

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

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019, Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, Haddam, CT**

**Approved 5/3/2022**

### **Attendees**

FSAC Members: Terry Concannon (East Hampton), Raul de Brigard (Haddam), Vic Fetter (Chester), Sylvia Reeves (CT Emergency Management), Ayanti Grant (Congress), Emmett Lyman (East Haddam), Bob Mitchell (Acting ISFSI Manager)

Connecticut Nuclear Energy Advisory Council (NEAC): Jim Sherrard, Raymond Woolrich, Craig Salonia

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

CYCP: Jim McHutchison

Public: Maurice Adams, Haddam

CY: Bob Capstick, Rob Desmarais, Matt Marston and John Arnold (note taker)

**Chair Terry Concannon called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm.**

Attendees introduced themselves.

### **Approval of May 15, 2018, Meeting Summary**

The members approved the May 15, 2018, meeting summary as distributed.

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

Bob Mitchell, Acting ISFSI Manager, provided a CY status site update report and spoke from the attached meeting handout, "ISFSI Status Report."

Several questions were raised and addressed.

Bob described the ISFSI pad surface repair work in some detail. In answer to a question, Bob explained that the scabbling process for areas of the top layer of the pad that have experienced some flaking from the pad base is a slow process. The approximately 1.5 inches of concrete that was removed and resurfaced in several areas this year was removed in several thin layers so as to not challenge the integrity of the pad. He explained the cause of the flaking and delamination was the power troweling method used to finish the pad surface during construction. The other Yankee sites used a different method and have not experienced this issue. The pad repair effort will continue and may take three years or longer.

Jeff Semancik explained that concrete experts at CT DOT were consulted about the CY Pad issues and they were in general agreement with the path that CY was pursuing.

Bob Mitchell stated that the Maine Yankee dry storage cask/canister inspection program in 2018 was very successful in demonstrating the inspection process and that the inspected canister was in excellent condition showing no recordable indications on the surface after 16 years in operation. A robotic camera was used in the annulus between the stainless-steel canister and the concrete cask liner to check the surfaces of both as well as the stainless-steel canister welds. The Maine Yankee storage system is just like the CY and Yankee Rowe storage systems and the information from this inspection will be used to inform the license renewal applications for all three sites and the ongoing aging management program for the future 40-year renewal period.

The initial NRC license for the storage system was for 20 years and the aging management program that will be described in the cask relicensing application addresses the ongoing maintenance needed and any potential issues that may occur with the storage system over the extended lifetime as there are methods that can be employed to address any identified issues.

It was noted that with respect to future transportation of the canisters from the site that spent fuel was previously shipped from CY in the 1970s for reprocessing at a facility in Morris Illinois. These assemblies were never reprocessed and are still stored at that facility.

### **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.

Several congressional efforts have been initiated this session to address the need to fund a federal integrated nuclear waste program as Congress has not provided direction or funding for several sessions now. Bob said it will be important for Congress to access and use the money collected in the Nuclear Waste Fund for both consolidated interim storage and disposal projects. Potential Consolidated Interim Storage sites are still being pursued in Texas and New Mexico.

Operating nuclear power plants have not contributed to the nuclear waste fund since 2014 because the national nuclear waste program for Yucca Mountain was stopped in 2010 by the Obama administration and the states and utilities won their case in US Court that the fund should not be collected if there was no program being worked on .

Ten million dollars per year is the rough estimate used for the average annual costs of each of the Yankee companies to remain in business and operate the ISFSIs at this time.

It is important for the Yankees to seek the approximately \$1.1 million dollars in employee benefit costs in the upcoming DOE Spent Fuel litigation trial in the Phase IV case in addition to the award of approximately \$103.2 million in the recent summary judgement by Judge Nancy Firestone (US Court of Federal Claims). The employee benefits expenditures being challenged by the government are necessary on-going expenses that would not have needed to be paid had the companies been able to go out of business and thus should be considered as damages due to the government's failure to meet its obligation to remove the spent fuel and high-level waste beginning in 1998 in accordance with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

### **Public Comments**

One member of the public attended who also reports for the Haddam News asked several questions.

In response to a question about drones coming on to the CY site, Bob Mitchell explained that CY security follows site reporting procedures established in accordance with NRC regulatory guidance in the event of a flyover of the site by a manned or unmanned aircraft. According to Jeff Semancik, nuclear power plants and ISFSIs have no authority to ban these aircraft.

A question was raised: is CY available for acquisition as other nuclear power plant sites have been acquired. In response Bob Capstick explained that the sites that have previously been acquired have not yet been decommissioned. The business model for these acquisitions involves the takeover of decommissioning of the plants as well as taking title to the spent fuel. Since CY has previously been decommissioned, it does not fit this business model.

In response to a question the makeup of the NRC was discussed. The names of the NRC Commissioners are as follows:

Kristine Svinicki (chair)

David Wright

Annie Caputo

Jeff Baran

5th position unfilled

### **Next Meeting Date**

After some discussion the Committee voted to hold the 2020 meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

# Connecticut Yankee Fuel Storage Advisory Committee

## Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

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

---

## Agenda

6:00 Call FSAC Meeting to Order – Terry Concannon  
Approval of May 15, 2018 meeting summary

Status Report – Bob Mitchell  
ISFSI Operations  
Security and Equipment Upgrades  
ISFSI Pad work  
Cask Relicensing

Federal Nuclear Waste Management Program Update – Bob Capstick

DOE Spent Fuel Lawsuit Status Update – Bob C

Public Comment and Questions

2020 Meeting date: May 19 or 26, 2020?

8:00 Adjournment