

**Community Advisory Council**  
**May 14, 2020**  
**Action Items/Notes**

*Final*

*Note: This meeting was held virtually due to MinSafe operations at BNL. A video recording of the BlueJeans event is available.*

These notes are in the following order:

1. Attendance
2. Correspondence and Handouts
3. Administrative Items
4. NSLS-II and research into combating COVID-19 at BNL
5. Demolition & Decommissioning of High Flux Beam Reactor Building 705 (The Stack)
6. Agenda Setting
7. Community Comment

### **1. Attendance**

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: G. Alvarez, J. Anderson, G. Atik, D. Bauer, D. Caltieri, J. Carter, M. Creamer, T. Daniels, B. Dorsch, F. Fernandez, D. Forse, R. Frank, E. Gasiiecki, P. Genzer, J. Gettler, D. Gibbs, R. Gordon J. Granzen, J. Gratz, T. Green, S. Hartzel, J. Hill, J. Hillaert, R. Hodgins, B. Howe, B. Jankauskas, P. Jenkins, T. Lansberry, R. Lee, G. Lopez, P. Lucas, D. Manning, B. McCaffrey, R. McNair, A. Montalvo, T. Montuor, D. Ours, D. Paquette, D. Pocze, C. Polanish, J. Ramirez, A. Rapiejko, R. Reeder, J. Remien, D. Ryan, J. Sheehan, N. Sundin, E. ten Siethoff, R. Tribble, R. Vizza, R. Vizza, K. White, M. Winters

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

Items numbered one through four were e-mailed to Members on May 11, 2020.

1. Draft agenda for May 14, 2020 meeting
2. Draft notes from the February 13, 2020 meeting
3. Copy of presentation: NSLS-II and research into combating COVID-19 at BNL
4. Copy of presentation: Demolition & Decommissioning of High Flux Beam Reactor Building 705 (The Stack)

### **3. Administrative Items**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. Reed Hodgins, facilitator, welcomed everyone to the BlueJeans virtual meeting. A moment of silence was observed in honor of those affected by COVID-19. Hodgins then reviewed the ground rules and draft agenda. He explained that there was a change to the order of the presentations for the evening. He asked members and alternates to decide between themselves which one will be representing their respective organizations for this evening. He said anyone with questions, please click on the raise hand icon on your screen and you will be recognized and given the opportunity to speak.

Doon Gibbs, Laboratory Director, welcomed everyone and expressed his best wishes for their safety and health. He said on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Laboratory went into min-safe mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He said that means there are a reduced number of required staff onsite to maintain minimal operations safely at the Lab. There are also some mission essential activities continuing operations at the Lab, including research into the COVID-19 pandemic. All other user facilities have been shut down temporarily until we reopen. About 92% of our staff are teleworking at the present time. He said we are anticipating a phased return over several months, practicing social distancing, wearing masks, and observing Federal and State guidelines. We plan to run staggered shifts, while continuing some telework. There will be health checks, contact tracing, and significant training as staff returns. This will be a very different mode of operations. We are anxious to get back onsite safely.

Dennis Caltieri and Gabe Lopez, BNL ITD, gave participants a brief refresher on the BlueJeans application and assisted with technical issues.

The February 2020 draft notes were reviewed and approved with none opposed and two abstentions.

#### **4. NSLS-II and research into combating COVID-19 at BNL - John Hill, NSLS-II Director and BNL's COVID-19 Science research task force chair.**

John Hill gave the CAC a presentation on research that is happening at BNL to combat COVID-19.

Member Doroski asked how far we are from an approved vaccine.

Hill said there are many in trials right now. We are hopeful that we will have one by early 2021. Anti-viral drugs may be available before then. Science can't be predicted, so this is my personal hope.

Hodgin asked John Hill if he could return to the CAC for an update in the near future.

Hill agreed.

#### **5. Demolition & Decommissioning of High Flux Beam Reactor Building 705 (The Stack) – Matt Creamer, Project Manager**

Matt Creamer, Project Manager for the US Army Corp of Engineers, New York District, presented on the Demolition & Decommissioning of the HFBR Stack. He was joined by Joe Sheehan and Pat Jenkins from ICC Commonwealth, Mike Winters and Rob Frank from Cabrera Services, and David Forse from Olgoonik-FPM Joint Venture.

Member Mack asked about the contaminated soil surrounding the stack. She asked how deep they will go to test for contamination?

Creamer said before starting the project, we will need to sample from six inches to one foot below grade to get those pre-existing condition before we begin. The ROD states two foot below grade. If anything is found beneath that, we will go deeper.

Winters said there are several components that remain buried around the stack. There is a silencer network underneath the shield door, a tank, buried about eight feet underground, and the piping that feeds the tank. These will all need to be removed.

Member Bowerman asked how you get the workers up so high safely and is there a lot of noise associated with the hammer. Do you have to be concerned about noise levels?

Sheehan said they use engineered platforms that are motorized to transport the men up and down as needed. Noise levels on the platform are satisfied with normal earplug PPE. At grade level the noise is hardly noticeable.

Member Doroski asked if all liquids used for dust suppression will be going down inside the chimney, collected and removed offsite.

Winters said it is anticipated that most of the liquid will be absorbed into the surfaces. Whatever makes it to the bottom, will be led to the holding tank. Olgoonik will then pump that water out for offsite disposal.

Doroski asked if any of the liquids could escape and go outside onto the ground.

Winters said that should not happen. It is possible some of the spray may streak down the outside. There will be water suppression. Any of the water being sprayed will distribute in the work area and is all subject to excavation. Any contaminated water should be contained inside the stack and collected in the holding tank.

Member Doroski asked if they will be sampling for radionuclides, particularly alpha emitters and transuranics, both on- and off-site.

Winters said we have a plan to fill data gaps and reduce uncertainties. Those additional samples will be used to create scaling factors and then during the actual activity, we will continue radiological surveys.

Member Doroski asked if there will be any downwind air sampling, particularly in the Town of Riverhead.

Winters said the Town of Riverhead is over 10 kilometers away. I don't believe there is any sampling planned. The Lab itself already has an existing environmental monitoring program.

Member Keenan asked if this will process will be recorded for historical purposes.

Remien said Brookhaven Lab will be taking time lapse video so we can capture the demolition.

Member Keenan asked if it is only dust being deposited down the stack or will there be chunks of concrete also.

Sheehan said there will be chunks of concrete as well. We still start with very small pieces and move to larger pieces while we closely monitor the vibration level.

Creamer said there will constant vibration monitoring during the project to ensure there are no issues impacting the Lab.

Member Keenan asked how high the pile of concrete inside the stack could potentially get. How is that removed?

Sheehan said the debris pile at the base is an important factor. We will keep it to a few feet of debris. At the most we will have between six and eight feet of debris at the base. As the demolition is completed for the day, the debris is removed from the base.

Member Ziems asked how deep the base of the stack goes and will it be removed.

ten Siethoff said the pedestal and base go about eight feet below grade, with a stairstep pattern going down. The plan is to leave it in place.

Winters said part of the scope is to remove the top portion of the pedestal after the stack has been demolished. We will bring in a portable containment unit and will remove at least the top six inches of the concrete. Then surveys will be performed to determine if the remainder can be left behind.

Member Israel asked for the expected total cost of the demolition and asked if it comes out of BNL's operating/capital budget or if it is funded by a separate office within the Department of Energy.

Creamer said the total cost is about nine million dollars.

Polanish, BHSO, said this is an EM funded project, it is not paid for out of the Lab's direct budget.

Member Blumer asked if there is unexpected water leakage during this project, where do you anticipate it will go and how far might it travel?

Remien said we already have existing groundwater monitoring wells surrounding the stack and we will continue to monitor those. If we see anything, we will react to it, but we don't anticipate it.

Member Blumer said if there's a big surprise that you didn't anticipate during the whole process, will you come back to the CAC and let us know.

Remien said yes, we absolutely will.

Member Blumer then asked if encapsulating everything instead of taking it down was ever considered as an alternative.

Creamer said based on the ROD that was signed by the DOE and EPA the direction was to remove it. So. when the Army Corp. was brought in that was the only alternative we looked at.

Remien said that option was looked into years ago, but the DOE, the regulators, and probably the CAC made the decision that the Stack should come down. Since that is what is stated in the ROD, the other option was not considered.

Member Blumer asked how long until the final close out report is done.

Creamer said typically the time frame varies but should be within a year.

Gasiecki said long term encapsulation would not work because over time the chimney deteriorates and would make it difficult to scaffold it for future demolition

Pat Jenkins said chimney design has change drastically over the years, so it would not be worth trying to preserve an unstable structure.

Hodgin conducted a survey asking if Members would like to continue on this evening with the Five Year Review or postpone to next month. A vote was taken and a decision made to defer that presentation until June due to the time.

## **6. Agenda Setting**

David Manning said we will have a meeting in June to discuss environmental issues, Five Year review, and a presentation by Kerstin Kleese van Dam from Computational Sciences. He said if there are any other requests, please send them to [dmanning@bnl.gov](mailto:dmanning@bnl.gov).

Member Jordan Sweet had a question but was having difficulty submitting it. Hodgkin asked her to send it to Robyn and we will get an answer for her.

**\*ACTION ITEM:**

Get question from Member Jordan Sweet and send question and answer to CAC Members.

Hodgkin asked CAC members to email any concerns or suggestions that were not addressed at this meeting to Robyn at [rmckay@bnl.gov](mailto:rmckay@bnl.gov)

**7. Community Comment**

There was no community comment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM

Next meeting: June 11, 2020

<b>P = Present</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>		<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Jan No mtg</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar No mtg</b>	<b>Apr No mtg</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
		<b>ABCO – Civic</b> (Garber - 04/02) (Bevington – 6/14) (Keenan-10/14)	Member	Ray	Keenan		P			P							
		(Madigan -10/10)	Alternate	Michael	Madigan					P							
		<b>American Physical Society – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Reinhart	Schuhmann		P			P							
		(Schuhmann 1/14, member 9/15)	Alternate	Donavan	Hall												
		<b>Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers of Commerce – Bus &amp; Labor</b> (added 6/15)	Member	Ron	Trotta												
		<b>Brookhaven Retired Employees Association-</b> BNL (Peskin - 09/09)(Franz 1/17)	Member	Mark	Israel					P							
		(Franz - 12/09)(Israel 1/17)	Alternate	Eena-Mai	Franz		P										
		(Shapiro-1/13)	Alternate	Steve	Shapiro												
		<b>Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Adrienne	Esposito		P										
		(Somma 11/16)	Alternate														
		<b>Colonial Woods Whispering Pines – Civic</b> (Birben - 06/09) (O’Neal 01/15, removed 10/15)	Member														
		(Rehbein -11/10)	Alternate	Eric	Rehbein												
		<b>Coram Civic Association</b> (Ziems - 06/12)	Member	Paul	Ziems					P							
		(Meade – 06/12, Jim M 10/12, Turk 1/16)	Alternate	Rosa	Turk		P			P							
		<b>East Yaphank Civic Association</b> (Feinman 06/19)	Member	Robert	Feinman												
		(Feinman - 02/09 – 11/15)(Mack 11/15)	Alternate	Catherine	Mack					P							
		<b>Emeritus</b> (changed 3/8/12)	Member	Jean	Mannhaupt												
		<b>Foundation for Economic Education – Ed, Sci, &amp; Tech</b> (5/14)(Martin – 10/14)	Member	Bruce	Martin		P			P							
		(Pratka – 10/14)	Alternate	Craig	Pratka												
		<b>Friends of Brookhaven-</b> BNL (Kaplan 07/01–11/15)(Bowerman 11/15)	Member	Biays	Bowerman		P			P							
		(Schwartz - 11/02) (Ocko added 11/15)	Alternate	Steve	Schwartz		P			P							
			Alternate2	Ben	Ocko												
		<b>Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition – Health-Based Rep</b>	Member	Mary Joan	Shea					P							
			Alternate	Scott	Carlin												
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Jane	Corrarino					P							
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Karen	Blumer					P							
		<b>Individual</b>	Alternate	Michael	Madigan		P										
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	David	Sprintzen		P			P							
		<b>L.I. Pine Barrens Society – Advoc &amp; Env</b>	Member	Richard	Amper												
		(Murdocco - 04/11, deleted 6/12) (Muller added – 8/12)(Katie Rose Leonard added – 6/13)(Muether added – 5/15) (Wolf added-1/19)(Moran added 2/20)	Alternate	Claire	Moran		P			P							

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		<b>Lake Panamoka Civic Association</b> (Biss - 04/02)(Staddon 10/17)	Member	Richard	Staddon												
		(Grandal - 10/10)	Alternate	Bonita	Grandal												
		<b>Longwood Central School Dist. – Ed, Sci, &amp; Tech</b> (Castro -06/09)(Adams 9/15)	Member	Tracy	Adams												
		(Gerstenlauer removed & Sterne added 5/14 removed 9/15)(Infranco1/17)	Alternate	Paul	Infranco												
		<b>Mastic Park Civic Association</b> (Sicignano – 6/12)	Member	John	Sicignano		P										
			Alternate	Clara	McManus												
			Alternate	Joe	May												
		<b>Middle Island Civic Association</b> (Filler 2/17)	Member	Martin	Filler		P			P							
		(Nowak 01/15 – 5/15)(Malloy 9/15)	Alternate	Margaret	Malloy												
		<b>NSLS-II User Committee – BNL</b>	Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet		P			P							
		(Ravel -02/11-9/15)(Bohon added 11/15)(Bohon removed)	Alternate														
		<b>Ridge Civic Association</b> (Henagan removed 9/15)(Chattaway added 10/15)(Casanova added 11/19)	Member	Ken	Casanova		P			P							
		<b>Suffolk County Legislature 1<sup>st</sup> Dist. - Government</b> (added 6/15)	Member	Al	Krupski		P			P							
			Alternate	John	Stype												
		<b>Teachers Federal Credit Union – Bus &amp; Labor</b> (Murdocco 3/15) (Stafford 1/18)	Member	Michelina	Cahill												
		<del>(Cahill 5/20)</del>	Alternate														
		<b>Town of Brookhaven, Senior Citizens Office - Government</b>	Member	James	Heil		P										
			Alternate														
		<b>Town of Riverhead - Government</b> (Doroski - 04/11)	Member	Isidore	Doroski		P			P							
		(Hulme - 04/11 - 4/14)(Janis Rottkamp 04/16)	Alternate	Janis	Rottkamp												
		<b>Wading River Civic Association</b> (Rundlett 09/16)(Kneitel 02/17)(Perez 06/19)	Member	Henry	Perez		P										
		(Bail and Guthy removed 11/2016)	Alternate	Linda	Rundlett												