



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council

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The Honorable Henry McMaster
State House
1100 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

10-15-18

RE: Annual Report of the GNAC for 2017-2018

Dear Sir;

During the 2017-2018 year, the GNAC has been actively pursuing information and providing support to you and your office. The following provides a high level list and summary of activities undertaken and successfully accomplished by our group:

- Established an adhoc committee to inspect the MOX facility and its progress. Traveled to Savannah River and interviewed the NNSA and MOX contractor, produced an inspection report and reported to the Governor recommending rebaselining of the project
- Conducted a hearing on the repatriation of HEU from Germany to Savannah River and endorsed the proposed plans to do so. Prepared a formal recommendation for the Governor
- Reviewed the need for the Yucca Mountain project and formalized a recommendation to the Governor to support completion and opening of the project
- Added two new members to the GNAC including a representative from Duke Energy and South Carolina State University
- Met with the Deputy Secretary of Energy in Washington, D.C. to advocate for the removal of plutonium from S.C. via the MOX project or other proven means and to open honest lines of communications
- Implemented practice of conducting GNAC meetings at meaningful nuclear facilities in South Carolina. Held meetings at Oconee Nuclear Power Plant, Savannah River and South Carolina State University
- Provided technical support to the Governor's office on a variety of topics including MOX, Pit Production, construction scheduling and others
- Prepared and submitted a letter to the EPA regarding the DOE plans to conduct D&D of weapons grade plutonium and the plan to deposit 34 tons of the product at WIPP. The letter formed a portion of the basis of one recent Court's decision regarding the closure of MOX.
- Met with one U.S. Senate Committee and two Senators in Washington, D.C. to advocate for MOX as the only proven method to remove Plutonium from S.C.
- Established lines of communications with key S.C. Delegation members and their staffs
- Developed and provided information regarding the NNSA calculations of the cost to complete and schedule for the MOX project

- Prepared and submitted comments in opposition to the DOE plans to restrict the DNFSC access to DOE contractors, information and sites
- Prepared and presented at a public hearing, comments to the Academy of Science in opposition to the DOE NNSA plan to use D&D as the method of disposition of weapons grade Pu at WIPP
- Attended a private sector conference on Pit production in Washington, D.C. and established lines of communications with the DOD, GAO and members of the academic community
- Received a briefing from the NNSA related to their self-assessment and self-approval of plans to remove one metric ton of plutonium from SC and move it to Nevada, Texas and New Mexico. Prepared extensive questions for use in the debriefing
- Represented Governor McMaster at the Southeast Energy Council meeting
- Established education and availability of jobs in the nuclear industry as a theme for the October 15, 2018 GNAC meeting at SCSU. Encouraged the students to consider the nuclear industry for employment after graduation from their college studies as a means of introducing young employees to the field. This theme will carry forward into future GNAC meetings
- Secured liability insurance coverage for the members of the GNAC
- Met with multiple contractor representatives as well as the Chairman of the CAB to establish lines of communications and share information.
- Requested an amendment to the legislation governing the GNAC to reinstate the term “Governor’s” in the name of the Council
- The GNAC was hosted by and toured Savannah River
- Secured business cards for all GNAC members and enhanced our professional standing in the SC nuclear community

We solicited and received presentations from many organizations on topics related to nuclear energy and nuclear waste during the year. The following provides some of the groups who came before us:

- Savannah River Remediation
- Westinghouse
- Savannah River Site DOE
- NNSA – Savannah River Site
- Savannah River Nuclear Services
- NNSA – MOX
- SCDHEC
- Duke Energy
- Representative from Germany on HEU
- South Carolina Attorney General’s Office
- South Carolina Governor

We appreciate the opportunity to support your efforts to preserve jobs and opportunities in the nuclear industry in South Carolina. Please advise us if you have areas of focus you would like the GNAC to pursue in 2018 – 2019.

Best regards,



Rick Lee
Chairman
Governor’s Nuclear Advisory Council

Cc: Members