

**Community Advisory Council  
November 10, 2021  
Action Items/Notes**

*Final*

*Note: This meeting was held virtually. 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. 2021 CERCLA Five Year Review, Update and Status of Groundwater Cleanup
6. Do atmospheric particulates make storms stronger? A field study in the coastal-urban environment of Houston TX
7. Agenda Setting
8. Community Comment
9. New Member Discussion (Council only session)

**1. Attendance**

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: J. Anderson, J. Bukoski, J. Carter, J. Diehl, W. Dorsch, K. Eng, A. Engel, P. Genzer, J. Gettler, D. Gibbs, R. Gordon, J. Granzen, S. Hartzell, R. Hodgins, R. Howe, M. Jensen, L. Singh, D. Manning, R. McKay, J. Milligan, G. Olson, D. Paquette, J. Pavacic, D. Pocze, C. Polanish, V. Racaniello, A. Rapiejko, D. Remien, J. Remien, C. Sherman, R. Tribble, J. Wanless, T. Welty

**2. Correspondence and Handouts**

Items numbered one and two were e-mailed to Members on November 3, 2021. Items numbered three and four were e-mailed to Members on November 10, 2021.

1. Draft agenda for November 10, 2021 meeting
2. Draft notes from the October 14, 2021 meeting
3. Copy of presentation: 2021 CERCLA Five Year Review, Update and Status of Groundwater Cleanup
4. Copy of presentation: Do atmospheric particulates make storms stronger? A field study in the coastal-urban environment of Houston TX

**3. Administrative Items**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Reed Hodgins, facilitator, welcomed everyone to the Zoom virtual meeting. He reviewed the ground rules and draft agenda.

David Manning, Director - Stakeholder Relations office, welcomed everyone.

Doon Gibbs, Laboratory Director, welcomed everyone and said there have been no major changes to the number of staff on-site and no news on the budget. The federal government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution which runs through early December. Brookhaven Science Associates is considered a contractor under the federal government and is closely following the progress of the Continuing Resolutions and the FY22 federal budget.

Jack Anderson, Deputy Director for Operations, said the mission of the Lab continues in this new normal. The Lab is operating with about 1000 of the 2600 staff reporting onsite. The area including BNL is still listed in the high range of COVID transmission, so the Lab will remain in limited operations until those numbers improve to the moderate range. The Lab will then re-evaluate and consider the re-entry of more staff.

Reed Hodgkin, CAC Facilitator, welcomed potential new CAC Member, John Pavacic. He said this is the second meeting that John will be observing. John will speak about himself and the organization he represents, FOREST - Foundation for Research and Stewardship in the LI Pine Barrens Maritime Reserve, at the end of tonight's meeting. The CAC will then adjourn the regular meeting and go into a Council-Only session to vote on his membership request. Hodgkin asked for all Members to stay in the meeting until the end, so quorum is maintained, which is needed for a vote.

Hodgkin then said the Lab has sent letters to the five CAC Member groups that have not met the attendance requirements for the last 12 months. The Lab will announce any actions that result from that process at the March meeting.

Approval of notes:

The October 2021 Action Items and Notes were approved as written with none opposed and two abstentions.

#### **4. Environmental Updates**

John Bukoski, Site Supervisor - HFBR Stack Project, updated the CAC on the Demolition & Decommissioning of the High Flux Beam Reactor Stack Bldg.

Jason Remien, Manager - Environmental Protection Division, updated the CAC on the Bldg. 650 demolition project.

#### **5. 2021 CERCLA Five Year Review, Update and Status of Groundwater Cleanup**

Bill Dorsch, Manager - Groundwater Protection Group, spoke about the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Five Year review. He explained the process, timeline, protectiveness, highlights, and recommended actions.

Member McCormick asked what data and documentation is provided to the regulators to close-out any of these projects.

Dorsch said the Lab prepares a report for the regulators for each of these petitions for closure. The year prior to that, the sampling of the monitoring wells in the area is increased to provide more data. The rate of contamination decrease is established to evaluate if cleanup goals have been achieved. Once it can be demonstrated that levels below capture goals are being maintained, the regulators will allow the system to be closed out.

Member McCormick asked if the regulators engage independent analysis to confirm the findings or if they rely solely on the Lab's data.

Dorsch said he can't speak for the regulators. They do rely on the Lab's data, but they also do obtain their own and they might have an independent source come in and take a look. Typically, the Lab provides enough data to demonstrate that they are ready for closure or decommissioning.

Member McCormick then asked how far east the EDB plume has migrated.

Dorsch said the contamination is to the west of Weeks Ave.

McCormick asked if any of the area is residential and if so, do they have individual private wells.

Dorsch said yes, there are some. BNL accesses the system through a commercial property in the area. The private residences are part of the area that is connected to public water. The Lab's wells are capturing the contamination in the area. Based on the data we've collected to date, there is no indication that the plume has migrated as far as Weeks Ave.

John Pavacic, FOREST, asked if soil was imported to cover the area by the HFBR Stack and what standards are used.

Dorsch said the Lab follows New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) guidelines for the soil before being brought onsite.

Pavacic asked about the Sr-90 plumes in the Former Hazardous Waste Management. He asked for the half-life of Sr-90 and if it is expected to decay to a level below drinking water standards before it gets to the south boundary.

Dorsch said the half-life of Sr-90 is 28+ years. The model run in 2016 indicated that the leading edge of the plume will reach the south boundary in 2080. It would dissipate to below drinking water standards shortly after that. BNL ran the model again in 2021 with updated data and it confirmed those projections.

Member Jordan Sweet asked if the instruments that were taken off the experimental floor of the HFBR were re-used elsewhere.

Dorsch said he does not know the answer to that question, but he can find out and get back to her.

**\*ACTION ITEM**

**Find out if any of the instruments from the experimental floor of the HFBR were re-used elsewhere.**

**6. Do atmospheric particulates make storms stronger? A field study in the coastal-urban environment of Houston TX**

Michael Jensen, Meteorologist – Environmental and Climate Sciences Department, spoke about aerosols, clouds, precipitation, and climate. He explained DOE's Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) Facility and discussed some of the data that have been collected.

Member Blumer asked if any of these data have been used at all for the current practice of air scrubbing.

Jensen said this work is more focused on the aerosol and cloud processes and less so with the gaseous constituents of the atmosphere. He said, he is not aware of any work being done in air scrubbing, but people could be using this information for other things.

Pavacic asked if any work is being done regarding fire weather.

Jensen said that BNL has done some of that and will be doing some of that in Houston. BNL has been doing this type of work for a while and expect to see some of that in this study.

Pavacic asked if the monitoring is going on year-round and what is done in severe weather.

Jensen said the safety of project personnel and equipment are very important. The team battens down some items when the weather is bad, but some things can continue to run.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Hodgkin introduced Lynn Lemaire, the new CAC representative from Teacher's Federal Credit Union.

Member Lemaire spoke a bit about her background and said she is happy to be part of the CAC.

## **7. Agenda Setting**

Amy Engel, Stakeholder Relations office, said that the CAC will be taking a three-month break and will reconvene in March 2022. She said some topics being considered for the Spring include: an update from our space radiation lab, update on national security, astrophysics, an update on climate, sustainability across the Lab, NSLS II update and C-AD and EIC updates. She indicated that the Lab would love to hear from members if they have any other topics of interest.

Member Ziems asked for an update on invisible glass.

Engel said that the Lab can have Chuck Black provide an update to the CAC on that topic.

Member Blumer said she had inquired about solid waste management at the Lab. She is working on a zero-waste program for all of Long Island.

Engel said that the Lab can get that on a future agenda also.

Remien said that might be good for the sustainability presentation that was mentioned.

Member Stype said in the past BNL has done work with batteries. Is it possible to have someone talk about the evolution of batteries?

Engel said that there was a presentation last month on that topic, but the Lab can provide another update in six months.

Member Madigan said a while ago there was a presentation on the grid and the work being done at BNL. It would be interesting to see what is developing beyond the last presentation.

Manning said the Lab is in conversations with LIPA and NYPA now - all of which is focused on grid enhancement. The Lab will have more information on that topic in the spring.

Engel said if members would like to reach out with more suggestions, please send her an email.

## **8. Community Comment**

There was no community comment.

## **9. New Member Discussion (full session)**

Hodgin said that a potential new member, John Pavacic, will speak about himself and his organization before we go into a Council-Only session to discuss his membership request.

Pavacic said he is very interested in the CAC and spoke about his background. He said he is currently the executive director for FOREST. He said he was also previously part of the Brookhaven Executive Roundtable so he is familiar with these types of meetings.

Hodgin then adjourned the formal full CAC meeting and asked for Members only to stay for a Council-Only session where there will be an internal discussion and vote.

The full meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

#### **10. New Member Discussion (Council-Only session)**

The Community Advisory Council members discussed, voted, and approved the membership request of John Pavacic, FOREST, with 92% in favor.

Hodgin said that the result will be announced to John tomorrow and the alternate member for FOREST will be identified by March.

#### **11. Additional Membership Discussion**

Member Schuhmann said the organization he represents, American Physical Society, has sold the building he was working in and he has not been able to locate someone to continue as a representative of APS, since he is retiring. He asked what the process is. He also said he is interested in continuing participation, but possibly as a representative of Brookhaven Village Association.

Engel asked Schuhmann to provide a contact person at APS for the Lab to reach out to and see if they are interested in continuing membership on the CAC. She said the Brookhaven Village Association could fill a membership role if there is an opening in that category. The Lab will look into it and get back to Schuhmann.

Hodgin said there are a number of options for Schuhmann to continue membership.

Member Israel said it is possible that the APS could continue and Schuhmann could continue to represent them as a member of the Society instead of an employee.

Hodgin said if the APS is interested in continuing membership, that would be the best option.

Schuhmann said he would find out and get back to the CAC.

Member Israel said Martin Blume, past Lab Director, who was also involved with the APS, passed away two weeks ago.

Manning reiterated that the CAC will break for three months, but if anything significant occurs, the Lab will call a special meeting.

The Council-Only session adjourned at 8:55 PM

Next meeting: March 10, 2022

				Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
X = Present	2021	Affiliation	First Name	Last Name											
		<b>ABCO – Civic</b> (Garber - 04/02) (Bevington – 6/14) (Keenan-10/14)	Member	Ray	Keenan		X	X	X			X	X	X	
		(Madigan -10/10)	Alternate	Michael	Madigan			X							
		<b>American Physical Society – Business &amp; Labor</b>	Member	Reinhardt	Schuhmann		X	X	X			X	X	X	
		(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									X	
		(Inserra added10/20)	Alternate	Carmine	Inserra		X								
		<b>Brookhaven Retired Employees Association- BNL</b> (Peskin - 09/09)(Franz 1/17)	Member	Mark	Israel		X	X	X			X	X	X	
		(Franz - 12/09)(Israel 1/17)	Alternate	Eena-Mai	Franz		X								
		(Shapiro-1/13)	Alternate	Steve	Shapiro		X								
		<b>Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy &amp; Environment</b>	Member	Adrienne	Esposito		X	X	X			X	X		
		(Somma 11/16)	Alternate												
		<b>Colonial Woods Whispering Pines – Civic</b> (Birben - 06/09) (O'Neal 01/15, removed 10/15)(Koropsak 3/21)	Member	Jane	Koropsak		X		X				X		
		(Rehbein -11/10)	Alternate												
		<b>Coram Civic Association</b> (Ziems - 06/12)	Member	Paul	Ziems		X	X	X			X	X	X	
		(Meade – 06/12, Jim M 10/12, Turk 1/16)	Alternate	Rosa	Turk		X	X	X				X	X	
		<b>East Yaphank Civic Association</b> (Feinman 06/19)	Member	Robert	Feinman										
		(Feinman - 02/09 – 11/15)(Mack 11/15)	Alternate	Catherine	Mack										
		<b>Emeritus –</b> (Sprintzen changed from Individual10-20)	Member	David	Sprintzen		X	X	X			X	X		
		<b>Foundation for Economic Education – Ed, Sci, &amp; Tech</b> (5/14)(Martin – 10/14)	Member	Bruce	Martin		X	X	X			X	X	X	
		(Pratka – 10/14)	Alternate	Craig	Pratka		X	X						X	
		<b>Friends of Brookhaven- BNL</b> (Kaplan 07/01–11/15)(Bowerman 11/15)	Member	Biays	Bowerman		X						X		
		(Schwartz - 11/02) (Ocko added 11/15)	Alternate	Steve	Schwartz		X	X	X			X			
			Alternate2	Ben	Ocko									X	
		<b>Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition – Health-Based Rep</b>	Member	Mary Joan	Shea				X						
			Alternate												
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Jane	Corrarino		X		X			X	X		
		<b>Individual</b>	Member	Karen	Blumer				X					X	
		<b>Individual</b>	Alternate	Michael	Madigan							X		X	
		<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)(Muether 10/20)	Alternate	Katie	Muether									X	

				Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
X = Present	2021	Affiliation	First Name	Last Name											
		(Gonzales added 11/20)	Alternate2	Miranda	Gonzales		X	X	X			X			
		<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.</b> – Ed, Sci, & Tech (Castro -06/09)(Adams 9/15)	Member	Tracy	Adams							X		X	
		(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										
			Alternate	Clara	McManus										
			Alternate	Joe	May										
		<b>Middle Island Civic Association</b> (Filler 2/17)	Member	Martin	Filler		X	X	X			X		X	
		(Nowak 01/15 – 5/15)(Malloy 9/15)(Bailey 9/21 temp)	Alternate	Margaret	Malloy							X			
		<b>NSLS-II User Committee</b> – BNL	Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet		X	X						X	
		(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		X	X	X				X	X	
			Alternate												
		<b>Suffolk County Legislature 1<sup>st</sup> Dist.</b> - Government (added 6/15)	Member	Al	Krupski			X	X				X		
			Alternate	John	Stype		X							X	
		<b>Teachers Federal Credit Union</b> – Bus & Labor (Murdocco 3/15) (Stafford 1/18) (Cahill 5/20) (Lemaire 9/21)	Member	Lynn	Lemaire									X	
			Alternate												
		<b>Town of Brookhaven, Senior Citizens Office</b> - Government	Member	James	Heil			X				X			
			Alternate												
		<b>Town of Riverhead</b> - Government (Doroski - 04/11)(McCormick – 10/20)	Member	Dan	McCormick		X					X	X	X	
		(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		X	X					X		
		(Bail and Guthy removed 11/2016)	Alternate	Linda	Rundlett										