

Maine Yankee Community Advisory Panel on Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Removal

October 15, 2019, Wiscasset Community Center
Annual Meeting Minutes

Member

Attendance

Dr. Don Hudson, Chair	Yes
Mr. Dan Thompson, Vice-Chair	Yes
Mr. Wayne Norton	Yes
Mr. Jay Hyland	Yes
The Honorable Chris Johnson	Yes
Mr. Ralph Keyes	Yes
Ms. Misty Parker	Yes
The Honorable Dana Dow	Yes
Mr. Steve Jarrett	Yes
Ms. Stacy Linehan	No

Introduction

Chair Don Hudson welcomed everyone to the CAP meeting which began at 4:00 p.m. CAP members introduced themselves.

Maine Yankee's Eric Howes then presented Steve Jarrett and Ralph Keyes with 20-year CAP membership recognition plaques thanking them for their service on behalf of the company. Mr. Howes noted that Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Keyes both joined the CAP in March 1999 at the beginning of plant dismantlement. At the time Mr. Jarrett was chair of the Wiscasset Planning Board and later a member of the Board of Selectmen, including Chairman for a year. He also served on the Maine Advisory Commission on Radioactive Waste and Decommissioning. Mr. Keyes was a Wiscasset high school science teacher in 1999 and continues to teach at the Wiscasset Middle High School. Mr. Howes noted that one of the lessons learned in the 2005 CAP Experience Report is that consistent participation matters. He said Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Keyes were active members of the CAP throughout decommissioning and continue to be years after decommissioning through participation in Blue Ribbon Commission and Bipartisan Policy Center meetings as well as annual CAP meetings. He said it's remarkable that four of the 10 CAP members have served for 20 years or more. Maine Yankee's Wayne Norton also thanked Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Keyes for their 20 years of service on the CAP as did Chair Hudson. CAP Vice-Chair Dan Thompson added his thanks and said he always thought of Mr. Jarrett as the true resident farmer since he was a long time farmer in Wiscasset. He also said years ago his wife and Mr. Keyes were the first in the area to study sea level rise with their students using satellite technology. Mr. Keyes and Mr. Jarrett

expressed their thanks for the 20-year CAP membership recognition. Mr. Keyes said his students by and large have no idea there is a nuclear waste storage facility in their town. Chair Hudson said we still have a lot of work to do and that closing the fuel cycle is critical to the future of nuclear power. Chris Johnson suggested a way to raise awareness on the issue would be to have trivia cards with questions and answers related to spent nuclear fuel distributed to every bar and restaurant in Maine.

Chair Hudson next asked members of the audience to introduce themselves. In attendance were Mark Winter from Senator Collins' Office, Scott Wilkinson from Senator King's office, Pam Trinward from Rep. Pingree's office, Kathy Cloutier from Rep. Golden's office, George Richardson, Westport First Selectman, John O'Connell, Wiscasset Town Manager, Charlotte Boynton, Lincoln County News reporter, Gina Hamilton, Wiscasset Newspaper reporter, Larry Doucette, John Arnold, Eric Howes, and J. Brown from Maine Yankee, Jay Hyland, State of Maine Radiation Control Program Manager, and several residents from Wiscasset and Westport.

CAP Business

The CAP approved the minutes of the October 16, 2018 CAP annual meeting.

Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Update

Maine Yankee ISFSI Manager J. Stanley Brown provided the CAP with an update on the ISFSI and other issues related to the Maine Yankee site since the last CAP meeting. Mr. Brown spoke from slides contained in the CAP meeting package.

Mr. Brown said ISFSI operations are normal.

He reported on 2019 projects: ISFSI yard lighting was improved, the cask temperature monitoring system was upgraded, the uninterruptible power supply system was reconfigured to be redundant, and engineering for the fiber optic upgrade to security cameras is complete and planned for 2020 implementation. Mr. Norton noted that technology needs to be updated over time.

Mr. Brown reported that the September 2019 natural phenomenon emergency planning drill focused on in house support staff and radiological assessment capabilities. That drill and the annual fire/medical drill in May went very well. Mr. Brown said Maine Yankee appreciates the support of off-site responders.

Mr. Brown reported on an event from September 2018 when a contracted technician followed a staff member through a key-carded door into a secure area without authorization. A one-hour report was made to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and a License Event Report was submitted to the NRC in

November detailing the causal factors and planned corrective actions. The State Nuclear Safety Inspector (SNSI) was informed of the event shortly after it occurred.

Mr. Brown reported on a series of events that occurred in December 2018 having to do with the handling of weapons, not the use of weapons. Maine Yankee informed the NRC and the SNSI of these human error events and the corrective actions that included procedural/training enhancements; a weapons program assessment at the 3 Yankee sites (Maine Yankee, Connecticut Yankee, and Yankee Rowe); benchmarking the three sites against the industry and an independent management assessment. Mr. Johnson asked if Maine Yankee uses training exercises to keep security fresh so that officers know what to do rather than having to remember what to do. Mr. Brown and Mr. Norton security officers must requalify on a scheduled basis and that management has put in place a field observation program to reinforce expectations and avoid complacency. He noted that next fall's emergency planning exercise will focus on security.

Mr. Brown reported on the progress of cask relicensing and the aging management program. Chair Hudson asked if the cask relicensing will be for 20 years. Mr. Norton said the relicensing period is up to 40 years.

Mr. Brown said representatives from Sandia National Laboratories and the Colorado School of Mines were on site the day of the CAP meeting and removed the stainless steel coupons that were previously placed in select cask vents. Anything flowing through the vents was collected and will be analyzed. The coupons were replaced in the vents for future sampling and analysis. Also, the coupons are stressed to different amounts for the purpose of studying the effect of stress on the coupons. Mr. Norton noted that some of the stainless steel coupons were pre-stressed well beyond the design basis of the stainless steel in the canisters. The data collected from the coupon analysis will inform aging management at Maine Yankee and elsewhere in the industry.

Mr. Brown reported that following the Department of Environmental Protection's approval last fall of the amendments to Maine Yankee's groundwater Compliance Order by Consent and the revised Environmental Covenant that the remaining groundwater monitoring wells have been removed. The Existing site prohibitions including groundwater extraction/use, residential, schools, childcare or long-term care facilities remain in place.

Mr. Brown said the quarterly meetings between the State of Maine and Maine Yankee continue to be productive and that the most recent meeting was October 8, 2019.

Vice-Chair Thompson asked if the Maine National Guard participates in the emergency planning exercises. Mr. Brown said they do not but that the guard has been to the site and are coming again next month.

Mr. Keyes asked what the natural phenomenon was for the September emergency planning drill. Mr. Brown said it was an earthquake and reminded the CAP that a few years ago a tremor was felt at the site.

State of Maine Update

Radiation Control Program Manager Jay Hyland updated the CAP on activities since the last CAP meeting. Mr. Hyland spoke from slides contained in the CAP meeting package.

Mr. Hyland said his report was mainly based on the activities of Pat Dostie who retired in July as the State Nuclear Safety Inspector. Mr. Hyland said he is filling in as available for the SNSI until someone is hired for that position.

Mr. Hyland reported that among other activities listed in his slides: Mr. Dostie completed the final draft of the Maine Yankee Confirmatory Summary Report; attended a Deep Isolation webinar on how they demonstrated their ability to store and retrieve a prototype nuclear waste canister in a 2000-foot borehole; and attended a Western Interstate Energy Board's webinar on DOE's new proposed definition on the interpretation of High-Level Radioactive Waste.

Mr. Dostie also: Performed quarterly field replacement of environmental thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) placed around the ISFSI and Bailey Cove with field controls at Ferry Landing on Westport Island, Edgecomb, and the roof of the Health Environment Testing Lab building in Augusta.

Mr. Hyland reported that his office received a request from Westport Island to dismantle State environmental radiation pole monitors no longer in use. The State also has two of these poles on Maine Yankee property near the site of the former Bailey Farmhouse. Planning for the disposition of the poles on Westport and at Maine Yankee is ongoing.

Mr. Hyland said that with Mr. Dostie's retirement he will be the new Maine representative to the Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force pending the Governor's approval.

Mr. Hyland said he observed the Maine Yankee emergency drill on September 25 and that he is working through the site access procedures with Mr. Brown as he assumes Mr. Dostie's duties in the short term.

Regarding the SNSI position, Mr. Hyland said the job will likely be posted by the end of this month. He anticipates it may be difficult to find someone with the

background required in the statute in the salary range offered for the position. The qualifications in the statute include a master's degree. He noted that Mr. Dostie did not have a master's degree. Legislation has been submitted that would amend the statute to make this change - An Act to Amend the Qualifications for the State Nuclear Safety Inspector (LR 3006). This being the short session of the legislature, Mr. Hyland said the legislative resolution probably won't be taken up.

Mr. Dostie had also been performing x-ray inspections as the State was short of qualified inspectors. Mr. Hyland said he now has two qualified people to do the x-ray inspections so the next SNSI will not have that responsibility.

Mr. Hyland said he also expects to modify the environmental TLD program.

Mr. Johnson asked what are the expectations for the SNSI job? What does the job require? Mr. Hyland said he would e-mail the SNSI job description to Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Hyland closed his presentation by showing a photo of Mr. Dostie receiving the Dedicated Service Award from Department management.

Chair Hudson said he thought the CAP should send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Dostie thanking him for his years of service and his participation in CAP meetings since the beginning in 1997. The CAP agreed unanimously. Chair Hudson will work with Eric Howes on a CAP letter of appreciation for Mr. Dostie.

Spent Nuclear Fuel Removal/Disposal Update

Maine Yankee Public and Government Affairs Director Eric Howes updated the CAP on the national status of the SNF issue and the DOE litigation. He spoke from slides included with the meeting package.

Mr. Howes began with CAP activities noting that in November 2018 the CAP sent its 5th annual letter to Maine's congressional delegation thanking them for their efforts to reform spent nuclear fuel (SNF) policy and stating the CAP is counting on their leadership to resolve this critical community issue. Mr. Howes thanked staff from the four congressional offices for attending the CAP meeting and spoke about the frequent engagement over the past year by delegation members on the spent nuclear fuel issue. Mr. Howes said the delegation is as frustrated as we are by the long-standing policy stalemate on this issue and supports a pilot project for the removal of SNF from shutdown sites like Maine Yankee to consolidated interim storage (CIS).

Mr. Howes briefed the CAP on the September 10 NRC meeting in Brattleboro, VT that Chair Don Hudson and he participated in regarding community advisory panel best practices. Chair Hudson was invited by the NRC to present on the Maine Yankee CAP's experience and Mr. Howes was invited to speak about the

community panel experience at Connecticut Yankee and Yankee Rowe which largely mirrors the Maine Yankee experience. Chair Hudson will be submitting comments for the record to the NRC on behalf of the CAP. The Brattleboro meeting was one of 11 meetings the NRC held throughout the country on community engagement panel best practices to inform the NRC's June 2020 report to Congress on this issue as called for in Section 108 of the Nuclear Energy Innovation Modernization Act. Following the Brattleboro meeting NRC staff thanked Chair Hudson and Mr. Howes for providing the perspective of the Maine Yankee, Connecticut Yankee and Yankee Rowe community panels.

One clear message is one size does not fit all. Mr. Howes noted that the Maine Yankee, Connecticut Yankee, and Yankee Rowe panels were established by the companies. The Vermont Yankee and Pilgrim advisory panels were established by the legislatures in Vermont and Massachusetts. Mr. Howes said some decommissioning sites such as Duke Energy's Crystal River in Florida determined a community panel was not needed and they have developed an alternative outreach community engagement model.

Chair Hudson said there were 40 plus people at the Brattleboro meeting, a dozen of which were NRC staff. He noted that the Vermont citizens advisory panel is adjusting to NorthStar buying the facility and transitioning from safstore to immediate decommissioning. Vermont Yankee recently completed moving the spent nuclear fuel to dry cask storage and is at the beginning of plant dismantlement.

Chair Hudson said he and Mr. Howes learned that NorthStar recently created a company sponsored community advisory panel with the New England Coalition. Misty Parker asked what is the story of two CAPs? Mr. Hudson said there was criticism at the Brattleboro meeting that the state established panel lacks local representation. For example, it does not include a representative from New Hampshire which is just across the river from Vermont Yankee.

Mr. Howes next moved to the national status of the spent nuclear fuel issue beginning with the Department of Energy (DOE). He said DOE continues to limit its actions related to Yucca Mountain licensing (YM) and CIS pending direction from Congress.

DOE continues to conduct preliminary evaluations for removing SNF from the increasing number of shutdown plant sites - now five in four states in New England - and support the National Transportation Stakeholder Forum through which DOE works with states and tribes on radioactive waste shipments. Mr. Howes noted that the Northeast High-Level Radioactive Transportation Taskforce is holding its fall meeting at the end of October and that he will be attending.

In July two representatives of the Federal Railroad Administration met at Maine Yankee with Cask Relicensing Manager Paul Plante and Eric Howes to discuss site related SNF transport issues.

Mr. Howes said DOE continues to work on the design, analysis, and prototype fabrication of the railcars that will be used to transport SNF. Fabrication of one prototype railcar and two buffer cars was complete in February 2019. The Atlas Railcar Project is scheduled to be complete in 2022.

Mr. Howes said on September 23 the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board issued a report Preparing for Nuclear Waste Transportation, Technical Issues that Need to be Addressed in Preparing for a Nation-Wide Effort to Transport Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste. He said he would send the CAP a link to this recent report in the next update to the CAP.

Mr. Howes said Congress again did not appropriate any funding for CIS or YM in Fiscal Year 2019. Congress recently approved and the President signed into law a Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government until November 21.

Regarding FY 2020 Energy & Water Development Appropriations, Mr. Howes said the House provided \$47.5 million for Integrated Waste Management Storage of which \$25 million is directed for interim storage activities.

With the Democrats controlling Congress after the November 2018 elections, Speaker Pelosi has made it clear she stands with the Nevada delegation in opposition to YM.

On September 12 the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY 2020 Energy and Water Development bill and sent it to the full Senate. As in past years the bill authorizes a pilot CIS program for SNF located on sites without an operating reactor. The bill supports the 2012 Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future recommendations and provides \$22.5 million for a CIS facility and transportation capabilities. Mr. Howes read the key recommendations of the BRC to remind the CAP what those recommendations were such as a new consent based approach to siting future nuclear waste management facilities; access to the Nuclear Waste Fund; and prompt efforts to develop one or more geologic disposal facilities as well as prompt efforts to develop one or more CIS facilities. Mr. Howes noted that Senator Collins is a member of the Senate Energy and Water Subcommittee and has long been supportive of a pilot CIS program.

Neither the House nor Senate Appropriations bills contains funding for YM.

Mr. Howes said Senator Alexander may offer a floor amendment to include funding for YM when the bill is voted on by the full Senate.

Mr. Howes said at some point there could be a conference committee to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bills.

Mr. Howes noted an April 1 House letter signed by 15 members including Rep Pingree to the House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee Chair and Ranking Member urging them to include \$25 million to fund the development of a CIS program focused on shutdown reactor sites. Mr. Howes said this has become an annual letter and thanked Rep Pingree for her help. The \$25 million funding request for CIS was included in the House bill.

On April 30 a joint organization letter was sent to Congressional Energy and Water Development Appropriations Committee leaders requesting FY 2020 funding for the YM license application and a pilot CIS program. Organizations joining the letter included the American Nuclear Society, the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, the National Association of Regulated Utility Commissioners, the Nuclear Industry Council, and the Decommissioning Plant Coalition. Wayne Norton signed the letter as Chair of the DPC Steering Committee.

Regarding authorization bills, on April 30 the bipartisan Nuclear Waste Administration Act of 2019 was introduced in the Senate. The bill would implement several of the recommendations of the BRC including a pilot CIS facility with priority for SNF stored at shutdown reactor sites through a consent-based siting process.

A June 27 hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on this bill included testimony by Wayne Norton on behalf of the 3 Yankee Companies and the DPC. Mr. Norton was on a panel that included the Nuclear Energy Institute, the American Nuclear Society the Idaho National Laboratory, and the Nuclear Resources Defense Council. There was a good deal of discussion about consent-based siting for CIS. Senator King who is a member of the committee asked, "What if every state said no?"

The Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2019 was introduced in the House May 14. This was a refile of the bill that passed the House in June 2018 with strong bipartisan support. The bill authorizes the development of a pilot CIS program with priority for SNF stranded at shutdown sites but prohibits moving any SNF to CIS until there is a final decision on the YM construction authorization. On September 26 the bill was marked up in the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change and sent to the full committee. Rep Matsui (CA-D) was disappointed that her bill - the STORE Nuclear Fuel Act - that creates a process for developing CIS through consent-based siting was not marked up at this hearing. The decommissioned Rancho Seco site is in her district.

Mr. Johnson asked why there is linkage between CIS and YM. Mr. Howes said there is concern that if CIS moves forward without there also being progress toward a repository that communities will be reluctant to host CIS. There is also general agreement that a geologic repository is a necessary component of an integrated nuclear waste management program.

Mr. Howes briefed the CAP on the status of the Sensible Timely Relief for America's Nuclear Districts' Economic Development Act introduced June 26. Senators Collins and King are two of the 5 cosponsors. The bill was referred to the Environment and Public Works Committee with no further action to date. A similar bill was introduced in the last Congress. Last year the Wiscasset Board of Selectmen approved a resolution in support of the bill.

As noted in Senator Collins' July 7 press release, the STRANDED Act "would address the impacts of stranded nuclear waste by providing federal assistance to communities around the country that are burdened with storing this spent fuel." Mr. Howes read quotes from the press release from Senators Collins who said, "While the federal government must also move forward with a permanent solution for nuclear waste as required by law, our legislation will take interim steps to assist these adversely affected communities." And Senator King who said, "As we continue to press the Department of Energy to live up to its legal responsibility, we should also take steps to support communities like Wiscasset as they continue to face the costs associated with this stranded nuclear waste."

In a related initiative Mr. Howes said the Nuclear Decommissioning Collaborative continues its work through a 2018 grant from the Department of Commerce to identify existing federal resources and funding opportunities to assist shutdown site communities. Mr. Howes is participating on an expert panel advising the executive director of the Nuclear Decommissioning Collaborative in this effort that will result in a report to Congress in spring 2020. Mr. Howes participated in an April 2019 federal agency roundtable on this project. He said the Commerce Department in August sent a 90-day status report to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies fulfilling report language accompanying the FY 2019 Appropriations bill. Mr. Howes reminded the CAP that during the 2018 CAP meeting Marge Kilkelly spoke about Senator King's involvement with this effort including an April 2018 letter requesting FY 2019 funding for this project.

Regarding the two Private CIS applications before the NRC in New Mexico and Texas, Mr. Howes said the NRC Atomic Safety Licensing Board (ASLB) held a hearing in January on the New Mexico license application and in July on the Texas application. The Texas hearing was largely a replay of the New Mexico hearing with similar petitions and contentions. In May the ASLB ruled that while some of the six petitioners in the New Mexico hearing met the qualifications for standing, they concluded the nearly 50 contentions raised were not admissible for an evidentiary hearing. The New Mexico intervenors have appealed the ASLB

decision to the NRC Commission. On August 23 the Texas ASLB agreed to hear the Sierra Club's contention that the environmental report in Interim Storage Partner's application failed to sufficiently address the potential impacts to the habitats of two lizards. The ASLB also granted standing to several of the other intervenors while denying their proposed contentions.

Mr. Howes noted that on June 7 the Governor of New Mexico wrote to DOE Secretary Perry and NRC Commission Chair Sivinicki opposing the proposed CIS facility. Mr. Howes said the previous governor supported the proposed facility.

On July 1, 2019 the NRC staff sent letters to the New Mexico and Texas applicants letting them know that the schedule to complete the environmental and technical/safety reviews of both applications has been revised and pushed back from summer 2020 to early 2021.

Mr. Howes concluded his update with the DOE Phase IV litigation, saying it is complete. Phase IV addressed damages resulting from the federal government's ongoing failure to honor its contract obligations for the 2013-2016-time frame. Mr. Howes said payment has been received from the Treasury Department regarding the February 2019 decision that approved the 3 Yankee Companies' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment of the \$103.2 million in undisputed damages as well as the award of an additional \$500,000 from a June 2019 agreed offer of judgment between the 3 Yankee Companies and the DOE to resolve the disputed damages in the Phase IV cases. Mr. Howes said Maine Yankee was awarded approximately \$34.6 million in the Phase IV case.

Mr. Howes said as with previous DOE spent fuel litigation damage awards, the state utility regulators in ME, MA, and CT agreed with the 3 Yankee Companies' proposal for the disposition of the funds in a manner that best serves the interests of our electric utility owners and their ratepayers in the respective New England states in accordance with a September filing at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

He said the Phase V litigation would likely be filed in 2021, and he reminded the CAP that the 3 Yankee Companies can only seek to recover costs that have already been incurred resulting from the DOE's ongoing failure to meet its legal obligations.

In discussion following Mr. Howes' update Mr. Keyes noted that a takeaway from Mr. Howes' presentation is that the House is more focused on CIS but that we are really no further along than we were at this time last year.

Chair Hudson said that the licensing of the proposed private CIS storage sites is moving along and also noted that the Private Fuel Storage facility in Utah

received a license from the NRC but then was unable to receive SNF as the area around it was designated a wilderness area.

Vice-Chair Thompson noted that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico is a success story where nuclear waste is stored in a salt dome 2000 feet underground. There are lessons learned from the consent-based siting approach used at WIPP that can inform other projects. With more and more nuclear power plants shutting down the pressure is slowly building to close the back end of the fuel cycle.

Chair Hudson said the CAP ought to send another letter to the Maine Congressional delegation thanking them for a year's worth of heavy lifting on the SNF issue but there needs to be more thinking about what the letter should say beyond that such as the cost of not acting and the ridiculous payments the government is making.

Mr. Johnson said we need to find a way to bring attention to this issue. Maybe a cask could be constructed to be sent to Washington, DC to remind the Congress of this problem. Mr. Johnson asked what it costs to construct a cask. Mr. Norton said when the Maine Yankee ISFSI was constructed a transportable storage canister (TSC) cost about \$500,000 to build and load. He said the cost today to build and load a TSC would be approximately \$2 million.

Mr. Johnson said we need conversations with lots of other states to bring this issue to the forefront.

Ms. Parker asked where is the Nevada delegation on this issue? Mr. Howes said they are opposed to YM but open to working with others to find a solution to the problem. During the June 27 hearing of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee Nevada Senator Cortez Masto said she looks forward to working with her colleagues and others to resolve the SNF issue through a consent-based process.

Mr. Norton said CIS is becoming a theme, but linkage is still an issue. What we have been doing isn't working. The letter to the delegation should focus on what can we do going forward?

Mr. Howes will work with Chair Hudson to draft a letter to the Congressional delegation.

Public Comment

Westport First Selectmen George Richardson asked what happened to the pump storage project proposed a number of years ago on the former Maine Yankee property north of Ferry Road. Chair Hudson said the project never went forward.

Mr. Norton said that they reached out to Maine Yankee and the prospects were not promising.

Scott Wilkinson of Senator King's staff said he had come prepared to talk about the STRANDED Act, but that Mr. Howes covered it in his presentation. Instead Mr. Wilkinson noted that as a member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee Senator King often brings up the nuclear waste issue. Mr. Wilkinson read an excerpt from a May Times Record article where Senator King stated the SNF issue should be solved before considering new nuclear options. He cited Maine Yankee as an example. Senator King made his comments during a hearing on the Nuclear Modernization Act.

Mark Winter of Senator Collins' office noted that YM is the law of the land and what would it take for Nevada to consent?

Wiscasset Newspaper reporter Gina Hamilton asked about reprocessing SNF. Mr. Norton said it is done elsewhere, it is expensive, and it came up at the June 27 hearing. Chair Hudson said we used to reprocess in this country, but it ended during the Carter Administration out of concern for nuclear proliferation.

Chair Hudson said the current election cycle makes progress difficult. It's hard to find bipartisan agreement on anything in this environment. Mr. Norton said there's very little dialogue about nuclear energy or nuclear waste in the political campaigns.

Mr. Johnson said we need to talk with people in states where SNF is stored. The states need to become involved.

The CAP meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.