

## Meeting Minutes

### Yankee Rowe Community Advisory Board April 12, 2006

The Yankee Rowe Fuel Storage and Removal Community Advisory Board held their spring 2006 meeting at the Mohawk Park Restaurant in Charlemont, Massachusetts, on April 12, 2006.

**Attendees: Carol Angelo, Anita Barker, Jana Brule, Lenny Laffond, Rick Williams, Chuck Bellows, Ken Plumley, Bill LeQuier, Anne Skinner, Allan Twitchell, Art Schwinger**

Chairman Chuck Bellows called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The June 15, 2005 and October 12, 2005 meeting minutes were approved.

#### **Decommissioning Update: Demolition/Site Closure Joe Lynch – Site Closure Manager**

Site safety performance continued to be very good with more than 160,000 safe work hours since the last lost time accident. Approximately 150 personnel are currently supporting the project.

Joe said that Yankee's plan last fall was to postpone remaining decommissioning work until the spring of 2006, but the winter was fairly mild allowing them to get more done and be positioned to complete physical decommissioning by this summer.

Approximately 134 million pounds of demolition/decommissioning waste has been removed from the Yankee site. The final total will be approximately 167 million pounds with the majority of waste shipments scheduled to be completed in May 2006. 70% of the reactor support structure (RSS) demolition waste has been shipped.

Remediation, excavation, final status surveys and backfilling of the excavated spent fuel pool building area has been completed and is nearly complete in the RSS and containment area. The shoreline work is complete with all structures removed and restoration complete. Final status survey work will be completed and the remaining silt curtain removed. Yankee is in the process of completing remediation of the Southeast Construction Fill Area. Final status survey work and final grading will be completed this spring. Cleanup of the fuel oil tank/pump house, waste disposal building and south yard is complete. Final status survey work in these areas is scheduled or underway. PCB remediation is nearly complete with 95% of PCB's removed. Yankee is in the process of completing cleanup of a few small remaining remedial areas. Other remaining work includes removal of some underground drains, sumps and pipes in the east and west yard areas.

Yankee expects to submit the MCP Risk Assessment to the Mass DEP by the end of the year. Final status survey reports are submitted to the NRC as survey areas are completed. The NRC

will send ORISE to survey key areas for verification. EPA closure reports for PCB cleanup work are also being prepared.

Groundwater monitoring continues. The well network is being expanded with the installation of 15 new wells for a total of 55 monitoring wells. Four quarterly rounds of testing will be conducted in 2006. The 2005 groundwater report was issued this month.

Joe also discussed the recent EPA violation for turbid water releases. Significant rain storms caused water containing silt and sediment to enter the Deerfield River from the storm drains. The releases violated EPA water quality requirements. Yankee has implemented numerous corrective actions and invested approximately \$2 million in erosion control measures to help prevent further turbid water issues. Joe said that the plan to plant grass and natural vegetation on and around the site this year as part of the final restoration will significantly mitigate runoff from torrential downpours.

Goals for completing the decommissioning project include shipping all remaining waste and completing all physical work in September 2006; submitting all Final Status Survey packages to the NRC in December and obtaining license termination in the spring of 2007; and obtaining MA-DEP approval of the MCP Response Action Outcome (RAO) in the summer of 2007.

Joe mentioned that Yankee has already received a partial site release from the NRC for non-impacted areas of the property. He also said that Yankee will be bringing in an additional four to six thousands yards of clean soil for backfilling and grading activities. They are required to put in six inches of native top soil and to plant native species of trees, shrubs and vegetation. This will mean additional truck shipments coming to the site. Joe also said that Yankee is currently in negotiations with TransCanada to extend the dam permanently and that this will be one of the final activities.

### **Regional and Federal Nuclear Waste Issue Update** **Joe Lynch – Site Closure Manager**

Joe introduced Jim Connell, ISFSI (Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation) Program Manager for the Yankee Rowe, Connecticut Yankee and Maine Yankee sites. Jim and Yankee Government Affairs director, Bob Capstick, represent Yankee on several industry committees to participate in efforts to remove the spent fuel from the former plant sites, including the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, Decommissioning Plant Coalition, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) committees, and the New England Council.

Recent letters from the New England Senate and Congressional Delegation urging the federal government to explore and adopt solutions that would allow it to meet its legal obligations to address the spent nuclear fuel storage problem in New England were distributed to CAB members.

Joe said the Yucca Mountain program continues to be stalled with license application for the facility now scheduled for 2008 and opening of the facility estimated near 2020. Senator Reid of Nevada sponsored a bill that would establish a federal policy to keep fuel

at reactor sites, but there were no co-sponsors and little support. The Administration's nuclear waste bill (S.2589), which addresses funding reform and other issues to facilitate resolution of the high-level waste issue, was distributed to CAB members.

In other business, Chuck Bellows announced his resignation as CAB Chair and nominated Vice Chair Lenny Laffond to serve as the new chair of the fuel storage and removal CAB. A motion was made and seconded. Lenny was unanimously elected Chairman. Lenny nominated Bill LeQuier to serve as Vice Chair. A motion was made and seconded. Bill was unanimously elected Vice Chair. Chuck will continue to serve on the CAB representing the town of Charlemont, MA.

There was no public comment.

The next meeting was scheduled for October 18, 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

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