would need to be investigated and a request submitted to Headquarters to add them to the baseline.

Presentation: Underground Test Area (UGTA) Sub-Project FY 2011 Outlook, Bill Wilborn

- There is no significant change in funding between FY 2010 and FY 2011
- Planned activities for FY 2011 include:
 - Yucca Flat Transport Model Phase I reporting
 - Central and Western Pahute Mesa continued drilling operations, road and pad prep and well development and testing
 - Frenchman Flat draft CADD/CAP with NDEP comment for final review
 - Rainier Mesa Source Term Phase I, Flow Model Phase I and Transport Model Phase I reporting (delayed due to Pahute Mesa)
- Reduced FY 2011 funding would result in reduced drilling and CAU modeling
- Increased FY 2011 funding would result in acceleration of drilling activities as well as data collection alternatives (additional data collection, geophysical surveys, pump tests, etc.)

Following are Mr. Wilborn's clarification of specifics posed by the Committee:

- CAUs are each in a different phase. Communication with NDEP continues regarding Frenchman Flat and data collection analysis is being performed on Rainier Mesa. Some planned activities can/will fluctuate as data is received.

- The sub-project is still under Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) but was re-baselined last year. Work has been ongoing for 12-15 years and the FFACO strategy was written approximately 10 years ago. Efforts are underway to bring the strategy up to current knowledge. The content will not be affected but efficiency will be increased.

Presentation: Low-Level and Mixed Low-Level Sub-Project FY 2011 Outlook, Jhon Carilli

- FY 2011 funding reflects a slight increase over FY 2010
- Planned activities for FY 2011 include:
 - Safe disposal of low-level waste (LLW) and mixed low-level waste (MLLW)
 - Closure of Pit 3, the MLLW disposal unit
 - Performance Assessment and Composite Analysis maintenance
- Reduced FY 2011 funding would result in:
 - Disposal operations would need to shut down for one-quarter to half of the year and/or staffing and disposal capacity would be cut for the entire year
 - 92-acre closure would be postponed
 - No new disposal cells
- Increased FY 2011 funding would result in:
 - Accelerated closure of 92-acres
 - Prepare new LLW waste cells
 - Purchase equipment, upgrade facility/communications and perform building repair

Following are Mr. Carilli's clarification of specifics posed by the Committee:

- Specialized training and maintenance is required as a Category 2 non-reactor nuclear facility. If operations were suspended costs to retrain staff and restart facility would be significant.
- Disposal units operating prior to the creation of the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) are allowed to continue operation on an interim status. NTS operates on an interim status permitted five years ago. Any mixed waste disposal units constructed must follow a different set of regulations.
- Funding for analyzing a new MLLW disposal unit was funded last year and the process begun. Providing a application to the State of Nevada and construction estimating is expected by the end of FY 2009. Regulators will process the application based on the technical requirements.
- Mr. Carilli will report back to the CAB with details regarding the impact of not having on-site disposal and projected volumes
- Robert Johnson suggested the Transportation/Waste Committee and/or Full Board may be interested in a presentation on the proposed new waste disposal unit

After discussion, the Committee developed a CAB recommendation letter for FY 2011 sub-project prioritizations. Denise Rupp will provide a draft of the letter for Committee review by March 2, 2009. The recommendation letter will be submitted to the CAB at the March 11 meeting.

Kelly Snyder advised the possible amount and designation of proposed Federal stimulus dollars is unknown at this time. An announcement is expected in March 2009. When the determination has been made by DOE Headquarters the Nevada Site Office will communicate the information to all CAB members. CAB members suggested this be communicated via email.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.