



Environmental Management  
Site-Specific Advisory Board  
Semi-Annual Chairs Conference  
Augusta, GA • April 28-29, 2005

**Transfer Issues**



# EM SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRS MEETING

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA • APRIL 28-29, 2005



## *Site / SSAB Transfers from EM to Other DOE Offices*

### **Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board**

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SRS will eventually transition to NNSA; EM for foreseeable future

Stakeholders have requested public input in NNSA issues

Other sites setting precedent is of concern

Continued substantial public involvement in transitions- a major concern

DOE needs to ensure public included as members of Local Stakeholder Organizations



# **EM SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRS MEETING**

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## ***Site / SSAB Transfers from EM to Other DOE Offices***

### **Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board**

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In late 2006 or early 2007, management responsibility for the DOE-retained portions of the Rocky Flats site will transfer from EM to the Office of Legacy Management.

Without an EM presence, the Rocky Flats CAB will cease operations. Rocky Flats CAB members will no longer have a formal relationship with other EM SSAB members, although areas of common interest will remain.

Legacy Management will establish a Local Stakeholder Organization at Rocky Flats, although organizational and membership issues on the LSO have not been resolved and are a concern to the community-at-large. In the future, current CAB members may not have an opportunity for the same level of public involvement as they currently enjoy, resulting in a loss of institutional memory and expertise that will continue to be needed.



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### **Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board**

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No clear understanding as to what federal program will have long-term stewardship responsibility

Public involvement after any transfer remains an issue

Responsibility for newly generated waste at the Y-12 Plant will transfer from EM to NNSA in October

Responsibility for newly generated waste at Oak Ridge National Laboratory will transfer from EM to Science when all the issues are worked out



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### **Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board**

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At transfer, can we look at more than just EM issues (increase scope)?

Budget – will it go up, go down, or stay the same?

What is NNSA's concept & approach toward EM?

What is NNSA's position on SSABs?

Will NNSA support other oversight groups (e.g., EEG, DOE OB)?



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### **Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs**

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#### **Transfer of DOE/NSO EM Program to NNSA**

Nevada is a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) facility. Therefore, environmental restoration and waste management activities are proposed for transfer to NNSA by FY 2006

#### **CAB'S BOTTOM LINE**

Regardless of where the EM work is placed, a need will remain for stakeholder involvement. It is essential that up-front planning take place to ensure that the CAB will continue to be a viable voice for the community in ongoing EM projects: Low-Level Waste, Mixed Low-Level Waste, Transuranic/Mixed Transuranic Waste, Industrial Sites, Underground Test Area, and Soils

Current Acting Assistant Manager for Environmental Manager and DDFO support transition of CAB to NNSA

April 11, 2005: Met with Nevada Test Site NNSA Manager and Deputy Manager

Received assurance that the NTS CAB will remain in place to address EM issues



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### **Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs**

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Per NNSA Manager: "We absolutely want to continue. We want the Nevada CAB be the best CAB possible, and we want the transition to be seamless."

Will continue to work with DDFO to address issues related to charter, future interaction with EM SSABs, etc.

#### **Path Forward – Outstanding Issues**

Will there be a national approach to officially recognize operations for those CABs being transferred; e.g., charter, bylaws, etc. – or will each CAB be chartered locally?

Will the EM SSABs and DOE EM support ongoing involvement of CABs being transitioned to other organizations?

NTS believes that it is essential for the CAB to maintain its current national presence with EM SSAB activities, including semi-annual Chairs' meetings, conference calls, workshops national forums, etc. Because of Nevada's role in waste disposition for the DOE complex, it is important to maintain the existing link to EM and its stakeholder involvement initiatives.



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### **Idaho Citizens Advisory Board**

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The INEEL CAB is not undergoing a transfer from Environmental Management (EM) and we are already being supported by an A-8 set-aside. So in essence, we have nothing to say.

However, the CAB is concerned that some legacy waste cleanup projects are being conducted by the nuclear energy mission (NE) and DOE-ID has suggested that we have no charter to comment on these projects. Our position is that if the projects are paid for by EM, it is immaterial what facilities are used and what DOE office “owns” the facilities. In at least one case EM has transferred funds to NE to perform legacy cleanup using NE facilities.

In addition, the CAB and the citizens of Idaho have a continuing interest in the proper storage, treatment and disposal of nuclear waste, no matter what its origin.