

**Community Advisory Council  
September 14, 2017  
Action Items/Notes**

*Final*

These notes are in the following order:

1. Attendance
2. Correspondence and Handouts
3. Administrative Items
4. Groundwater Update
5. Community Comment

**1. Attendance**

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: J. Anderson, S. Bogart, J. Burke, J. Carter, F. Crescenzo, P. Genzer, D. Gibbs, H. Guthy, J. Guthy, R. Howe, D. Manning, A. Martin, G. Mattson, R. McKay, S. Medeiros, V. Racaniello, A. Rapiejko, N. Sundin, M. White

**2. Correspondence and Handouts**

Items numbered one and two were e-mailed to Members on September 7, 2017. Item number three was available as a handout at the meeting.

1. Draft agenda for September 14, 2017
2. Draft notes from the June 8 meeting
3. Copy of Presentation: Groundwater Update, Bill Dorsch, Manager Groundwater Protection Group

**3. Administrative Items**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm. Reed Hodgin, facilitator, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reviewed the ground rules and draft agenda and those present introduced themselves.

Member Ziems said he has attended most of the summer concerts onsite and really enjoyed them.

Budget Update

Doon Gibbs, Laboratory Director, told the CAC that the Senate and the House of Representatives have each written their own budgets and have basically restored funding to the Office of Science to FY17 values until December 8<sup>th</sup>. There will still be impacts, but not as many as anticipated. The CFN and LTS will stay. The next step is that the two Houses need to agree on a final proposal to the President. Then they negotiate with the President before settling on an official budget. Congress and the President have agreed to a Continuing Resolution until December 8. The difference between the CR budget and the House and Senate budgets is about 1%.

Hodgin said CAC members, not representing the CAC, got together over the summer to write a letter to members of Congress to support the budget at BNL. Member Esposito will provide an

update to you on what has happened. Any other discussion will be outside the scope of the CAC.

Member Esposito said during the summer months, several CAC members, representing themselves as individuals, met and crafted a letter in support of full funding for Brookhaven National Lab and sent it to several elected officials. She feels confident that it made a difference. Esposito then handed out a copy of the letter to all interested individuals.

#### Introduction of new CAC facilitator Michael White

David Manning, Director - Stakeholder Relations office, said Reed Hodgkin has been a force for good for the CAC and the Laboratory and we thank him for his many years of dedicated service. When looking for finding a new facilitator one of the criteria we used was someone with experience in facilitating. Michael White is also an environmental lawyer and a teacher at Stony Brook University. He led and facilitated the LI Regional Planning Council for a number of years.

Member Blumer asked for an explanation of the process to find a replacement for the CAC facilitator. The CAC did not know this was happening. Why were only three resumes considered? It would have been good to include the CAC in the process.

Manning said we were looking for someone local with expertise. There was no process. As a professional staff, we established the criteria and selected three qualified candidates to interview. I appreciate your concerns, but we believe we have selected a highly qualified candidate.

Member Giacomaro asked for an explanation of the selection of Hodgkin twenty years ago.

Hodgkin said he doesn't recall the exact details. There was a competitive selection process to define the CAC. I don't know how many candidates there were or what the selection process was.

Manning said Hodgkin was working within the National Lab system and had developed a similar organization elsewhere.

#### Approval of Minutes

Members Muether and Sprintzen said they were marked absent at the June meeting, but both were in attendance. The June notes were approved as amended with none opposed and three abstentions.

#### Agenda Setting

Nora Sundin said the next meeting will be on October 12. We will have a presentation by Jason Remien on the Site Environmental Report and a presentation by Lanny Bates on Discovery Park. In November there will be a presentation by Tim Green on Natural Resources. At the last ABCO meeting it was requested that Lanny present at their meetings. He is available for the October 16<sup>th</sup> ABCO meeting. Ray Keenan said we will find out and let you know.

#### **4. Groundwater Update, Bill Dorsch - Manager Groundwater Protection Group**

Dorsch gave an update on the status of the plumes and the remediation of the treatment systems. He spoke about upcoming system shutdown/decommissioning and ongoing work and gave an update on the Peconic River area WC-06 sediment cleanup. He also provided an update on the status of the groundwater cleanup programs and said a web link for the 2016 Groundwater Status report would be available in 2-3 weeks.

He said there are 120 groundwater monitoring wells at active research and support facilities. There were no new impacts detected during 2016.

The OU I S Boundary system has been in standby mode since it's shut down in July 2013. A petition to decommission the treatment system is being submitted. Monitoring will be reduced to annual sampling from select core wells. Supplemental monitoring of Sr-90 concentrations utilizing temporary wells will continue through 2021, followed by a comparison of monitoring data to model simulations in order to evaluate the accuracy of the simulations. Several temporary wells have been installed in the vicinity of Sr-90 sentinel monitoring wells to evaluate the resulting shift in the Sr-90 migration path.

He said the OU III North Street system began operation in 2004 and extraction wells NS-1 and NS-2 have been in standby mode since 2013. The plan is to submit a petition to decommission the system in 2018. There was a recent detection of 126 ug/L Total VOCs in monitoring well 000-465. The well was resampled on August 30 and the Total VOC concentration was 8 ug/L.

The OU III North Street East system began operating in 2004 and has been in standby mode since shutdown in June 2014. EDB was first detected in well 000-394 in August 2015. The Lab is evaluating the need to conduct characterization to determine the extent of EDB in this area. The Lab is currently installing four vertical profile wells located along an east-west transect along Carleton Dr. in E. Yaphank to depths of ~250 feet below ground surface. The homes in the surrounding area have been canvassed to discuss upcoming sampling. We will evaluate sample results and determine whether additional data is needed, model the attenuation of the deeper VOCs and evaluate migration/attenuation of the plume and ability to meet the cleanup goal of drinking water standards.

The OU III Chemical/Animal Holes treatment system began operation in 2003. Due to the low Sr-90 concentrations observed in the monitoring wells since mid-2015 a petition for shutdown will be submitted to the regulators in the fall of 2017. Until approval of the petition for shutdown is approved by the regulators, we will continue to operate extraction well EW-1 in pulsed pumping mode and maintain EW-2 and EW-3 in standby.

The OU III BGRR/WCF extraction well SR-6 will be placed in standby mode due to low Sr-90 concentrations and extraction wells SR-3 and SR-7 will be in pulsed pumping mode. Temporary wells will be installed to enhance the permanent monitoring well networking.

Member Krupski asked what the depth of the plume is.

Dorsch said 40 – 50 feet below the water table which is the equivalent of about 70 feet below ground level.

Member Blumer asked why there are two sections now.

Dorsch said the extraction well cut it off and separated it into two plumes.

Member Kneitel asked what the terrain is like in that area.

Dorsch said it is heavily wooded.

Member Esposito asked if the Lab checked to see if other sites not related to the Lab could be contributing to the plume.

Dorsch said we were looking for Lab related contamination. If something was coming from another area, it would be much shallower and we might not see it. There is no reason for us to be checking elsewhere.

Member Schuhmann asked what the half-life is for Sr-90.

Dorsch said 28 years.

Member Giacomaro asked how many wells are in the Carleton Dr. area.

Dorsch said four.

Member Blumer asked if the Lab has compared what they are doing at the Lab to other cleanup sites on Long Island. What is the cost?

Dorsch said no other sites that I am aware of on Long Island have Sr-90 issues. We can get you the cost.

**\*ACTION ITEM: Provide the CAC with cost estimates.**

Member Blumer asked if all the testing is done onsite.

Dorsch said we have contractor labs to do the testing.

Member Blumer asked if the information is shared. There should be a central database with all the information.

Dorsch said the Lab has specifically provided data to the EPA and Suffolk County Dept. of Health. Unfortunately, there is no central database.

He then spoke about the Peconic River Area WC-06 Sediment cleanup. He said the equivalency permit application for working in the river was approved by NYSDEC in June. The work plan and quality assurance project plan were also approved by the regulators. LAND Remediation Inc. installed a well point dewatering system as a precaution, but that was not used due to low groundwater levels. LAND performed sediment excavation from July 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>. Excavation depths ranged from 8 inches (downstream) to 24 inches (upstream). About 150 cubic yards were excavated. The river was dry. All 27 confirmatory samples met the cleanup goal for mercury. The average was less than 1.0 mg/kg. The cleanup area was seeded and erosion control jute matting was installed in early August. The draft completion report is now under internal review. Restoration and monitoring will continue for up to 5 years to demonstrate re-establishment of wetland plants and control of invasive species.

Member Esposito asked if there were any areas of co-locations of Cesium and Mercury.

Dorsch we did not see that in this area

## **5. Community Comment**

Hodgin asked for comments from the community. Helga Guthy said when this group started the Lab was almost ready to close. Reed saved the Lab when he came and started the CAC. He accepted everyone's opinion and got everyone working together. We respect him so much.

Doon Gibbs, Laboratory Director, said Reed Hodgkin has had a huge impact on the Lab and the CAC. He came here during a time of huge challenges. Together we have made a lot of progress. The Lab is a very different place than it was 20 years ago. Everyone here has benefitted from his experience. The CAC is a model across the whole Department of Energy complex. Reed has a gift to keep things moving along in a gentle, reasonable, fair way and we have all grown to trust him. He is broadly informed on many topics and brings a sense of humor to the table.

Frank Crescenzo, BHSO, said the CAC has done a terrific job and are extremely valuable. Reed came here during a very pretentious time. Many did not get along and we worried about the

CAC coming apart. He said he is confident that under the new leadership of Michael White, the CAC will remain strong.

Member Esposito said when the CAC first started there was a high level of distrust and communication was less than desirable. There was a lot of misunderstanding. The only person we all actually trusted was Reed because he earned it. He listened, he was respectful, and he guided the conversation. We now work as a partnership and we have to credit Reed for that. He has left a legacy on Long Island. We are a cleaner, safer place and able to make wiser, better decisions. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Member Sprintzen said we lived through a very unpleasant time. We have come a long way through Reed's guidance. We thank you.

The CAC presented Reed Hodgkin with a plaque as a thank you and to remember his many years as facilitator.

Hodgin said 20 years is a long time. It's been an amazing journey for me. This is a unique group that has made a huge impact and I thank you all. Keep things going; the CAC is still very much needed.

Member Jordan Sweet said we also need to recognize former Lab Director, Jack Marburger for his vision and choosing the right format for the CAC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46PM.

Next meeting: October 12, 2017

## CAC Agenda Setting – December 8, 2016

### TOPICS

NASA Research	13
Update on Advances in Battery Storage	11
Advances in Renewable Energy Technologies	10
Global Warming & Sea Level Rise	9
History of Environmental Movement on LI	8
Steve Schwartz-Energy/Climate Presentation	7
Holographic Principles of Quantum Physics	7
BNL/Camp Upton History (Anniversary)	6
NYS Electric Power Grid	6
Alistair Rogers - Terrestrial Ecosystems	6
The LSST & Mapping the Galaxy	6
Gamma Forest Tour	5
Medical Research at BNL	4
Environmental Research at BNL	3
Sea Level Rise & Earthquakes	3
Short term plan for BNL	2
Status & Progress of Solar Farm	2
Lab Research on Solar Energy	2
Discovery Park Update	2
Chem-Trails	2
Laboratory Ten-Year Plan	1

				Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July No mtg.	Aug No mtg.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
P = Present	2015	Affiliation	First Name	Last Name											
		<b>ABCO – Civic</b> (Garber - 04/02) (Bevington – 6/14) (Keenan-10/14)	Member	Ray	Keenan	P	P	P	P	P		P			
		(Madigan -10/10)	Alternate	Michael	Madigan	P		P				P			
		<b>American Physical Society – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Reinhart	Schuhmann	P	P	P	P	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			P	P	P		P			
		<b>Brookhaven Retired Employees Association- BNL</b> (Peskin - 09/09)(Franz 1/17)	Member	Eena-Mai	Franz	P		P	P	P		P			
		(Franz - 12/09)(Israel 1/17)	Alternate	Mark	Israel	P	P		P	P		P			
		(Shapiro-1/13)	Alternate	Steve	Shapiro										
		<b>Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Adrienne	Esposito	P			P	P		P			
		(Somma 11/16)	Alternate	Harry	Somma	P	P	P	P	P		P			
		<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	P	P	P	P		P			
		(Meade – 06/12, Jim M 10/12, Turk 1/16)	Alternate	Rosa	Turk	P	P	P	P	P		P			
		<b>East Yaphank Civic Association</b>	Member	Michael	Giacomaro			P	P	P		P			
		(Feinman - 02/09 – 11/15)(Mack 11/15)	Alternate	Catherine	Mack			P	P	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	P		P			
		(Pratka – 10/14)	Alternate	Craig	Pratka	P	P	P	P			P			
		<b>Friends of Brookhaven- BNL</b> (Kaplan 07/01–11/15)(Bowerman 11/15)	Member	Biays	Bowerman		P	P	P	P		P			
		(Schwartz - 11/02) (Ocko added 11/15)	Alternate	Steve	Schwartz			P		P		P			
			Alternate2	Ben	Ocko										
		<b>Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition – Health-Based Rep</b>	Member	Mary Joan	Shea			P		P	P				
			Alternate	Scott	Carlin										
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Jane	Corrarino				P						
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Karen	Blumer			P				P			
		<b>Individual</b>	Alternate	Michael	Madigan			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)	Alternate	Katie	Muether	P		P	P	P		P			
		<b>L.I. Progressive Coalition – Advoc &amp; Env</b>	Member	David	Sprintzen	P	P	P	P		P		P		

				Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July No mtg.	Aug No mtg.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
P = Present	2015	Affiliation	First Name	Last Name											
		Alternate													
		Member	Richard	Staddon	P		P								
		Alternate	Bonita	Grandal	P		P	P				P			
		Member	Tracy	Adams											
		Alternate	Paul	Infranco											
		Member	John	Sicignano	P		P	P	P						
		Alternate	Clara	McManus											
		Alternate	Joe	May											
		Member	Martin	Filler		P	P	P	P			P			
		Alternate	Margaret	Malloy					P						
		Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet		P		P	P	P		P			
		Alternate	Jen	Bohon	P										
		Member	Wesley	Chattaway	P	P	P		P	P		P			
		Member	Al	Krupski				P	P	P		P			
		Alternate	John	Stype	P										
		Member	Richard	Murdocco											
		Alternate	Christine	Stafford	P		P		P			P			
		Member													
		Alternate													
		Member	James	Heil		P	P		P	P		P			
		Alternate													
		Member	Isidore	Doroski	P	P		P		P		P			
		Alternate	Janis	Rottkamp			P								
		Member	Terri	Kneitel	P	P	P	P	P	P		P			
		Alternate	Linda	Rundlett											