

## **Connecticut Yankee (CY) Fuel Storage Advisory Committee Meeting (FSAC)**

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018, Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, Haddam, CT**

### **Meeting Summary – Approved 5/21/19**

#### **Attendees**

FSAC Members: Dan Casey (Haddam Neck), Terry Concannon (East Hampton), Raul de Brigard (Haddam), Ayanti Grant (Congress), Shae Hemingway, (CY ISFSI Manager), Emmett Lyman (First Selectman, East Haddam), Mike Maniscalco (East Hampton) and Len Nelson (CT Emergency Management)

Northeast High Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force: Uldis Vanags

State Representative: Melissa Ziobron

Connecticut Nuclear Energy Advisory Council (NEAC): Jim Sherrard

State of Connecticut: Mike Firsick (DEEP Liaison), Jeff Semancik (DEEP)

CYCP: Jim McHutchison

Public: None

CY: Bob Capstick, Rob Desmarais, Wayne Norton and John Arnold (note taker)

Chair Terry Concannon called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

#### **Approval of May 9, 2017 Meeting Summary**

The members approved the May 9, 2017 meeting summary as distributed.

#### **CY ISFSI Site Status Report**

Shae Hemmingway provided a CY status site update report and spoke from the attached meeting handout, "ISFSI Status Report."

Several questions were raised and addressed.

The ISFSI pad surface delamination issue is unique to CY. Maine Yankee and Yankee Rowe have not experienced this issue. The delamination does not challenge the structural integrity of the ISFSI pad but presents a tripping hazard to employees working on the pad. Good maintenance practice dictates addressing the issue and finding the right combination of surface removal and replacement.

The Corrective Reports (CRs) are part of the Corrective Action process which is an extension of the Quality Assurance program and a process whereby employees and on-site personnel may raise any issue that they feel should be addressed by management. The CR process includes a documented timely issue review and resolution with management oversight. All three Yankee sites review CRs to determine potential applicability to their sites. NRC's inspections include review of the CA process and CR resolutions and NRC inspection results are available on the NRC website.

Boat traffic in the canal continues to be allowed. Both CY and the CT DEEP have posted the canal restricting certain activities. Firearms, for instance, are not allowed. A public address system is located along the canal for CY security to communicate with the boaters. Issues with boaters are referred to State Police or DEEP for resolution, if needed.

### **National Nuclear Waste Program and DOE Spent Fuel Lawsuit Status Update**

Bob Capstick provided the attendees with an update on nuclear waste issues from the national perspective and the DOE spent fuel Phase IV lawsuit. He spoke from the attached handout documents entitled "Federal Nuclear Waste Issue Update" and DOE spent Fuel Lawsuit Status Update." In response to questions the following items were raised and discussed.

In spite of the overwhelming House vote passing the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2018 this month, Nevada elected officials still remain opposed to expenditures on the Yucca Mountain repository license application process. Some communities in Nevada; however, are in favor of the project moving forward.

It was also commented that the number of commercial nuclear power plants shutting down continues to increase, particularly in shale gas states where nuclear plants are finding it difficult to continue to economically compete.

Host communities in Texas and New Mexico are supportive of private interim spent fuel storage facility license applications that have been submitted to the NRC for approval

Site-specific "De-Inventory" reports for permanently shutdown reactor sites have been developed to lay the ground work and provide information useful for DOE planning options within an integrated waste management system to transport the spent nuclear fuel and Greater than Class C waste pending designation of a destination. (NOTE: the FSAC was notified last June that DOE posted its "Initial Site-Specific De-Inventory Report for Connecticut Yankee" to its Centralized Used Fuel Resource for Information Exchange website: <https://curie.ornl.gov>).

### **Northeast High Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force Update**

Uldis Vanags, Project Director of the Northeast High Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force provided a summary of the Task Force and an update on

Northeastern state/regional activities involving the current transportation of high-level radioactive waste and preparations for the future DOE transport of commercial spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste. He spoke from the attached handout "Planning for Transportation of Commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel."

The Task Force meets twice per year and it was noted that DEEP's Jeff Semancik is Connecticut's primary member and Mike Firsick the alternate.

The New Mexico Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), a transuranic nuclear waste disposal facility 2000-foot deep in a salt formation, receives DOE and DOD waste. Truck shipments throughout the country have been coordinated between DOE and the Northeastern and state regional groups in the West, Mid-west and South as well as the tribal committees. These shipments provide a model for the eventual commercial spent fuel shipments that will involve the use of railroads which will present different challenges as they are privately owned. Shipments through the northeast have included the return of US research reactor spent fuel from Canada to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.

The Task Force is also assisting DOE in developing socio-economic impact reports for CY, Maine Yankee, Yankee Rowe, Vermont Yankee and Oyster Creek in New Jersey.

A five-year lead time is needed for the states to prepare for the shipment of commercial spent nuclear fuel and the DOE will need the state regional transportation groups to successfully accomplish the task.

Uldis noted the many years involved with developing the necessary cooperation between the states necessary for the safe and successful transportation of high level radioactive waste in the country. DOE support of these regional organizations needs to continue, because, if stopped, the effort to reestablish the groups and the current levels of collaboration will be difficult and lengthy when the time comes to transport commercial spent nuclear fuel.

DOE has provided funding for these regional groups in the past, but funding is increasingly uncertain. Another year's worth of funding appears to be available, but Uldis is uncertain as to what happens after that.

Bob Capstick noted that the attachments included copies of letters between DOE and the Northeast Task Force and others regarding this concern.

### **Public Comments and Questions**

There were no public attendees or questions.

### **Appreciation for Harvey Thomas service to FSAC**

On behalf of the committee, Chair Terry Concannon expressed appreciation for the years of dedicated service given to FSAC by Harvey Thomas of East Haddam and wished him well in retirement.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The 2019 meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at about 8:13 PM.

# Connecticut Yankee Fuel Storage Advisory Committee

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, Rte. 82, 55 Bridge Rd.,  
Haddam, CT

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## Agenda

- 6:00 Call FSAC Meeting to Order – Terry Concannon  
Approval of May 9, 2017 meeting summary
- Status Report – Shae Hemingway  
ISFSI Operations – Including change in ISFSI Manager  
Security and Equipment Upgrades  
ISFSI Pad work  
Cask Relicensing
- Federal Nuclear Waste Management Program Update – Bob Capstick
- DOE Spent Fuel Lawsuit Status Update – Bob
- Northeast High Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force – Uldis Vanags, Director
- Public Comment and Questions
- Express appreciation to Harvey Thomas for dedicated service
- Suggested 2019 Meeting date: May 14, 2019
- 8:00 Adjournment