



MINTUES

Thursday, May 24th 2018

Arco Butte Business Incubation Center

159 N Idaho St. Arco, ID 83213

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<u>Commission Members in Attendance:</u>	
Dr. Mark Peters, Co-Chair	Senator Mark Nye
Brad Little, Co-Chair	Dr. Rebecca Casper
Rep. Wendy Horman	Dr. Mark Rudin
John Tippetts	Paul Arrington
Lawrence Wasden	Rose Bernal
Sam Eaton	Dr. Neels Van der Schyf
Bobbi-Jo Meuleman	John Revier
Talia Martin	
Dr. Noel Bakhtian	
Speaker Scott Bedke	
Fred Hughes	

Call to Order

Co-Chairman Brad Little called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Little called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. Welcome and Introductions.

Lawrence Wasden moved to approve the minutes from the LINE meeting on January 31, 2018.

Mark Rudin seconded. All in favor. **Motion approved.**

Butte County/Arco Welcome

Butte County Commissioner Rose Bernal welcomed the Commission to Arco and Butte County. Brief history of Butte County. Home of INL. Arco first city to be powered by nuclear fission in 1955. Butte County is losing population. They are struggling to find new ways to grow the county and cities.

Center for Advanced Energy Studies Revitalization Overview

Noel Bakhtian, Director, Center Advanced Energy Studies, gave an overview, update, and future of the Center for Advanced Energy Studies. See PowerPoint.

Lt Gov Little – The State Board of Education (SBE) is going through a big strategic plan, including a recommendation from higher education task force to develop common digital campus. Have you worked with SBE?

A: Have not talked with them directly, however, have been communicating with universities. Will be in lock step. Not duplicating

Casper – Can you talk about the industry linkage? More universities? Adding industry with permanent membership?

A: Depending upon strategic plan result – consider expanding. Currently in discussion, industry is the least thought out. Have ideas to work with universities to work with INL on how to create courses to support start-up companies to get people to get excited.

Naval Reactors Facility Update

Jeff Avery, the Director of Regulatory Affairs for Naval Reactors, and Michael Huth, Manager of the Idaho Branch Office at Naval Reactors gave an update about the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. See PowerPoint.

Wasden expressed appreciation in working with the Navy and their focus/commitment to the Settlement Agreement.

Tippets – Can you tell me more about the Enterprise class fuel storage?

A: The Enterprise class fuel has not been processed yet, there are materials in it that need to be removed before it is packaged in a spent fuel canister like the rest. It is not in M2/90s or concrete over packs yet, but it will need to be before it can be in over pack storage. Ultimately all fuel will be discharged the same way and end in geologic repository. It is not in final configuration.

Martin – The NRF has done a good job keeping tribal members informed and involved on a government to government level.

Casper – monetized the value of going from larger fleet to smaller fleet because the fleet can go longer with the nuclear fuel lifespan. Went from 2-year fuel lifespan to 40-year fuel lifespan.

A: Yes, all correct. The research at ATR and spent fuel research allowed us to achieve this.

Casper - The NRF has a perfect safety record of transferring waste from one place to another. How do you do it?

A: We adhere to technical requirements up front, operating with substantial margins to prevent larger problems from ever happening. Foster relationships with stakeholders across the country that help them. Do exercises along the routes to conduct outreach and provide education. Outreach is important. Local regulations are important and are followed very closely. When any small problem comes up, it is attacked aggressively, and that helps keep the big problems away.

Rudin — The Idaho Cleanup Project is different than the INL research and development mission. How are the NRF and INL different?

A: NRF is housed at INL, but it is a standalone Navy program. They support each other and have a scientific and technological partnership. The federal government pays the INL to let the NRF be there. Utilize ‘tenant’ benefits. Operate under permits. INL maintain bus services, perimeter, fire and railroad.

Department of Energy Cleanup Update

Jack Zimmerman from the Idaho Department of Energy (DOE) gave an update on Idaho nuclear cleanup efforts including priorities, accomplishments, the ARP V Drum incident, and the spent nuclear fuel status. See PowerPoint.

Wasden – tremendous work you have done on the simulant run. Acknowledge and thanks for relationship with Secretary of Energy

Meuleman – What’s your protocol for communication with public outreach when an incident occurs?

A: Follow protocol that is in place – call in resources like the joint information center.

Tippets – Idaho has shipped 50% of waste to WIPP historically. Are we still at that same pace?

A: Getting a little over 60% of shipments because we are ready to ship, at least 50% to continue.

Tippets - Could we have avoided the need for IWTU if we had not shut down calciner?

A: It would have been difficult. There is a reason this waste has been left for last to treat. They did put some sodium bearing waste into the calciner - had some similar issues as the startup of ITWU. The calciner was running additives which would have created more waste. The emission systems were also an issue.

Tippets – Some waste might have to be repacked before going to WIPP – will they still need to do that?

A: Yes, but a small amount, about 300 drums.

Eaton – You’ve retained certification authority at the SITE since 2016. Is that important?

A: Yes, it is critical. There are not many places that can give certifications, and waste needs to be certified to go to WIPP. There are new certifications now on nuclear waste that WIPP will need to examine.

Little – From the drum incident, where did the waste come from? Was it moved from different containers?

A: They do not know where it came from. It arrived in the 60s and was buried in the ground. Once it was unburied, it was over packed into storage. Couldn’t really tell what was in it. If liquids were in it, then those are examined.

Little- What were the characteristics in the barrels?

A: It was more like a powder in the barrel. Some poly bottles in the waste that they opened.

Little - The department will find the likely cause of the incident. However, if it is going to get stored, won’t the places it is being stored want to know the exact cause of the incident?

A: They are researching it, but it is hard to identify exact causes. They have collected samples with reacted chemicals and non-reacted chemicals to help decide what the cause was.

Wasden – There are so many reasons why this problem could have happened, are they looking at all possibilities?

A: Yes, but it is likely a chemical matter, over pressurization of the drums.

Citizens Advisory Board Review

Trilby McAfee and Keith Branter, Co-Chairs of the Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) gave a review of the recent happenings of CAB. See PowerPoint.

Tippets – What kind of information did the CAB need to make a recommendation on AMWTP future use?

A: They needed additional information on shipment logistics, within settlement agreement and potential cost issues

Tippets - Do you anticipate taking it up again with a more definitive answer?

A: Seems like DOE has already made up their mind but has not published a decision.

Little – please report back if you come up with a recommendation. ICPCAB meetings are open to public, LINE members are welcome to join.

Rudin – Where is the CAB meeting information posted?

A: They are usually posted in the newspaper. Next meeting is June 21st in Idaho Falls.

Subcommittee Updates

- Research Development Demonstration and Deployment, Mark Peters
 - Technical presentation at the fall meeting, might be the opportunity to include the REDI study at the same time
 - Encourage commission participation in advanced supply chain study
 - Review Governor Executive Order regarding SMR development and workforce – send edits to Sam Bernal – Is the location for the proposed SMR still in Butte County?

A: Still Butte County

- Education and Workforce, Rick Aman and Amy Lientz
 - HB631 Overview
 - Nuclear mapping trial run
 - 12 programs would provide badging within the state system – feedback from State Board of Education prior to next LINE meeting if it fits their requirements

Casper – As you're developing the nuclear career road map – where will it live and stay updated?

A: That's a multi prong issue – the pool of nuclear employers is small enough that it makes it tangible. 2 way relationship – the owner and employer. Still making determination of final place.

Rudin – Cool platform embedded in an old fashioned institution system – we need to find a way to be a partner to the students of higher education. When we put these things together hope access and affordability.

A: It is a focus. Education, especially in high tech sector, has to be a high priority. Competency based jobs is critical

- Safety and Environment and Risks, Mark Rudin
 - Review draft calcine briefing
 - Send follow up email to commissioners for feedback

Casper – the goal of the committee was only for teaching, and not advocating for the wrong thing.

Rudin – we would like to post these documents on the website.

Bakhtian – subcommittee should consider making other documents about other issues – molten salt reactors, advanced reactors

Commission Discussion

AMWTP cleanup project update – looking to Anne White to decide fate. DOE study looking at costs to deliver it to other sites. Waiting to get that information before they decide. Looking at transportation questions about how to bring the waste into Idaho in compliance with Settlement Agreement. The facilities can handle any transuranic waste that is out there, and all this information has been sent to DOE.

Tippets - Transuranic waste must be treated in 6 months and then shipped out in 6 months (Idaho Settlement Agreement). Is this true?

A: Yes, but that timeframe is not feasible – primarily because of shipping schedule

Rudin – Presentation about CAES: partnerships exist elsewhere but hope commissioners understand CAES is an asset for the commission, the state and the region. Noel is the right person at the right time to take it to the next level.

Public Comment

Jeremy Hampton – Thank you commission for holding meeting in Arco. Came from nuclear program. Currently operations director of AMWTP. Have managed over half a million containers of waste - developed ways to reduce waste and containers. AMWTP only DOE complex site that has accepted and treated waste from other sites. Have shipped out of Idaho over 5k containers to WIPP and over 100k to other sites – it is a premier workforce and facility. AMWTP started retrieval in 2003 and finished the retrieval in 2017.

Tammy Thatcher – Used to work at INL. Drum rupture event – workers were extremely lucky they were not in there. Hope the reports become public when available. Buried waste – only about 6 acres are exhumed, and treated, 97 acres of waste is still buried. Idaho will miss important milestones in getting spent nuclear fuel ready for transport. Evaporation ponds – radioactive materials were flushed into ponds that were not supposed to hold it. DEQ has not taken an aggressive stance to report this, nor have they tried to fix it or stop it from happening. They put 4 inches of dirt over it. That is not what the science says to do to fix it. Why are these irregularities not being considered?

Adjournment

Co-Chair Little adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.