

White Pine County Nuclear Waste Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 16, 2010
Draft/Unapproved

Attending:

Wayne Cameron, Chairperson, Board Member, Ruth Representative
Kathleen Weaver, Board Member, Nevada Department of Transportation
Delores Manchester, Board Member, Ely Shoshone Tribe
Raleene Makley, Liaison, White Pine County Commissioner
David Hendrix, Board Member, White Pine County Fire District
Sherry L. Gaddy, Board Member, Ely at Large
Carol McKenzie, Board Member, Lund Representative
Jerry Meyer, Board Member, City of Ely
Jerry Morrill, Board Member, McGill Representative
Russel Peacock, Board Member, White Pine County Office of Emergency Management
Mike Simon, Director, Nuclear Waste Project Office
Melanie Martinez, Senior Management Assistant, Nuclear Waste Project Office
Janice Jones, Management Assistant, Nuclear Waste Project Office

Call Meeting to Order:

Wayne Cameron, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Discussion/Action/Approval of June 17, 2010 Meeting Minutes:

Chairperson Cameron entertained the motion to approve the June 17, 2010 minutes. Member Meyer made the motion. Member Morrill seconded the motion. The motion carried. Member McKenzie abstained.

Discussion Yucca Mountain Project Update; Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy Circuit Court Litigations:

The Nuclear Waste Project Office attended the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board meetings on June 28 and 29th in Idaho Falls. The event informed everyone of the packaging and the transportation of the nuclear waste from the Idaho National Laboratory. All waste has to be out of the state of Idaho by 2015 or the Federal Government will have to pay the state of Idaho a considerable amount of money every day. All waste has been packaged pursuant to Yucca Mountain specifications. Any changes now would require re-handling and re-packaging costing billions of dollars.

Director Simon informed the Board of the order issued by the Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel 04 (ASLBP) denying the Department of Energy(DOE) to withdraw its license application.

Board Members Manchester, Gaddy, and Weaver arrived at 4:35 p.m.

Briefs were filed by the other parties July 10th, to date nothing has been done by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). One County Commissioner has recused himself from any Yucca Mountain issues, leaving only 4 Commissioners to hear any issues regarding Yucca Mountain.

Chairman Jaczko of the NRC does not have the votes necessary to proceed with the review or overturn the decision.

Aug. 27th the petitioners before the Circuit Court in Washington D.C. were required to do an update which they did, that includes Aiken County, State of South Carolina, State of Washington. They requested the Circuit Court order the proceedings in the Yucca Mountain licensing activities to commence, since the NRC hasn't taken any negative decision or action on the ASLBP's they may as well begin the licensing application.

The NRC issued Safety Evaluation Report (SER) volume 1 on Aug. 23, 2010, the first volume of the licensing application with volume 3 to be issued in November.

Director Simon informed the Board that neither the Atomic Energy Act or the Nuclear Waste Policy Act does not give the President or the Secretary of Energy the authority to withdraw the license application, that has to be done by Congress. The Secretary of Energy can only withdraw the application during site characterization.

Discussion Federal FY2011 Funding:

The president's budget zeroed out all funding. There won't be any spending bills passed this being an election year so don't know how long we will be under continuing resolution. Director Simon stated he doesn't anticipate any action on budgets.

Old Business:

There was discussion amongst the Board about the usage of Transportation, aging and disposal(TAD) canisters, storage, glassification and packaging of High level waste(HLW) and Low level waste (LLW).

New Business:

Chairperson Cameron asked about article on page five of newsletter "Auditors question \$175 million in unresolved Yucca Mountain costs." Director Simon stated this is from the Inspector General(IG) report that has to do with contractors claims for charges against DOE and Yucca Mountain Project, it hasn't been paid because there is no backup information for claims for charges. The Inspector General report contains all the information.

A copy of the Inspector General report will be sent to all board members.

Board Member Russel Peacock of the White Pine County Office of the Emergency Management (OEM) informed the members that he will be hosting a state Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and four counties training on 9-22-10 at the Community College. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., the training will be from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., lunch will be served. They will be going over radiological training, and public safety issues.

Member Peacock informed the Board of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting at 7:00 a.m. on 9-23-10 at the White Pine County Sheriff's Office.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. The office will notify the board members of location, since we may possibly be in the new facility.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

