

MEETING MINUTES

Yankee Rowe Community Advisory Board May 2, 2001

The Yankee Rowe Community Advisory Board met on Wednesday, May 2, 2001 at the Yankee Rowe Plant in Rowe Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gail Cariddi at 7:55 PM.

ATTENDEES:

TOUR/MEETING

Gail Cariddi
Jana Brule
Jack Cable
Bill LeQuier
Ken Plumley
Rick Williams
Bruce Lessels
Allan Twitchell
Lenny Laffond

TOUR

Bob Gallagher

The minutes of the January 18, 2001 meeting were approved.

The CAB members toured the Yankee facility, including the concrete dry fuel storage pad and the Fuel Transfer Enclosure building, prior to the meeting. Chairman Cariddi noted that many of the members' questions had been answered while on the tour, but asked if there were any additional questions. There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

DECOMMISSIONING AND FUEL STORAGE UPDATES

Brian Wood – Site Manager

Bud Auvil – Vice President of Utility Services, NAC International

Brian Wood thanked the CAB members for coming and then introduced the following NAC representatives.

Bud Auvil – Vice President of Utility Services
Bob Sauer – Acting Site Manager
Len Temblay – Project Manager

BUD AUVIL

Bud explained that NAC is a Spent Fuel Solution Company based in Atlanta, Georgia. They own 13 transport casks that transfer fuel all over the world, including Taiwan and Iraq. NAC was founded in 1968 and has worked with Yankee since 1996 when they were contracted to design, license and fabricate Yankee's dual-purpose dry fuel storage system. NAC was contracted by Yankee in November 2000 to transfer the fuel.

Bud said they are in the process of completing the more than 200 procedures in place for this project. They have begun work on the three concrete cask forms and will be pouring concrete by mid May. By mid June, all sixteen concrete casks should be completed. More than 100 people will be on site for NAC when the project peaks.

NAC has a similar contract at Maine Yankee, which benefits both plants through shared information and experiences.

BRIAN WOOD

Brian told the CAB that overall safety performance has been excellent. There has been one lost time accident in 516,000 hours and one OSHA Recordable injury. At present there are no dismantlement activities. A mixed waste shipment campaign is on-schedule for June 2001.

To date the core fuel transfer team has been mobilized and the planning documents and procedures are largely complete. Concrete cask construction has commenced. Within the next two to three months, procedures and training will be completed, the concrete casks will be constructed, and the equipment required for transfer operations will be delivered.

Brian said that the total focus is on moving fuel and that decommissioning activities are intentionally at a standstill.

An internal dry run will be conducted prior to the actual fuel transfer. A dry run will also be conducted for the NRC prior to moving the fuel. The fuel transfer project will be completed by about mid-2002.

Bill LeQuier asked how far Yankee will go with the dry run and if they would actually move fuel a fuel assembly during the dry run. He was told that a mock fuel assembly would be used and that the dry run would include every step involved in the actual transfer process, including loading it into the concrete cask and placing the concrete cask on the storage pad.

Equipment for dry storage preparation has been arriving on a regular basis, including a tractor (named Big Blue) and a heavy haul trailer, which will be used to transport the concrete casks. Equipment capable of sorting greater than class C waste has also arrived. Installation of the electrical and security systems for the storage pad is in the final stages. The systems will be fully operation when the fuel is moved.

Brian said there are about 3000 actions associated with the fuel transfer project that are on schedule.

An independent Oversight Group that meets quarterly will be overseeing the fuel transfer project. Yankee will also incorporate “all lessons learned” from other industries. Yankee will not move fuel until they are sure it can be done safely and in a timely manner.

Kelley Smith passed out two letters. One of the letters was signed by the five New England Governors of states with operating or decommissioning nuclear plants urging the DOE to expeditiously resolve the disposition of spent nuclear fuel. The letter was sent to U.S. Secretary of Energy, Spencer Abraham. The other letter was signed by Yankee and Connecticut Yankee President & CEO, Russ Mellor, and Maine Yankee President, Wayne Norton. It had been sent to Andrew Lundquist, Executive Director of National Energy Policy Development. The letter offered specific suggestions for resolving the spent fuel disposal issue.

Ken Heider, Yankee Vice President, thanked the CAB for touring the site. He said it is important that they know “first hand what is going on and that they now have a hands-on type of knowledge to share with their communities or organizations.” They have seen the project from the inside out. He told the CAB members Yankee appreciated the time they spent there. It allows them to see for themselves the extensive preparation activities.

OTHER BUSINESS

The revised CAB Charter was distributed.

Gail shared a thank you note from Chuck Bellow’s wife who received flowers from the CAB when she was recuperating from an accident.

There was no public comment.

The next meeting will be sometime in the June/July time frame and will be held at the plant so the CAB members can tour the dry storage pad again. Gail Cariddi and Kelley Smith will contact members to establish a date and agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Sincerely,

Gail Cariddi
Chairman