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1. Attendance

Members/Alternates Present:

See Attached Sheets.

Others Present:

C. Adey, P. Bond, H. Carrano, J. Carter, M. Clancy, J. Clodius, T. Daniels, J. D'Ascoli, B. Dorsch, K. Geiger, L. Hill, M. Holland, S. Johnson, T. Kneitel, L. Nelson, M. Parsons, F. Petschauer, S. Robbins, J. Tarpinian

2. Correspondence and Handouts

Items one through four were mailed with a cover letter dated June 3, 2005. Items five and six were placed in the member's folders, and items seven through ten were available at the meeting as handouts. Item eleven will be in the next mailing.

1. Draft agenda for June 9, 2005
2. Draft notes May 12 meeting
3. Final notes April 14 meeting
4. Final notes March 10 meeting
5. Copy of email message from Member Guthy
6. Revised draft June agenda
7. Copy the TRU Waste Shipment presentation
8. Copy the HFBR presentation
9. Copy of the Cleanup Milestone presentation
10. Copy of the BGRR presentation
11. Copy of the Surface Projects Update presentation

3. Administrative

The meeting began at 6:38 p.m. Reed Hodgkin went over the ground rules and the draft agenda. Jeanne D'Ascoli welcomed Phoebe Loris who will be representing the Pine Barrens Society. Those present introduced themselves.

Peter Bond reported that the funding situation at the Lab has turned more upbeat than it had been. He noted in the letters the CAC drafted for the Senate it was recognized that the House of Representatives has put back the money for RHIC operations, for the Light Source, and for Medical Imaging. The Senate is due to markup the bill next week. If that happens the letter will be very timely. The Lab has heard that both New York Senators are very strongly supportive of the Brookhaven request. The Lab appreciates the effort the CAC has decided to take on the Lab's behalf.

Reed informed the CAC that they would be meeting in the Brookhaven Center in July.

The May minutes were approved pending changes to responses of Members Biss, Conklin, and Garber to the Five-Year Survey questions. There were two abstentions.

John Carter spoke about the Work Force Restructuring Plan that DOE was required to write for the Office of Legacy Management at Headquarters. The public comment period ended on May 23. He said that 12 questions having to do with the process or that asked for clarification were received. The plan was submitted and it was proposed that it be the final plan as written. DOE is waiting for comment from the Office of Legacy Management. Once they receive it, the final plan and the comments and responses will be posted on the BNL webpage.

CAC member Hall canoed the river last week from the Lab to the Sportsmen's Club and commented how well the restoration areas were growing in. He also noted that he had trouble with the Lab's voice identification 8000 number when trying to reach Jeanne D'Ascoli and wondered if anyone else ever had trouble getting though on it.

4. Shipment of TRU Waste, Terri Kneitel

Terri Kneitel briefed the CAC on a transuranic waste shipment planned for next month. The waste consists of isotopes above uranium on the periodic table, heavy elements. In this case plutonium. She described the substance as samples of ash received from the Rocky Flats incinerator. Solidification experiments were performed on the samples in the early 80's. One 55-gallon drum that will contain a total of 120 samples divided between eight one-gallon paint cans will be loaded into a cask. Kneitel said the amount is very small, there is a total of 14.1 grams of plutonium and .033 grams of americium. The dose rate is very low.

The waste is being shipped offsite as part of the Superfund cleanup project. It's being sent to the Idaho National Laboratory for additional characterization under the Westinghouse TRU Solutions Central Characterization Program and will eventually be disposed of at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico.

A cask will be shipped by truck in early July. NYS Troopers will perform a Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Level VI inspection and will accompany the load to the Pennsylvania border.

5. CAC Approval of Letters to the Senate

Reed reminded the CAC about the sensitivity of the Lab's and DOE's positions and that they were acting on their own behalf not in their advisory capacity.

Jean Jordan-Sweet passed out a marked up copy of her letter to the Senate. She went over the changes suggested by CAC members and explained how she handled them and asked if the letters should go to the subcommittee or full committee. She had explored ways to send the letters including emailing them, which didn't seem practical as there are web forms the letter would have to fit into. Overnight mail would take 72 hours to arrive. It was suggested that the letters be faxed. Reed asked if anyone had any essential changes. A motion was made and seconded and the CAC agreed unanimously to send the letter to the Senate subcommittee as written on CAC stationary. It was agreed that Jean Jordan-Sweet would sign the letter.

Anthony Graves explained that originally he had been tasked with writing to NYS because funding had been cut for Neuroimaging. The subcommittee restored funding and the Bill was voted on in the House. So instead he drafted a thank you letter to David Hobson, Chairman of the House subcommittee who restored the funding. He drafted an identical letter that will go to Congressman Tim Bishop. The second letter Anthony drafted was to the Senate asking for their support for the restored funding for DOE's Neuroimaging program including the research done at BNL. A motion was made to adopt the letters as written and with no further discussion the CAC voted with one abstention to send out the letters.

6. Updates on D&D for the Reactors, Les Hill

Les Hill reported that the Lab is working on a proposal to the DOE for the Lab to continue to manage the EM program and is putting together a contract to go forward. It will need BSA approval.

Hill said that the HFBR was removed from service in 1999. A number of acts were taken to ready the facility for eventual decommissioning. A good bit of characterization has been done in the building to determine what contaminants are there. Some engineering studies have also been done. The DOE has initiated some discussions with the regulators, the EPA, DEC, the State Department of Health, and Suffolk County. The Lab is starting to think about the overall strategy on how to go about the decommissioning the HFBR. The long-range goal is to be done with the project in fiscal year 08 but that is only an estimate. A detailed work plan will be developed. For the near term, some background information on the HFBR will be given tonight and characterization will be discussed at the July meeting.

Member Conklin asked if a tour could be set up. Hill said that could be done. Jeanne D'Ascoli will set up the tour in September/October.

7. Overview of the HFBR, Bruce Lein

Reed reminded the CAC that this presentation is for background and current status not about how the HFBR will be cleaned up.

Bruce Lein talked about the location of the HFBR, its history, described the facility, and explained the actions taken to date. The HFBR complex consists of numerous structures, systems and components. The ancillary buildings and support systems include the distinguishable red and white stack, the stack monitoring facility, the fan house, the pump house, switch gear house, cooling tower basin, water treatment house, cold neutron facility, and the fan house and tritium evaporator. Lein explained the activities that took place in each.

The HFBR mission was to produce neutrons that were used in materials research. Thousands of experiments were performed each year. The reactor achieved criticality on October 31, 1965 and was shutdown November of 1996 for routine maintenance and refueling. Tritium was discovered in groundwater down gradient of the HFBR in December of 1996. The source was determined to be the spent fuel pool. The Secretary of Energy permanently closed the reactor in November of 1999.

One of the major activities that has taken place since the shutdown is that all the fuel from the reactor was shipped offsite to the Savannah River Site in 1998.

Lein described the construction of the reactor building. He explained what activities took place on each of the three levels inside the building and described the reactor vessel. He also talked about the underground ancillary and support systems that include the D/F waste line, the ventilation duct from the reactor building to the stack, the electrical lines, and the cooling water pipes.

The stabilization actions that have been completed are the recycling of shielding blocks, 1,000 containers of chemicals, 10,900 gallons of tritiated primary coolant, and 1,500 gallons of acid. Hazardous materials that have been removed include 110 tons of lead and 350 gallons of cadmium nitrate. The cooling tower superstructure and 250K gallons secondary water hold-up tank were demolished. Additionally, reactor systems and components were drained and electrically isolated.

The characterization of the HFBR will be discussed at the July meeting.

8. Community Comment

There were no comments from the audience.

Michael Giacomaro suggested that Ed Kaplan bring his class to a meeting. Member Kaplan said perhaps at the next meeting he could provide an overview of his course.

Member Mahoney mentioned three Open House sessions that CCE was holding on wind power. He asked if he could forward the flyer to Jeanne D'Ascoli to be emailed to the CAC members. The CAC indicated they would like to receive the information.

9. Major Milestone, Les Hill

Les Hill said the Lab was rapidly approaching a significant milestone. He said that BNL was added to the National Priorities List in 1989, they've been working under the Interagency Agreement since 1992, the original site investigations and cleanup activities date back to 1990. The Lab has been working on the cleanup for 15 years. He noted that the CAC was involved in much of the cleanup decision-making over the years.

Hill said that the Lab was on the verge of completing the construction phase of the cleanup program. Most of the physical cleanup work is about done. He reported that there are 13 systems removing and treating two billion gallons of groundwater each year and that over 40,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, sediment and debris has been removed and safely disposed of.

The Long-Term Response Actions will continue. The actions that will continue include groundwater system operations and maintenance, groundwater monitoring, surveillance and monitoring of cleanup sites, Peconic River sampling and analysis, and the Five-Year reviews.

Hill said that there was still work ahead on the BGRR and the HFBR. He thanked the CAC for their participation and contributions over the years.

CAC members asked if the BGRR team was still intact and the number of personnel that were affected by moving to the LTRA phase. Were people lost or reassigned? Hill said they were working with DOE to get a contract in place for the BGRR and the same team was still involved. He said he would have to report back with the personnel figures at the next meeting because they've been transitioning for a year and a half. As work was completed employees were reassigned.

Member Garber asked if a decision had been made on the BGRR contract. Hill said there was no final decision, but they are working on drafting detailed contract language.

Member Chaudhary asked how long the remaining reactor work would take. Hill indicated that he thought it could be completed in three to four years.

Member Giacomaro asked about sharing lessons learned with other laboratories. Hill said that it was common within DOE to share information.

10. BGRR Summary Report, Fred Petschauer

Fred Petschauer recapped the decommissioning work completed at the BGRR. Since 1998 contaminated water has been removed, the Pile Fan Sump and the Canal and Water Treatment Houses have been removed as well as the above ground duct, below ground duck coolers, filters, and primary liner. During 2005 deep pocket soil, the canal, and the Instrument House will be removed and repairs will be made to the Bldg. 701 façade. Petschauer explained what was removed and how it was disposed of and described the process used to reach the deep pocket soil. The pile and bioshield are scheduled for removal in 2006-2007.

11. EM Closeout Report, Tom Daniels

Tom Daniels reviewed the surface projects that had been scheduled for completion during the later part of 2003 to present. Those projects were building decontamination and decommissioning (d&d) at the Former Hazardous Waste Management Facility, Building 811 underground storage tank removal, meadow marsh sediment remediation, ash pit soil cap, Building 811 evaporator d&d, Building 650 hopper d&d, and the Peconic River. Daniels explained what was done for each project and said that any work remaining is expected to be completed in August 2005. He reviewed the cleanup goals and told what the projections were for the completed projects.

Daniels said that a stand-alone plan will be developed for the soils of the Peconic River, the OU I and OU V Long-Term Maintenance and Monitoring Plan. There is a commitment to deliver it to the regulators for review in June. The components in the Records of Decision will be specified.

He is in the process of turning things over to the Long-term Response Action Group. They are working on the institutional controls of the facilities making sure that the appropriate controls are in place. There will be active maintenance and monitoring of the Peconic River. The first set of water samples will be taken later this month. Daniels also noted that the Five-Year Review would look at the cleanup as a whole to determine if it was effective.

Member Hall asked about continuing to split samples at the Sportsmen's Club and who they would be dealing with? Daniels said probably Tim Green.

Member Garber thought the CAC should thank the presenters for a good job on the cleanup.

Member Anker asked about the ash and where the waste from the Lab went. Daniels said there was concern that it contained lead. The Lab used to dispose of their waste in landfills. Daniels explained that the landfills were excavated and said he would provide the information on where the material went.

ACTION ITEM: Where did the landfill waste go for disposal?

12. Agenda Setting

July Agenda

Masters Program Overview

Groundwater status closeout

5-Year CERCLA Review

HFBR Characterization

Update on Letters sent out, any responses.

Jeanne D'Ascoli suggested taking August off, the CAC agreed.

Member Shea asked for copies of the letters. Reed said they would be included in the next mailing.

Member Kaplan asked if the regulators could provide feedback on their interactions with the Laboratory.

Member Giacomaro asked about the status of the CFN. Dr. Bond said that the first bids came in over target. It has gone out for rebid. It is expected that construction will start in September if the new bids come in at a reasonable level.

The July meeting will be held at the Brookhaven Center.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

2005	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Chart Key - P = Present																
ABCO (Garber added on 4/10/02)	Member	Don	Garber			P	P	P	P	P						
ABCO	Alternate	Thalia	Bouklas													
Brookhaven Retired Employees Association	Member	Graham	Campbell	P			P	P	P	P						
Brookhaven Retired Employees Association (L. Jacobson new alternate as of 4/99)(A. Peskin 5/04)	Alternate	Arnie	Peskin			P		P	P							
CHEC (Community Health & Environment Coalition (added 10/04)	Member	Sarah	Anker	P	P			P	P	P						
	Member	Adrienne	Esposito	P												
Citizens Campaign for the Environment (Ottney added 4/02-takenoff 1/05 Mahoney put on)	Alternate	Brendan	Mahoney			P		P	P	P						
E. Yaphank Civic Association	Member	Michael	Giacomaro	P	P			P	P	P						
E. Yaphank Civic Association (J. Minasi new alternate as of 3/99)	Alternate	Jerry	Minasi													
Educator	Member	Audrey	Capozzi				P									
Educator (B. Martin - 9/01)	Alternate	Bruce	Martin													
Educator (A. Martin new alternate 2/00) (Adam to college 8/01)(add. alternate 9/02)	Alternate	Adam	Martin					P								
Environmental Economic Roundtable (Berger resigned, Proios became member 1/01)	Member	George	Proios	P												
Environmental Economic Roundtable (3/99, L. Snead changed to be alternate for EDF)	Alternate	None	None													
Fire Rescue and Emergency Services	Member	Joe	Williams													
Fire Rescue and Emergency Services	Alternate	James	McLoughlin	P	P	P			P	P						
Friends of Brookhaven (E.Kaplan changed to become member 7/1/01)	Member	Ed	Kaplan	P	P				P	P						
Friends of Brookhaven (E.Kaplan changed to become member 7/1/01)(schwartz added 11/18/02)	Alternate	Steve	Schwartz													
Health Care	Member	Jane	Corrarino													
Health Care (as of 10/02 per JD)	Alternate	Mina	Barrett													
Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition	Member	Mary Joan	Shea	P			P	P		P						
Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition	Alternate	Scott	Carlin													

2005	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
	Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers/Local 2230	Member	Mark	Walker	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	IBEW/Local 2230	Alternate	Philip	Pizzo												
	L.I. Pine Barrens Society	Member	Richard	Amper	P											
	L.I. Pine Barrens Society (added P. Loris 6/05)	Alternates	Phoebe	Loris			P	P	P	P						
	L.I. Progressive Coalition	Member	David	Sprintzen	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	L.I. Progressive Coalition	Alternate	None	None												
	Lake Panamoka Civic Association (Biss as of 4/02)	Member	Rita	Biss	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Lake Panamoka Civic Association (Rita Biss new alternate as of 3/99)	Alternate	Joe	Gibbons												
	Long Island Association	Member	Matthew	Groneman												
	Long Island Association	Alternate	William	Evanzia				P								
	Longwood Alliance	Member	Tom	Talbot	P			P		P						
	Longwood Alliance	Alternate	Kevin	Crowley												
	Longwood Central School Dist. (switched 11/02)	Member	Barbara	Henigin	P	P	P			P						
	Longwood Central School Dist.	Alternate	Candee	Swenson												
	NEAR	Member	Jean	Mannhaupt	P		P	P								
	NEAR (prospect taken off 3/4)(blumer added 10/04	Alternate	Karen	Blumer												
	NSLS User	Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet	P	P		P	P	P						
	NSLS User	Alternate	Peter	Stephens												
	Peconic River Sportsmen's Club (added 4/8/04)	Member	John	Hall	P	P		P		P						
	Peconic River Sportsmen's Club	Alternate	Jeff	Schneider		P										
	Science & Technology (added 1/13/05)	Member	Iqbal	Chaudhry	P	P	P	P		P						
	Town of Brookhaven	Member	John	Turner												
	Town of Brookhaven	Alternate	Anthony	Graves	P	P		P	P	P						
	Town of Brookhaven, Senior Citizens	Member	James	Heil		P	P		P							
	Town of Brookhaven, Senior Citizens (open slot as of 4/99)	Alternate	None	None												
	Town of Riverhead	Member	Robert	Conklin	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Town of Riverhead (K. Skinner alternate as of 4/99)	Alternate	Kim	Skinner												
	Wading River Civic Association	Member	Helga	Guthy	P	P		P	P							
	Wading River Civic Association	Alternate	Sid	Bail												