

**The Council of State Governments  
Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee**

**Proceedings of the Spring Meeting  
June 8, 2017 | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

**Committee Business Session**

Welcome and Introductions

Teri Engelhart (Wisconsin) welcomed Greg Gothard (Michigan), who was attending his first meeting as an appointee to the committee. Governor Snyder appointed Mr. Gothard to replace Ken Yale, who is now working for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Las Vegas. Ms. Engelhart also recognized Dale Patrick (North Dakota), who was reappointed to the committee by Governor Doug Burgum.

Report from the Co-chairs

Ms. Engelhart explained that the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) waste management plans were a bit in limbo and it was difficult to know what the next steps will be. She noted that the committee was striving to develop and maintain ties with industry. She mentioned that, as a result, Kelly Horn (Illinois) had an opportunity to speak at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Used Fuel Management Conference, and that she would be speaking at the World Nuclear Transport Institute meeting later in June. She expressed her hope that these opportunities would continue in 2018.

Ms. Engelhart expressed her enthusiasm that the Midwest would be hosting the 2018 Annual Meeting of the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) in Omaha, Nebraska. She asked for volunteers to help with the meeting planning and to serve on the NTSF Planning Committee.

Project Update

Lisa Janairo (CSG Midwest) said the Midwest had recently submitted its five-year proposal to renew the cooperative agreement with DOE's Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO), which provides money for activities associated with shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. She said the new agreement should be in place by July 1, 2017. She said that, prior to the committee's fall meeting, the Midwest will submit a proposal to renew its cooperative agreement with the DOE Office of Environmental Management's Office of Packaging and Transportation (EM-OPT). She noted that the Midwest is in year one of its cooperative agreement with DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy (DOE-NE), which is used to support state planning for spent fuel shipments. Later this summer, the Midwest will submit a budget and proposal to DOE-NE for the second year of the agreement.

Ms. Janairo noted that there was money available for states to attend transportation-related training and asked committee members to please let her know if they have funding needs.

Ms. Janairo said the committee is still waiting on an official replacement for Lance Evans (Iowa), but that Christopher Boswell (Iowa) was told yesterday that an appointment was in the works. She said that Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb's office had not responded to her appointment request, so she would be following up with them. She added that the committee received recommendations from

legislative leaders and would be seeking appointments from the Midwestern Legislative Conference chair prior to the fall meeting.

Ms. Janairo said a communications group started holding conference calls in January to talk about written materials the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) could produce to share shipment information with emergency responders and elected officials. She said the group had been active for the past six months and were working on producing new fact sheets and brochures. She said the key messages developed by that group will heavily influence those that DOE-NE is putting together. She added that shipments from Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) in Illinois were not expected to resume for another year or two, but when they do, the written materials will be utilized.

Mr. Horn noted that ANL had purchased approximately 40 shielded containers, which could potentially bump them up in the shipping order. Ms. Janairo said she was concerned that ANL could be called upon when there is a gap in the shipping schedule, which wouldn't allow the states to do a road show and public outreach along the shipping route. Mr. Horn suggested Ms. Janairo reach out to James Mason (CBFO) and Andy Walker (CBFO) in the near future to start planning a road show along the route from ANL to WIPP.

Ms. Janairo discussed a potential route identification working group, a project built into the first year of the committee's cooperative agreement with DOE-NE. She said working group members would develop a map of routes to use from all nuclear reactor sites in the region, similar to a report the committee completed in 2005. She explained that the committee had not started the routing project because DOE's waste management plan was uncertain, but that now it seemed more likely that the Yucca Mountain Project would be moving forward. She said she was still reluctant to have a group start routing work because a subgroup of the Rail/Routing Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) was currently undertaking a similar project focusing on routes from shutdown sites. She said the committee members could discuss later whether they were interested in starting their own working group to look at routes from operating and shutdown reactor sites.

#### Report on DOE-NE Transportation Core Group Meeting and ESA Workshop

Ms. Engelhart reported that DOE-NE hosted a meeting of the Transportation Core Group in March in Washington, D.C. Ms. Engelhart said she, Kevin Leuer (Minnesota), Ms. Janairo, and Katelyn Tye (CSG Midwest) attended the meeting from the Midwest.

Ms. Engelhart explained that, in conjunction with the Core Group meeting, DOE-NE held a workshop on its Execution Strategy Analysis (ESA) model/planning tool that supports the Department's management of spent nuclear fuel (SNF). She said she and Mr. Leuer were able to provide input on the activities, risk probabilities, and likely risk consequences being considered in the ESA tool. Mr. Leuer noticed that the model did not account for protests that could arise due to shipments of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste (HLW) (similar to what happened with the North Dakota Access Pipeline), and the public safety costs associated with managing that scenario. He wanted to make sure states were not left footing the bill if this were to occur.

Ms. Engelhart said that since it was difficult to get a complete grasp of the ESA tool in such a short period of time, DOE-NE would be holding a three-day "deep dive" workshop. She said she was not

sure when that would be scheduled, but asked committee members to let Ms. Janairo know if they were interested in attending.

Ms. Engelhart recalled some highlights from the Core Group meeting. She said DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Spent Fuel & Waste Disposition Andy Griffith reported that there was still no explicit word about the future direction of the waste management program, but regardless, DOE's relationship with the states would be essential in the coming years. She said the regions also finalized proposed actions for DOE to take based on recommendations made by the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future (BRC) and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) regarding the transportation of SNF and HLW.

Ms. Engelhart said there was also discussion about forming a Transportation Security AHWG, and DOE-NE indicated that they were open to the idea, but it would be dependent on the new administration's direction on the waste program and the availability of staff resources. Ms. Janairo noted that the Transportation Security AHWG was one of the states' recommendations based on the BRC/NAS. She emphasized the need for states and DOE to start thinking about shipments in terms of rail, instead of truck, and said that DOE needed to start discussing train shipment security with the states. Tiffany Drake (Missouri) seconded Ms. Janairo's statements. Ms. Janairo asked committee members to consider whether they would be interested in serving on a future Transportation Security AHWG.

Mr. Leuer added that it was important for states to know if DOE would be providing a security escort and, if so, what it would look like. He wondered if it would be more efficient for states or for DOE to provide certain security aspects. Laura Dresen (Indiana) added that every state may have different security needs and wants.

David Whitfill (Kansas) noted that the railroads have their own security and response teams. He suggested learning about how railroads do business because states are going to have to adapt to that.

Mel Massaro (Federal Railroad Administration [FRA]) suggested working with the Association of American Railroads (AAR) to learn more about their security procedures.

Tony Dimond (Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers [BLET]) offered the BLET as a resource, as well. The committee expressed interest in organizing a rail security webinar and inviting AAR and BLET.

Ms. Engelhart said she heard from a South Carolina official that they had stopped trains at the state border to switch security personnel with officials from North Carolina. Ms. Janairo said that was interesting because she had heard that, in the context of inspections, trains wouldn't be able to stop at state borders.

Ms. Engelhart said the next Core Group meeting would be on August 22-23 in Colorado Springs, and in addition to a business session, attendees would be touring the AAR's Transportation Technology Center, Inc (TTCI). [Note: because of a scheduling conflict, the date for the meeting changed to August 23-24.]

## NTSF-Related Reports

### *Planning Committee*

Kaci Studer (Indiana) said the Planning Committee would be starting plans for the NTSF 2018 meeting in Omaha. She mentioned the difficulty CSG Midwest had with the hotel search and how many different cities they had tried.

Ms. Dresen asked if the Planning Committee has ever considered starting the hotel search further in advance. Ms. Janairo said she would recommend that the 2019 meeting host start looking for hotels this fall.

Ms. Engelhart mentioned that Rochelle Batdorf (Ohio), Ms. Studer, and Ms. Dresen had represented the committee on the Planning Committee for the past year. She said the committee would need to recruit a new volunteer to join the next Planning Committee, ideally someone from host state of Nebraska. Bryan Tuma (Nebraska) said that he would be assigning a member of his staff to participate in NTSF activities. He also suggested contacting Union Pacific to set up a tour of the Harriman Dispatch Center in Omaha during the next meeting.

### *Information and Communications Ad Hoc Working Group*

Ms. Tye said the AHWG met earlier in the week and discussed branding and the future of the NTSF Newsletter. She added that the group would be undergoing a transfer out of leadership and the new iteration of the AHWG would have the opportunity to evaluate its activities.

### *Management Plan Ad Hoc Working Group*

Ms. Janairo said the Management Plan language was still under review by DOE's Office of General Counsel, but she hoped it would be approved by the next committee meeting.

### *Rail/Routing Ad Hoc Working Group*

Mr. Horn said that he had been a member of several AHWGs, and felt that this was the best run. He complimented Erica Bickford's (DOE-NE) leadership of the group. He said members of the AHWG were participating in a routing exercise using DOE's Stakeholder Tool for Assessing Radioactive Transportation (START). Mr. Horn said he was using Zion Nuclear Power Plant, a shutdown site in Illinois, as the origin in the exercise.

### *Section 180c Implementation Ad Hoc Working Group*

Ms. Engelhart said the AHWG was working on an evaluation of the Section 180c proposed funding allocation formula. She explained that, during the AHWG meeting earlier in the week, Kevin Connolly (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) provided a walkthrough of the funding formula and the group could continue working on it independently. She said the group planned to have monthly web-meetings through the fall to talk about the grant template they developed.

Ms. Dresen said she found it interesting that the group was still discussing a grant versus cooperative agreement. Ms. Janairo cautioned against cooperative agreements because they come with strict regulations for meeting and travel approval.

#### *Spent Fuel Transportation Materials Ad Hoc Working Group*

Ms. Janairo explained that the group was originally formed to support webinars and information products associated with DOE-NE's consent-based siting process. After that initiative was tabled, the group continued to develop fact sheets. She said, during the group's meeting earlier in the week, members decided the fact sheets still weren't living up to expectations. She said the group agreed to review key messages documents and develop an outline for a series of transportation webinars.

#### Reports on Other Meetings Attended

##### *Western Governors Association (WGA) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Transportation Technical Advisory Group*

Ms. Tye reported that a highlight of the WGA meeting was a tour of the Nevada National Security Site. She said tour participants got to see craters and the remains of structures where they had done nuclear weapons testing. She said that the business session focused on WIPP and the resumption of shipments. She said the committee discussed a communications planning effort with the Western states and Mr. Mason. She said she asked for the other regions to be involved in that.

##### *Western Interstate Energy Board High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee*

Ms. Tye reported that a highlight of the meeting was a presentation from Mike McBride (VanNess Feldman) on Congressional and legal activities related to nuclear waste. She said the committee also heard a presentation by two social scientists on consent-based siting and how nuclear waste policies affect communities. Finally, she said Dan Metlay (Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board) gave a presentation on designing a process for selecting a site for a SNF and HLW repository.

##### *CSG/Eastern Regional Conference Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force*

Ms. Janairo reported that the meeting featured a presentation from Eric Howes with Three Yankees, in addition to a two-hour session on full-scale testing led by Doug Ammerman with Sandia National Laboratories. She said that could be something for the committee to consider for future meetings.

Ms. Janairo reminded committee members about the opportunity to attend the other state regional group and Tribal Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee meetings.

##### *Southern States Energy Board Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee*

Ms. Janairo reported that a lot of the meeting was focused on Southern state engagement in the resumption of WIPP shipments. She said there was a good presentation from the Nuclear Waste Management Organization in Canada about their search for a repository site, how they had engaged the public and First Nations, and opposition to the proposed site on the shore of Lake Huron. Mr. Gothard noted that the opposition to the Canadian site was not coming from state agencies.

##### *Tribal Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee Meeting*

Ms. Tye reported that a lot of the presentations and discussions at the meeting were focused on the WIPP reopening. She said the group also had a screening of a documentary called Red Power Energy, which highlighted tribes that were involved in renewable and non-renewable energy resources. She said the group also had a presentation from Betsy Madru (Waste Control Specialists) and a demonstration of START by Ms. Bickford.

Ms. Dresen asked how states could provide feedback on START and requested a webinar on the tool. Ms. Bickford said, for now, states should provide feedback directly to her, but added that the newest version of START would have a mechanism to share feedback.

Ms. Janairo wondered if it would be helpful to have quarterly calls with states and tribes to review the data on START. She added that DOE-NE should consider organizing a START webinar when the new version comes out.

#### *Waste Management Conference*

Mr. Horn reported that the Waste Management symposium in Phoenix offered a lot of great technical information on all things radioactive waste. He encouraged members of the Spent Fuel Transportation Materials AHWG to look at the Central Organization for Radioactive Waste (COVRA), a Dutch nuclear waste processing and storage company, for an example of successful communication with the public about radioactive waste management. He said COVRA embraces their operations, gives public tours of their waste repository, and change the paint on the main building to reflect the decay of radioactive materials.

Ms. Engelhart added that, during the conference, Elizabeth Helvey (North Wind) presented a paper on lessons learned during the Section 180c Proposed Policy Implementation Exercise.

Ms. Engelhart was a co-author of the paper.

Ms. Janairo mentioned that the Midwest's budget includes funding for a committee member to attend the Waste Management Conference. The dates for next year's meeting are March 18-22 in Phoenix. If any committee member wishes to attend, they should contact Ms. Janairo well in advance.

#### *NEI Used Fuel Management Forum*

Mr. Horn gave a report on the NEI Used Fuel Management Forum, which he attended during the first week of May in Savannah, Georgia. He said he spoke on a panel and presented the states' perspectives on transportation from a Midwest and Illinois lens. He said he explained why states are co-regulators and have inputs on public health and safety, and discussed the work of the NTSF. He said he felt his remarks were well-received.

Mr. Horn commented on the process he had to go through to get his presentation approved by DOE-NE. He said he was told by DOE-NE that he had to take out a slide that referenced dedicated train because DOE had not committed to using that. He said when he showed them the former Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management's 2005 Dedicated Train Decision, they responded that plans had changed since then. Mr. Horn encouraged the committee to push DOE to find out what they're planning to do.

Mr. Horn said that Sylvia Saltzstein (Sandia National Laboratory) gave a presentation on the ENSA rail cask shipment. He explained that DOE, through Sandia, was working to bring a multimodal shipment of surrogate fuel from Spain to the TTCI in Colorado Springs. He said that in each portion of the shipment, DOE will be collecting data on the movements' impact on the fuel. He said the shipment will travel via sea vessel across the Atlantic Ocean to the port of Baltimore. In Baltimore, it will be put on a 12-axle rail car and shipped by rail to TTCI. He said it would be

coming through Midwest, including southern Illinois, but wasn't sure of the exact route. He said data collected during the shipment will be used to determine fuel shock and vibration, and also railroad pitch and yaw.

Steve Maheras (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory [PNNL]) added that it would likely take Sandia one year to reduce the data collected during the trip. He said PNNL would be using the data to validate models they have on transuranic (TRU) waste. He added that the design process is taking a long time because in addition to instrumenting the rods and grid spacers, sensors need to be placed on the rail car, cradle, and cask.

Ms. Janairo noted that the Core Group chose to hold their upcoming meeting in Colorado Springs so members could tour the TTCI facility and hopefully see the ENSA cask which should be there for testing.

Mr. Horn said that he wanted to receive updates on the data collected by PNNL. Ms. Janairo suggested a presentation on the findings during next year's NTSF meeting.

#### Planning Guide

Ms. Tye shared the updated language for the *Planning Guide for Shipments of Radioactive Material through the Midwestern States*. She explained that Aaron Kallunki (Minnesota), Kevin Hogan (Michigan), and Paul Schmidt (Wisconsin) had served on the Planning Guide Review Team and came up with the proposed changes. Ms. Tye said she would send the state-specific Planning Guide information via email and asked for any changes or comments on the new language be sent to her in two weeks.

#### Federal Program Update: DOE Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO)

Mr. Mason introduced Todd Shrader, the manager of CBFO. Mr. Shrader explained that the new administration was reviewing all federal grants, but felt the CBFO grant was in good shape.

He said he anticipated shipments from ANL to WIPP would occur next year. Mr. Horn asked how much advance notice ANL would get. Andy Walker (CBFO) indicated they would probably be notified a couple weeks in advance. He added that CBFO would like to do a road show along the WIPP route and offered to do a dry run shipment. Mr. Horn asked how much waste would be involved in the shipping campaign. Mr. Walker said Dan Pancake (ANL) had estimated 80 packages. Mr. Horn asked if CBFO would use HalfPACTs in the dry run. Mr. Walker said yes, and added that they would also use TRANSCOM and do notification calls.

Ms. Janairo asked if there were any RH-72B shipments planned. Mr. Shrader said there were no plans to take remote handled shipments until they close the contaminated Panel 7. He guessed that could happen three or so years down the road.

Ms. Janairo expressed her hope that the Midwest would have a few months to plan road shows in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. Mr. Horn said he would prefer to have the road show when the state legislature is in session. Ms. Janairo said she would coordinate with the states on timing and locations for the road show stops.

Ms. Janairo let Mr. Shrader know that the NTSF would like to have a webinar in January to give states and tribes a preview of shipments, including those going to WIPP. Mr. Shrader said that shouldn't be a problem because CBFO uses a 12-month rolling schedule.

Ms. Tye asked about the status of WIPP tours. Mr. Shrader said they had started giving tours to government entities and elected officials. He said the committee could work with Mr. Mason and Mr. Walker to set up something for elected officials and cabinet members from the Midwestern states.

### Regional Roundtable

#### *Tribal Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee*

Richard Arnold (Consolidated Group of Tribal Organizations) said the Tribal Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee (TRMTC) has been trying to expand tribal representation to other regions besides the South and West. He said they submitted a request to DOE-NE and EM for additional funding to support more tribes and were able to get an additional \$30,000. He said they were looking to expand specifically in the Southeast, lower Midwest, and Northeast.

Ms. Janairo asked if the TRMTC was interested in entering the NTSF meeting host rotation. Mr. Arnold said he understood that hosting requires a lot of effort and resources, including funding, but that the interest was there. He said the TRMTC would be open to either co-hosting the meeting with a state regional group in a tribal location, or to hosting on their own as a fifth entity in the rotation. Ms. Janairo affirmed that CSG Midwest had never spent a dime of its own money on hosting an NTSF meeting and said it was a matter of proper budgeting. She encouraged Mr. Arnold not to let the cost or staffing issues deter the TRMTC from becoming an NTSF meeting host. Mr. Arnold mentioned that he had heard talk of having the National Conference of State Legislatures host the NTSF every year. Ms. Janairo said the Midwest liked hosting and would not want to give up that opportunity.

Mr. Arnold said the TRMTC was considering Omaha as a location of the next Tribal meeting.

#### *Illinois*

Mr. Horn said low-level waste (LLW) shipments were continuing from the shutdown plant in Zion. He said Illinois typically sees 350 to 400 LLW shipments each year, but because the Zion decommissioning is ramping up, they expect to see that number increase to 500 or 600.

He said Illinois was hosting a Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP) rad specialist course the week of September 25 in Springfield, and were holding 15 seats for out of state participants.

#### *Indiana*

Ms. Dresen said she had been working with her agency's planning division on a draft radiological transportation plan. She said she was working to set up stakeholder input meetings and hoped to have final draft of the plan by December.

She said Indiana would also be hosting TEPP rad specialist course, on July 10-14 in Indianapolis, and there were some seats available for out of state participants.

She noted that there was now has a federally-recognized tribe in Indiana, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. She said Ms. Studer would be meeting with them and would encourage their participation in the TRMTC.

#### *Iowa*

Chris Boswell (Iowa) said he had attended a Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (MERRTT) in Illinois. He added that he was new to the NTSF and also that Ron Yarkosky had retired.

#### *Kansas*

Mr. Whitfill said things had been quiet in Kansas, as the state was not on a WIPP route. He noted that Kansas is becoming part of a Preventive Radiological and Nuclear Detection (PRND) program, and was developing a concept of operations. He said the state's involvement in the PRND program would directly relate to their ability to respond to incidents.

#### *Michigan*

Mr. Gothard said he was coming close to catching up on things after taking over for Ken Yale. He said he would like to find and review state laws regarding SNF transportation. He said he had heard about a couple laws that were surprising, for example, a law that you cannot move HLW/SNF that originated in-state to another location in Michigan. Ms. Janairo confirmed that was indeed in state statutes. She said she would forward information to Mr. Gothard.

Mr. Gothard said he was interested in attending Illinois' rad specialist training, and it was confirmed that CSG Midwest had funding for him to attend.

#### *Minnesota*

Mr. Leuer said the state had gotten surprise LLW shipments coming from Wisconsin that were transferring from truck to rail. He said they were notified by Wisconsin, but had to let local responders know because they were under the impression that it was SNF. He said his office was going to work on fact sheets on Nordion shipments to share with counties.

He added that the state has seen success with just-in-time rad training. They have put QR codes on nearly 30 types of equipment that are linked to short how-to videos. They are also expanding their online training capabilities.

He noted that they are doing infrastructure and population analysis in a half-mile corridor around rail routes for Bakken shipments. He said he was surprised to learn that local responders were not aware of their proximity to the rail lines or the need for emergency planning.

#### *Missouri*

Ms. Drake said Missouri had a MERRTT Train-The-Trainer (TTT) last summer and were able to reinitiate the training they do for local agencies along shipping routes. She said her office has had some staff turnover and she would be looking to send someone to a rad specialist course and TTT later this fall.

She said that after the “What to Expect” session at the committee’s fall meeting, she’d had an opportunity to talk with other state agencies about future rail operations. She said a group would be meeting this summer to discuss expectations for a transportation program.

#### *Nebraska*

Mr. Tuma said Nebraska was pleased to host the next NTSEF meeting. He mentioned the Harriman Dispatch Center as an opportunity for folks to learn about security for train shipments. He offered to work on setting up a tour or speaker.

He said with Jon Schwarz’s passing and the decommissioning of Fort Calhoun, the Technical Hazards Section has been downsized to a unit. The closure of Fort Calhoun had a direct impact on the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency because the utilities pay for the state’s radiation protection program. He said the state set up a watch center that is gaining a lot of momentum within the state agencies and local emergency management officials. He anticipated that this watch center would be involved in SNF shipments.

He explained that there had been a lot of staff changes in his office and Nebraska participation in the NTSEF/MRMTC is a topic of discussion for his group. He said someone else from the unit would hopefully be present at the next committee meeting.

#### *North Dakota*

Mr. Patrick said in 6-12 months the radiation program would be moving from the state’s Department of Health to a standalone division in the Department of Environmental Quality. He said North Dakota had seen two radioactive shipments from Canada that were inspected by a Level VI inspector.

#### *Ohio*

Mike Snee explained that utility owner FirstEnergy had announced it was getting out of the nuclear business and that the Davis-Besse and Perry nuclear plants would be affected. He said there were two bills in the legislature to provide subsidies for nuclear energy, but they haven’t gotten a lot of support. He said the Ohio Utility Radiological Safety Board would be meeting next month to get a report from FirstEnergy. He said if they decide to close Davis-Besse and Perry, they would be looking at a 3- to 4-year process.

#### *Wisconsin*

Ms. Engelhart said Wisconsin Emergency Management had opened a brand-new Emergency Operations Center in December. She said they have been able to use it twice because of tornados and flooding.

She said four shipments have gone through the state recently. She said the shipments were mostly uneventful, except a truck broke down before it got to Wisconsin and threw off the timing for the escort. She said a change in management at Wisconsin State Patrol changed the communication process, so there was a gap in communication with the escort.

She said the state was holding an ingestion exercise, named Tenacious Badger, that will have a lot of federal participation.

She introduced Dwight Field from her office, who has some new assignments related to the Kewaunee plant and GIS. Mr. Field expressed his appreciation for the newcomers' webinar, newcomers' breakfast, and the NTSF wiki site.

### **Presentation—DOE Visits to Shutdown Sites: Fort Calhoun Findings and Future Visits in the Midwest**

Mr. Maheras explained that the purpose of the shutdown sites evaluation was to support DOE-NE planning for the removal of SNF and greater-than-Class C low-level radioactive waste from shutdown nuclear power plant sites. He reviewed the various methods he uses to collect and document information related to site inventory, site conditions, and near-site transportation infrastructure and experience.

He provided a recap of the mid-May site visit to Fort Calhoun in Nebraska. He said the site had already placed some of the fuel into dry storage, but have not decided on the storage system to use because none of the existing technologies would accommodate all of the types of fuel on site. He explained that the site had rail access via a Cargill-owned rail spur and track owned by Union Pacific Railroad (UP). He said the track and spur were in great shape and would easily be able to accommodate the weight of a spent fuel cask. He said Fort Calhoun used rail and truck to transport the Horizontal Storage Modules for the site's independent spent fuel storage installation. He said Fort Calhoun had also moved very large items onto the site by barge. He said it was good that the site had so many options for transportation.

Mr. Maheras said he was submitting the next draft of the *Preliminary Evaluation of Removing Used Nuclear Fuel from Shutdown Sites* for review in August. He said the update would include information gleaned during the trip to Fort Calhoun.

Mr. Leuer said he had noticed that a trend in DOE presentations was the mention of barge as a transportation option. Mr. Maheras said the purpose of the site evaluation was to collect data and identify options, not decide which way to move the fuel. Mr. Griffith added that it is well-recognized within DOE that barging is received differently in certain parts of the country.

Ms. Engelhart asked what would be required of DOE to use the Cargill rail spur. Mr. Maheras said they did not come to a real conclusion on who owns which parts of the track, but personnel at Fort Calhoun were tracking down that information. He said UP does not believe they own it. He added that DOE would have to coordinate activities with the Cargill plant, so as not to interfere with their operations.

Ms. Janairo asked if there was a timeframe for the closure of Palisades in Michigan. Mr. Maheras said he heard the plant would close next year. He said it would take several months to remove the fuel, so a site visit would likely have to wait until 2019. He added that DOE doesn't include a plant on the shutdown sites list until the fuel is removed from the reactor vessel.

### **Presentation: TEPP Update**

Tom Clawson (TRG Inc.) gave a presentation on the TEPP training and exercises, including exercises taking place that fiscal year, training program revisions, a training improvement project,

and resources available online. He said that, to-date, the Midwest hosted three classes led by DOE and one by state instructors with a total of 55 students attending. He mentioned that three of four upcoming radiation specialist classes would be held in the Midwest (Ohio, Indiana, Utah, Illinois) and reiterated that funding to attending trainings was available through CSG Midwest. He said a tabletop exercise was planned for January 2018 in Nye County, Nevada.

He also discussed revisions to the MERRTT program, which he said was a process that started some time ago. He explained that regional groups submitted feedback on MERRTT videos and the training program, and the stakeholder review process was completed in January 2017. He said the DVD production had been completed in May and emails would be sent to all stakeholder organizations announcing several different methods to obtain a copy of the 2017 MERRTT. He also had copies with him at the meeting.

He said that TEPP continued to work with the National Fire Protection Association on standards relating to first response to hazardous materials incidents. He said TEPP was also working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Center for Domestic Preparedness to offer MERRTT as a part of the FEMA Radiological Instructor Series, and were investigating the possibility of offering the Radiation Specialist training on campus.

He also reviewed the resources available online, including MERRTT refresher training. He added that the TEPP website had the national schedule of trainings and classes.

Ms. Janairo asked about the status of the NTSF TEPP Training AHWG. Mr. Clawson said he would like to get that stood up soon and asked for names of committee members who would be interested in serving on the group. Ms. Janairo said she would share contact information with Mr. Clawson. [Note: Ms. Drake, Mr. Gothard, and Ms. Studer volunteered to serve on the AHWG.]

## **Committee Business Resumes**

### Fall 2017 Committee Meeting

Ms. Tye announced the results of the meeting scheduling poll. The dates and location that were most preferred were December 12-13 and December 13-14 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The next most popular dates and location were November 29-30 in Chicago. There was additional discussion about which dates and location to pursue and the committee decided to go with whichever was the more cost effective option.

Ms. Studer and Mr. Gothard volunteered to develop the agenda for the committee's fall meeting.

Ms. Engelhart noted that one of the agenda items at the fall meeting would be to elect a new committee co-chair and she encouraged members to think about nominating themselves or others.

### Ideas for NTSF Webinars, Working Groups, and Meetings

Ms. Janairo noted that the Transportation Security AHWG has been a confirmed item of interest.

Ms. Engelhart suggested a webinar on SNF shipment security requirements and detail.

Ms. Drake said she would like to hear a holistic review of a SNF shipment. Ms. Janairo mentioned that a “Concept of Operations” webinar had been discussed with DOE, but hasn’t gotten off the ground. Kevin Hogan asked if anyone had asked the rail industry for their thoughts on transportation. Ms. Drake said the Rail/Routing AHWG would be exploring this during their August meeting.

Ms. Dresen said she wouldn’t even know which questions to ask about rail transport and security. Mr. Horn suggested the Midwest do a walkthrough of SNF security regulations with David Pstrak (NRC). Ms. Dresen said that would be very useful to her. Mr. Maheras cautioned that the NRC regulations were long and voluminous. He recommended reviewing NUREG-0561, which was the distillation of those regulations into one document.

The committee also was interested in a webinar on the next version of START.

Ms. Engelhart suggested a webinar for next year on DOE’s expectations for the states’ role in shipping SNF.

Ms. Janairo asked committee members to brainstorm a keynote speaker for next year’s meeting. Mr. Horn suggested Eric Knox from AECOM.

Ms. Drake recommended that the risk communication training led by Christopher Kramer (ANL) be repeated as a breakout session next year.

The committee also was interested in having the Rail/Routing AHWG present its final report.

Ms. Janairo asked if the committee was interested in a presentation on international SNF shipping experience. She said she had spoken with the speaker from the World Nuclear Transport Institute, who offered a presentation on case studies in transportation by individuals involved in shipments. Members indicated they were interested in this.

#### Work Group Assignments

Ms. Janairo asked for a state representative to replace Tonya Ngotel (Nebraska) on the Spent Fuel Transportation Materials AHWG. Mr. Kallunki volunteered.

Mr. Tuma said he would recruit someone from Nebraska to join the Planning Committee.

#### Upcoming Activities

Ms. Janairo previewed activities planned for FY 2017 and 2018. She said she hoped to schedule a tour of WIPP for elected officials, cabinet level officials, and committee members. She said Ms. Drake was going to see if Missouri was interested in hosting the 2019 Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program exercise. She added that the new version of the *Planning Guide* would be published this summer. She suggested the committee hold off on the route identification project until the August Core Group meeting, then see the extent to which the Midwest is willing to take it up. She said she would be more comfortable waiting until Yucca Mountain Project licensing resumes. Finally, she said a major activity would be organizing the 2018 NTSF meeting.

### Announcements

Ms. Janairo asked committee members to please submit NTSF meeting evaluations—either written or online. She said the NTSF Planning Committee would take that input into consideration when planning the next meeting.

Ms. Dresen asked the committee for advice on how to dispose of meters with small sources. Mr. Whitfill said the Health Physics Society was willing to take them with the sources attached. He said he would send contact information to Ms. Janairo for distribution.

Ms. Engelhart adjourned the meeting at 1:04 pm.