

February 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Gregory Suber, Chief
Low-Level Waste Branch
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Nishka Devaser, Project Manager /RA/
Low-Level Waste Branch
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: JANUARY 27, 2011 PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY: MEETING TO
DISCUSS STATUS OF THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION MONITORING ACTIVITIES AT THE SALTSTONE
DISPOSAL FACILITY AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE, DOCKET
NUMBER PROJ0734

On January 27, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) each provided presentations to interested members of the public in Aiken, South Carolina concerning DOE's disposal activities at the Saltstone Facility at the Savannah River Site and the NRC's monitoring of these activities in accordance with Section 3116 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005. The meeting was held at the Aiken Municipal Center in downtown Aiken from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was for the NRC and DOE to provide the public with a status of the NRC review of the "*2009 Performance Assessment for the Saltstone Facility at the Savannah River Site*," and for DOE to provide an overview of their disposal process as it relates to the NRC's review.

Enclosure:
Meeting Summary
with Attachments

CONTACT: Nishka Devaser, FSME/DWMEP
(301) 415-5196

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ML110341424

OFC	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
NAME	NDevaser	AWalkerSmith	CMcKenney	GSuber	NDevaser
DATE	02/07/11	02/08/11	02/08/11	02/09/11	02/14/11

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Public Meeting Summary: Meeting to Discuss Status of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission Monitoring Activities at the Saltstone Disposal Facility at the Savannah River Site
January 27, 2011

The meeting was transcribed by a Court Reporter. Since a transcript of this meeting is available (Attachment 2), this summary is only intended to include information on the background of the meeting and on its purpose; any additional information can be found in the transcript for the meeting. References in this document are provided as document accession numbers to the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Background

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) began preparing an update to the "Performance Assessment for the Saltstone Facility at the Savannah River Site" (PA) in 2007 and provided the document to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) upon its completion in November 2009 (ML101590008). The NRC began its review immediately and submitted its first Request for Additional Information (RAI) on March 31, 2010 (ML100820097). An RAI is a list of questions and/or comments the NRC staff must have answered by DOE before completing its review. The DOE provided responses to this RAI on July 22, 2010 (ML102090664). Upon review, the NRC staff found some of these responses to be insufficient and submitted a second RAI to the DOE on December 15, 2010 (ML103400571). The purpose of this meeting was for the NRC to provide the public an explanation of some of the NRC's concerns as identified during review of the PA and for the DOE to provide the public with an explanation of their disposal process at the Saltstone Facility as it relates to the NRC's concerns. All presentations and assisting documentation are provided as attachments to this summary and are listed below.

Summary

The NRC presentation lasted about 40 minutes and provided details of the NRC's review of the 2009 Saltstone PA. There were no questions following the presentation. The DOE presentation consisted of two presenters which lasted about 1 hour. The first DOE presentation focused on the review process and schedule and the second provided a technical overview of the saltstone facility and process and described plans for addressing the NRC's concerns. The DOE presentation ended with a summary that included a proposed April/May meeting with NRC on the 2nd RAIs and the development of a list that prioritizes the RAI's in order of resolution immediacy, those not in need of immediate resolution being addressed under the DOE PA maintenance program. Similarly, there were no questions at the end of DOE's presentation. The meeting was concluded with statements from NRC and DOE. The meeting was transcribed and a meeting summary including both NRC and DOE presentations will be created and made publicly available.

Attachments

This summary includes six attachments, which includes the three presentations from the meeting. The meeting consisted of one presentation by the NRC, one presentation by the DOE, and one presentation by the DOE contractor responsible for operations at the Saltstone Facility, Savannah River Remediation (SRR).

Enclosure

- Attachment 1. List of Meeting Attendees
- Attachment 2. Public Meeting Transcript [ML110340999]
- Attachment 3. "Review Status of NRC Staff Review of the 2009 Saltstone PA" Presentation by George Alexander, NRC [ML110240019]
- Attachment 4. "Saltstone Operations and Monitoring Update" Presentation by Patricia Suggs, DOE [ML110341052]
- Attachment 5. "Saltstone Disposal Facility Performance Assessment: NRC Request for Additional Information Discussion" Presentation by Virginia Dickert, SRR [ML110350083]
- Attachment 6. List of Important Documents (document provided at the meeting) [ML110341100]
- Attachment 7. Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Glossary: List of Common Terms used in the Project [ML110341165]

Questions and Comments from Members of the Public

There were no public comments or questions during either comment period at the meeting. Interested members are, however, always encouraged to submit comments about any of NRC's documents at any time.

Meeting Attendees

George Alexander	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Nishka Devaser	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
David Esh (<i>by phone</i>)	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Lisa London (<i>by phone</i>)	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Karen Pinkston (<i>by phone</i>)	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Gregory Suber	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Linda Suttora	U.S. Department of Energy
Lucy Knowles	U.S. Department of Energy
Sherri R. Ross	U.S. Department of Energy
Patricia Suggs	U.S. Department of Energy
Armanda Watson	U.S. Department of Energy
Justin Koon	South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control
Scott Simons	South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control
Nancye Bethurem	Savannah River Remediation
Dean Campbell	Savannah River Remediation
Ben Dean	Savannah River Remediation
Virginia Dickert	Savannah River Remediation
Frank England	Savannah River Remediation
Rebecca Freeman	Savannah River Remediation
Ginger Humphries	Savannah River Remediation
David Little	Savannah River Remediation
Mark Mahoney	Savannah River Remediation
Kent Rosenberger	Savannah River Remediation
Larry Romanowski	Savannah River Remediation
Malcolm Smith	Savannah River Remediation
Owen Stevens	Savannah River Remediation
Steve Thomas	Savannah River Remediation
John Tseng	Savannah River Remediation
Diane Crovy	Member of the Public
John L. Donnell	Member of the Public