

**Community Advisory Council  
December 4, 2025  
Action Items/Notes**

**Final**

*Note: This was a hybrid meeting, held virtually through Zoom and in-person in Bldg. 101, SUSC. A video recording of the Zoom meeting is available.*

These notes are in the following order:

1. Attendance
2. Correspondence and handouts
3. Administrative items
4. Environmental updates
5. 2024 Site Environmental report – (Vol 1) – an overview
6. 2024 Groundwater Status report – (Vol II) – a summary of groundwater remediation status
7. Community Comment
8. Agenda Setting

### **1. Attendance**

Members/Alternates Present: See attendance sheet at the end of the notes.

Others Present: B. Barth, D. Carlson, A. Emrick, A. Engel, P. Genzer, S. Gonzalez, K. Green, J. Hill, A. Juchatz, A. Klein, S. Kohler, R. McKay, J. Michaels, R. Minzloff, A. Morocho, J. Mosho, D. Paquette, C. Polanish, C. Price, V. Racaniello, A. Rapiejko, J. Remien, M. Schoonen, M. Sweet, K. White

### **2. Correspondence and Handouts**

Items numbered one and two were e-mailed to Members on November 26, 2025. Items numbered three through five were e-mailed to Members on December 4, 2025.

1. Draft agenda for the December 2025 meeting
2. Draft notes from the September 2025 meeting
3. Copy of presentation: Environmental updates
4. Copy of presentation: 2024 Site Environmental report – (Vol 1) – an overview
5. Copy of presentation: 2024 Groundwater Status report

### **3. Administrative Items**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Ken White, Facilitator, welcomed everyone to the meeting and said this meeting was not originally scheduled, but was added on because of the meetings that were canceled due to the government shutdown. He reviewed the ground rules and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

The September 2025 CAC Action Items and Notes were approved as written.

Amy Engel, Manager – Community Engagement, said all Members and Alternates should have received a request for emergency contact information form. She asked everyone to fill out the form and either leave it with us tonight or email it to us. She asked anyone who does not have an alternate member to please designate one on the form. She then said the Lab is conforming with DOE regulations and Real ID is required for everyone.

John Hill, Interim Director – Brookhaven National Lab, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said Brookhaven is in a good place financially, operationally and scientifically. He then spoke about himself and his background. He showed a video of the Secretary of Energy's visit to the Lab. He spoke briefly about the Lab Agenda, Artificial Intelligence strategy, RHIC and the EIC, and the new DOE initiative, Genesis Mission.

Member Esposito asked if this mission replaces something else or if it is an addition.

Hill said this enhances our existing mission initiatives. He spoke about the next billion-dollar impacts and upcoming projects.

Member Schuhmann asked what was happening with the new data center that was discussed last spring.

Hill said conversations are still ongoing. This is a big deal for Long Island and the Lab.

Member Schuhmann asked if the Lab has any natural gas lines big enough to handle it.

Member Sapp, National Grid, said there is a gas line along Wm Floyd Pkwy, but it might need to be updated.

Member Esposito asked about the additional water usage and if the CAC could be updated as far as water use and discharge is involved with this project.

Member Sprintzen said several points about potential significant developments have been raised. I would love to see more details on a future agenda.

#### **4. Environmental Updates, Jason Remien – Manager, Environmental Protection**

Topics covered:

- Bldg. 197 mercury remediation project status

Questions/Answers:

- Member Esposito asked about the depth of groundwater in this area?
- Remien said it is about 70 feet.
- Member Schuhmann asked if anything else of interest was found during testing?
- Remien said no, they tested for metals, didn't sample for everything.
- Question: How deep is the well?
- Remien said that went down to the ground water level and went down another 10 feet. The actual well is down 85 feet or so.
- Member Esposito asked if the Lab is continuing to monitor?
- Remien said it will be part of the plan that will be reviewed by the regulators.
- Member Blumer asked if we experience Mercury elsewhere?
- Remien said we have had experience over the years with some cleanups early on but mercury is complicated and difficult remediation because it moves around quite a bit. And they found this with this project.

## 5. 2024 Site Environmental Report – Volume 1 (an overview), Jason Remien, Manager, Environmental Protection

Topics covered:

- Chapter 2 – Environmental Management System
  - Pollution Prevention (P2) Program - Nitrile gloves recycling program
    - Member Esposito asked where do the gloves go?
    - Remien said they go to a company and get recycled, but he does not have additional details on this.
  - Waste Generation
    - Member Blumer asked about the diversion rate— 86% is a good rate – if it was just for 2024?
    - Remien said yes, it is. 2024 yes, but we've been right around that range. We have diverted as much as we can to be recycled, such as our metal recycling, electronic recycling program.
  - Monitoring and Measurement
- Chapter 3 – Compliance status overview
  - Spills and Reportable Incidents
  - Inspections and Assessments
- Chapter 4 – Air quality (radiological and non-radiological)
  - Remien said due to a 2023 Environmental Conservation law restricting the sale and use of #6 fuel oil, the Lab is trying to use up our leftover stock. We have until the end of June 2026 to burn off what is left.
  - Member Esposito asked why use the #6 fuel oil at all.
  - Remien said it is too much to just waste it. We have switched to #4 but still have to use up what is left of #6. It is only as a backup if our natural gas is not available
  - Member Esposito said you would create less pollutants if you didn't use the #6 at all and only used #4.
  - Remien said fuel cost a lot of money, so we aren't going to just send it out as waste. We can't sell it. We only have about 100,000 gallons, the steam plant can burn that in a couple of weeks.
- Chapter 5 – Water quality (radiological and non-radiological)
- Chapter 6 – Natural and Cultural Resources
- Chapter 8 – Radiological Dose Assessment
- Questions/Answers
  - Member Blumer asked about plumes and if the lab works with cooperative groups or other water management districts for best practices, especially with concern for PFAS.
  - Remien said yes. For example, we have presented across the DOE complex what we have learned regarding 1,4-dioxane and PFAS. We do meet and talk with other groups to learn, and they learn from us as well.

## 6. 2024 Groundwater Status report, Brian Barth, Manager, Groundwater Protection

Topics covered:

- Intro
  - High level summary of 2024 report. The full report is available for review on BNL website.
- VOC Remediation and Monitoring

- Member Esposito asked why new extraction wells are still being installed in the Operable Unit (OU) VI Ethylene Dibromide (EDB) plume. She said that was one of the first plumes to be discovered and characterized. It's been thirty years.
- Barth said there was work done that discovered deeper contamination. That's what led to the deeper wells and the optimization of this system. The new wells are picking up the higher concentrations much more effectively than the shallow wells.
- Barth said based on monitoring data, it is unlikely the OU III Middle Road/South Boundary system will achieve the 2030 ROD cleanup goal. VOCs remain elevated in the deep Upper Glacial Aquifer. The system remains effective at treating and containing the VOCS onsite. Modeling has recommended the installation of 3 additional extraction wells to enhance cleanup timeframe - 1 for the south boundary system and 2 for the Middle Road System. That will decrease the travel time through the zone and get it to an extraction point and out of the ground. They will take this information and in the next calendar year work to develop design plans and cost estimates to plan for and potentially move forward with construction of additional extraction wells to enhance the system.
- Member Esposito said her understanding is that the ROD is not a cleanup goal but rather a mandate that was signed and agreed upon. The CAC had very lengthy discussions about this. The Lab needs to meet this 30-year record of decision, which at the time was considered a really long time. Are you saying you are not going to make it or are you going to double down and put in more extraction wells so you will make it?
- Barth said RODs are goals and not mandates, it's going to take longer. When the original estimates were made, they were based on an over simplified model of the Upper Glacial aquifer that did not take into account the deep lower conductivity unit. It is more complex and will take longer than originally estimated.
- Member Esposito said we have worked really hard to get this done. I understand the aquifer is behaving differently, but this should have been anticipated, and action should have been taken to ensure the ROD would have been adhered to. This is not something to take lightly. This was your commitment to us.
- John Hill said we will look into this and get back to you with more information.
- Barth said you are not wrong, we understood this many years ago and action could have been taken. I appreciate your comments.
- Member Esposito said I understand this is expensive, but you should have worked with us.
- Barth said we are trying to be creative and make an educated decision on how to address this. The systems are effective but just taking longer than we anticipated. We have already spoken to the EPA.
- Adriana Morocho, EPA, said the RODS are estimates but it is understood that things can change. We are disappointed and frustrated, but we are looking forward to continuing to work with the Lab. There are many other sites, beside Brookhaven, experiencing this same issue of not being able to meet the ROD goals for many different reasons.
- Member Esposito said she is disappointed that there is no accountability. This is not what the public wants to hear.
- Barth said we are holding ourselves accountable. We are working within the constraints and resources that we have.
- Ken White said we understand your point, and we will look further into this.

- John Hill said we will look into this and see if there are things we can do to change this.
  - Member Sprintzen asked if there is a new timeframe for this to be completed.
  - Barth said no, there has been a lot of work done since this was identified. We haven't been ignoring this. It is being contained and treated.
  - Member Corrarino asked if there can be further discussion on this issue within the next few months. We have some real issues to discuss and come to consensus. That is my recommendation.
  - White said we can put this on the agenda for the next meeting in March.
- Radionuclides
  - PFAS & 1,4-Dioxane
    - Barth said we are seeing 1,4-Dioxane at the Western South boundary at levels of 9.1 ppb
    - Member Esposito asked if it is widespread on Lab property or also in the aquifer offsite.
    - Barth said both, they see it in groundwater samples, onsite and offsite.
    - Member Esposito asked if that can be verified. She does not agree that 9-12 ppb is found in random areas of Suffolk County.
    - Barth said he needs to double check the concentrations, he doesn't want to misspeak.

## 7. Community Comment

- There were no comments from the community.

## 8. Agenda Setting

- Engel said we have a lot of topics to cover for the Spring. If anyone has anything else to add, please send us an email. Member Esposito asked to please add any timelines or updates on AOP systems for 1,4-dioxane.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm

Next meeting: March 12, 2026

X = Present	2025	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct No mtg	Nov No mtg	Dec
		<b>ABCO – Civic</b>	Member	Ray	Keenan			X	X	X				X			X
			Alternate	Michael	Madigan			X									X
		<b>Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers of Commerce – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Ron	Trotta			X	X	X				X			X
			Alternate	Carmine	Inserra												
		<b>Brookhaven Retired Employees Association- BNL Affiliation</b>	Member	Mark	Israel				X	X				X			X
			Alternate	Arnold	Moodenbaugh			X									
		<b>Brookhaven Village Association – Civic</b>	Member	Reinhardt	Schuhmann			X	X	X				X			X
			Alternate	Chris	Ciervo												
		<b>Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Adrienne	Esposito			X		X				X			X
			Alternate	Christina	Lizzo			X						X			X
		<b>Cornell Cooperative Extension – Health based</b>	Member	Chris	Pickerell												
			Alternate	Lorne	Brousseau				X								X
		<b>Country Pointe Meadows - Civic</b>	Member	Jeff	Williams												
			Alternate														
		<b>East Yaphank Civic Association - Civic</b>	Member	Robert	Feinman												
			Alternate	Laura	Reid												
		<b>Emeritus</b>	Member	David	Sprintzen				X	X				X			X
		<b>FOREST - Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Tim	Green			X	X	X				X			X
			Alternate														
		<b>Foundation for Economic Education – Education, Science &amp; Technology</b>	Member	Craig	Pratka			X	X	X				X			X
			Alternate	Christian	Price												
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	James	Freeman			X		X				X			
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Jane	Corrarino									X			X
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Karen	Blumer			X									X
			Alternate	Michael	Madigan												
		<b>L.I. Pine Barrens Society – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Nina	Leonhardt												
			Alternate	Travis	Cutter			X	X	X				X			X

<b>Longwood Central School Dist. – Education, Science &amp; Technology</b>	Member	James	Crenshaw															
	Alternate																	
<b>Middle Island Civic Association – Civic</b>	Member	Martin	Filler			X	X	X					X					X
	Alternate	Margaret	Malloy															
<b>National Grid – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Brian	Sapp			X												X
	Alternate	Michelle	Zarifis															
<b>New York League of Conservation Voters – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Casey	Petrashek			X		X										
	Alternate	Joseph	Stallone										X					X
<b>NSLS-II User Committee – BNL Affiliation</b>	Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet			X	X	X					X					X
	Alternate	Matthew	Whitaker				X	X					X					X
<b>Ridge Civic Association – Civic</b>	Member	Scott	Wood			X												
	Alternate	Barbara	Royce				X	X					X					X
<b>Stony Brook Hospital – Health based</b>	Member	Erika	Karp			X	X	X					X					
	Alternate	Kristin	Busardo-Cuomo															
<b>Suffolk County Legislature 1<sup>st</sup> Dist. – Government</b>	Member																	
	Alternate																	
<b>Teachers Federal Credit Union – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Jashmin	Futch			X	X	X					X					X
	Alternate	Kathleen	Misiano			X												
<b>Town of Brookhaven – Government</b>	Member	Karen	Dunne Kesnig															
	Alternate 1	Patricia	Kaloski															
	Alternate 2	Julia	Norris															
<b>Town of Riverhead - Government</b>	Member	Bob	Kern			X	X	X										X
	Alternate	Frank	Mancini															
<b>Wading River Civic Association - Civic</b>	Member	Henry	Perez					X					X					X
	Alternate	Linda	Rundlett															