

Regulations (10 CFR part 1021) require the analysis of a no action alternative. Under the no action alternative, DOE would continue storing mixed low-level waste, alpha-contaminated mixed low-level waste and transuranic waste in the existing RCRA Type II storage modules and the earthen covered berm at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex. The waste stored in the earthen berm of the Transuranic Storage Area Retrieval Enclosure would not be retrieved. Under the no action alternative, all INEEL activities supporting the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant would cease once the current inventory of waste that is now ready for transport to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant has been shipped. Waste currently stored in the RCRA Type II storage modules at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex that could not be shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant would remain in storage indefinitely. If DOE selects the no action alternative, the contract with BNFL would be terminated for convenience.

#### Related NEPA Decisions and Reviews

This tiered EIS will use, and supplement as necessary, the information and analyses contained in: (1) the SNF & INEL EIS, (DOE/EIS-0203-F); (2) the WM PEIS, (DOE/EIS-200-F) and (3) SEIS-II (DOE/EIS-0026-S-2).

Volume 2 of the SNF & INEL EIS, issued in April 1995, is a site-wide EIS for environmental restoration and waste management activities at the INEEL. Volume 2 includes analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with treating alpha-contaminated and transuranic mixed wastes and packaging the waste for shipment to a DOE approved repository. The SNF & INEL EIS evaluated two proposed generic treatment facilities: the Private Sector Alpha Low-Level Waste Treatment Facility, and the Idaho Waste Processing Facility. The SNF & INEL EIS envisioned that these projects would be identical (except for how they would be funded and operated) and would involve thermal (incineration) and non-thermal treatment processes. The SNF & INEL EIS also envisioned that only one of these projects would ultimately be implemented, and that appropriate further NEPA review would be conducted before DOE would decide to implement one of the projects. In the SNF & INEL EIS, the potential environmental impacts of these facilities were analyzed sufficiently to assess their incremental contribution to the cumulative impacts of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future activities at the INEEL.

The WM PEIS, issued in May 1997, is a DOE complex-wide study examining the potential environmental impacts associated with managing five types of radioactive and hazardous wastes generated by past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future activities at 24 major sites located around the United States. The five types of waste examined by the WM PEIS are mixed low-level radioactive waste (including alpha-contaminated mixed low-level waste), low-level radioactive waste, transuranic waste, hazardous waste, and high-level radioactive waste. The WM PEIS preferred treatment alternative for mixed low-level waste is treatment at DOE facilities (including INEEL). The WM PEIS preferred alternative for transuranic waste involves treatment at DOE facilities that have significant quantities of transuranic waste, such as the INEEL. Based on the preferred alternative, treated transuranic waste would be stored where it is treated pending decisions on a final repository (see below). A WM PEIS Record of Decision has not yet been issued for any waste types.

The SEIS-II assesses whether to dispose of transuranic waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, and reasonable options for transportation and other activities associated with disposal, as well as reasonable alternatives concerning quantities, sources, and treatment of transuranic waste for disposal. The Department's preferred alternative in SEIS-II is to dispose of post-1970 defense transuranic waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, and to transport the waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant by truck (although DOE would continue to explore the availability of safe and cost-effective commercial rail transportation). The preferred alternative is consistent with the proposed action that will be analyzed in the AMWTP EIS.

In addition to the programmatic EISs described above, the High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition (HLWFD) EIS is an ongoing NEPA analysis that is potentially related to the AMWTP EIS. The HLWFD EIS will analyze the potential environmental impacts of treating INEEL's high-level waste and associated radioactive waste. The HLWFD EIS is potentially relevant to the proposed Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project EIS because a small portion of the radioactive waste (not high-level waste) considered in the former EIS is a candidate for treatment at the proposed AMWTP. A Notice of Intent to prepare the HLWFD EIS was issued on September 19, 1997 (62 FR 49209).

#### Preliminary Identification of EIS Issues

- Potential effects on the Snake River Plain Aquifer;
- Effects of emissions and discharges from the thermal treatment of mixed low-level waste, alpha-contaminated mixed low-level waste, and transuranic waste;
- Potential effects on the public and workers from exposure to radiological and hazardous materials, during normal operations and from reasonably foreseeable accidents;
- Potential effects on air, soil, and water quality, from normal operations and reasonably foreseeable accidents;
- Potential effects on members of the public, including minority and low income populations, from normal operations and reasonably foreseeable accidents;
- Pollution prevention, waste minimization, and energy and water use reduction technologies to eliminate or reduce use of energy, water, and hazardous substances, and to minimize environmental impacts;
- Potential socioeconomic impacts, including potential impacts associated with the number of workers needed for operations;
- Potential impacts on cultural and historic resources;
- Regulation of commercial operations on a DOE site;
- Compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local requirements and the Court Order/Settlement Agreement;
- Potential cumulative environmental impacts of all past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future operations at the INEEL;
- Potential irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources and the ultimate use of INEEL land;
- Potential environmental impacts, including long term risks to humans, associated with constructing, operating, and decommissioning the AMWTP.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 17, 1997.

**Peter N. Brush,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary Environment, Safety and Health.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

##### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Savannah River Site

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Savannah River Site.

**DATES AND TIMES:** Friday & Saturday, December 5-6, 1997: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The December 5-6, 1997 meetings will be held at: Ocean Plaza, Oceanfront at 15th Street, Savannah, Georgia 31328.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gerri Flemming, Public Accountability Specialist, Environmental Restoration and Solid Waste Division, Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office, P.O. Box A, Aiken, S.C. 29802 (803) 725-5374.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose of the Board**

The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management and related activities.

**Tentative Agenda**

*Friday, December 5, 1997*

8:30 a.m.—Review applications of potential candidates for Board membership and select three qualified applicants per Board vacancy  
5:00 p.m.—Adjourn

*Saturday, December 6 1997*

8:30 a.m.—Review applications of potential candidates for Board membership and select three qualified applicants per Board vacancy  
5:00 p.m.—Adjourn.

If necessary, time will be allotted after public comments for items added to the agenda, and administrative details.

**Public Participation**

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gerri Flemming's office at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of 5 minutes to present their comments at the end of each day.

**Minutes**

The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585 between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Gerri Flemming, Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office, P.O. Box A, Aiken, S.C. 29802, or by calling her at (803) 725-5374.

Issued at Washington, DC on November 12, 1997.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-30510 Filed 11-19-97; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; Notice of Open Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**SUMMARY:** Consistent with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following advisory committee meeting:

*Name:* Secretary of Energy Advisory Board—Laboratory Operations Board.

*Date and Time:* Tuesday, December 9, 1997, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

*Place:* Georgetown University Conference Center, Salon H, 3800 Reservoir Road, NW, Washington, DC 20057.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Richard C. Burrow, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (AB-1), US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-1709.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Laboratory Operations Board is to provide advice to the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board regarding the strategic direction of the Department's laboratories, the coordination of budget and policy issues affecting laboratory operations, and the reduction of unnecessary and counterproductive management burdens on the laboratories. The Laboratory Operations Board's goal is to facilitate the productive and cost-effective utilization of the Department's laboratory system and the application of best business practices.

**Tentative Agenda**

*Tuesday, December 9, 1997*

9:00-9:30 AM—Introductory Remarks

9:30-10:30 AM—Status Report on LOB Recommendations

10:30-10:45 AM—Break

10:45-11:30 AM—Report on Multiple Laboratory Projects

11:30-12:00 PM—Public Comment Period

12:00-1:00 PM—Lunch

1:00-1:30 PM—Progress Report on Ongoing Studies

1:30-2:00 PM—Report on New Activities

2:00-2:45 PM—Working Session

2:45-3:15 PM—Public Comment Period

3:15-3:30 PM—Closing Remarks

3:30 PM—Adjourn

This tentative agenda is subject to change. A final agenda will be available at the meeting.

**Public Participation**

The Chairman of the Laboratory Operations Board is empowered to conduct the meeting in a way which will, in the Chairman's judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its meeting in Washington, D.C., the Laboratory Operations Board welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Laboratory Operations Board will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. Written comments may be submitted to Skila Harris, Executive Director, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, AB-1, US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585.

**Minutes**

Minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. Information on the Laboratory Operations Board may also be found at the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's web site, located at <http://www.hr.doe.gov/seab>.

Issued at Washington, D.C., on November 17, 1997.

**Rachel M. Samuel,**

*Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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