



MEETING MINUTES

Transportation/Waste Committee

August 10, 2010 – 2:30 p.m.

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

Members Present: Bob Gamble (Nye County), Robert Johnson (Chair),
Phil Klevorick (Clark County), Michael Moore,
Helen Neill (UNLV), Michael Voegele

Members Absent: Patricia Fleming, John McGrail, Tim Murphy (NDEP)

U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE): Carol Dinsman, Ken Small

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

Chairman Robert Johnson outlined the meeting goal to develop a CAB position regarding the Department of Energy's (DOE) Mixed Waste Storage Unit (MWSU) Permit application.

The Committee had received and reviewed copies of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B application prior to today's meeting. Ken Small, DOE RCRA Program Manager, reviewed the details of the application:

- DOE submitted an application to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental protection (NDEP) for a RCRA permit to store mixed low-level waste (MLLW) at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) prior to permanent disposal
- MLLW contains both low-level radioactive waste and a hazardous component
- MLLW is currently disposed in Pit 3 at the NTS Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) which, as permitted, must close by November 30, 2010
- Design and construction of the new disposal cell is underway with anticipated opening in Spring 2011
- Storage of MLLW is needed to "bridge the gap" between closure of Pit 3 and opening of the new disposal cell
- MLLW is generated by environmental cleanup activities across the Environmental Management (EM) Complex
- Waste will be stored in five existing locations at the NTS RWMC
- Permitting process timeline was reviewed
 - DOE public meeting and public comment period April/May 2010
 - Permit application submitted to NDEP May 2010
 - NDEP reviews application and returns comments to DOE within 180 days
 - DOE responds to NDEP comments within 30 days
 - NDEP conducts 45-day public comment period July/September 2010
 - NDEP resolves any public comments in conjunction with DOE Fall 2010
 - NDEP notifies DOE regarding permit decision December 2010
- RCRA permit is valid for 5 years (standard term)

- Waste is stored in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation and NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria
- NDEP conducts annual inspections and has authority to revoke permit

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Small provided the following points of clarification:

- The DOE is in the process of determining if mixed waste treatment capabilities are needed at the NTS. This is an ongoing activity that will be further evaluated in fiscal year 2011.
- Macro encapsulation is used for on-site generated waste only
- The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program includes auditing of waste generators to ensure content of mixed waste received at NTS

Member Moore expressed concern regarding the length of time waste may be stored at the MWSU. Mr. Small committed to researching the subject and providing clarification to the Committee.

After review of the application and considering the information provided, it was agreed the Committee would proceed with a recommendation in support of DOE's MWSU Permit application. The project:

- is of value Complex-wide
- provides a staging area for improved work flow
- will provide bridge between closure of old waste cell and opening of new cell
- may provide buffer between acceptance and disposal of unexpected volumes of MLLW

Denise Rupp will forward a draft to the Committee for review and comment. The resulting draft letter of support will be presented to the CAB's Full Board at the September 1, 2010 meeting. Member Moore's concerns regarding length of storage will be included in the presentation to the Full Board, as well as clarification received regarding that issue.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.