

**Final Draft**

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

**September 21, 2023, Montsweag Restaurant, Woolwich  
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	No
Mr. Ralph Keyes	Yes
Ms. Misty Parker	No
Mr. Steve Jarrett	No
Ms. Stacy Linehan	No
The Honorable Cameron Reny	Yes

**Introduction**

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

Chair Hudson then asked members of the audience to introduce themselves. Among those in attendance were Wiscasset Town Manager Dennis Simmons, Rep Pingree’s representative Pam Trinward, Maine House Representative Ed Polewarczyk, Mary Ellen Barnes, Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission, Charlotte Boynton, Lincoln County News, Wiscasset resident Marty Fox, Peter Arnold, Repower Wiscasset, 3 Yankee Companies staff Matt Marston, Dan Laing, Melanie Tibbetts, Sue Arnold, Eric Howes, and Kathleen Capstick.

**CAP Business**

The CAP approved the minutes of the May 24, 2022, CAP annual meeting.

Chair Hudson gave a brief explanation of the role of the CAP and that they meet once a year in person as the only interface between the public and Maine Yankee and through Maine Yankee to our congressional delegation in Washington. Chair Hudson also mentioned that throughout the year Eric Howes keeps the CAP up to date on national issues related to Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) and the various efforts by the federal government on finding a solution to the commercial SNF issue.

## **Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Update**

ISFSI Manager Dan Laing provided the CAP with an update on the ISFSI and other issues related to the Maine Yankee site. Mr. Laing's presentation is included in the meeting package.

Regarding site projects, Mr. Laing said in May 2023 the on-site portion of the biennial Independent Management Assessment was conducted. Mr. Laing said that exit meeting comments from the highly experienced evaluator included excellent facility material condition and cleanliness, program ownership, staff openness, and responsiveness to information requests. He said that the evaluator further commented that "site formality and professionalism are on par with or exceeds operating nuclear facilities." The evaluator also singled out the drill program as excellent, especially the self-critique.

Mr. Laing paused his presentation to introduce three people who joined the audience from San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). They had been at Maine Yankee earlier in the day for a tour and benchmarking Maine Yankee for their own decommissioning efforts. Chair Hudson thanked and welcomed them to the CAP meeting and said he hoped the CAP meeting would be informative for them.

Mr. Laing continued with his presentation explaining that in 2023 Maine Yankee held two annual Emergency Plan drills. He explained that the 2023 Emergency Fire & Medical Drill was completed on June 26<sup>th</sup> and all objectives were met. He also mentioned that Maine Yankee appreciates the support of the offsite law enforcement, fire, and medical responders who attended and participated in the annual emergency plan drills. He also said that the 2023 Emergency Plan Radiological Drill was completed on September 13<sup>th</sup> and all the objectives were met.

Regarding US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspections, Mr. Laing said the next NRC Operation/Safety Inspection is tentatively scheduled for spring 2024 at all three Yankee Company sites. He said NRC has notified the 3 Yankees that Operations/Safety Inspections will be scheduled every three years as was previously announced regarding Security Inspections.

Mr. Laing said Maine Yankee completed the building of the Central Alarm Station Training Simulator, which is a replica of the Central Alarm Station, and monthly drills are utilizing this new training tool. He said that the simulator has enhanced Maine Yankee's drill program and human performance on site. He also said that Maine Yankee is in the process of replacing the site's radio system due to obsolescence which has been the case for other site equipment in recent years given the length of service. He added that 13 regulatory cameras have been replaced with new cameras and eight more cameras in the Protected Area will be replaced within the next year.

Mr. Laing updated the CAP on the multi-year effort with Maine Yankee's vendor NAC to renew the ISFSI storage Certificate of Compliance (CofC) for 40 years. The renewal application was submitted to the NRC on October 13, 2020 and accepted by the NRC for review. He said that NRC approval is expected in the first quarter of 2024. Mr. Laing said the Aging Management Program has been drafted and is in the review process. He said the next canister inspection at Maine Yankee is scheduled for 2026. He also explained that as reported to the CAP previously, canister monitoring coupons placed in select casks in 2017 were initially inspected by Sandia National Lab personnel in 2019. He said that some samples were packed for analysis and the rest were reinstalled to increase their exposure time. To date, he said they have not observed any unusual results. He added that Sandia returned to Maine Yankee on June 13, 2023 and all samples have been removed and shipped to Sandia completing the six year testing program. Mr. Laing explained that the data collected from the coupon analysis and atmospheric monitoring will inform aging management at Maine Yankee and elsewhere in the industry.

Following Mr. Laing's update CAP Vice Chair Dan Thompson emphasized that the emergency drills and exercises are critical and asked if there is any involvement of the Maine Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security with the drills Maine Yankee conducts. Mr. Laing noted that Maine Yankee is in close communication with the state Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security, and that they both are involved in the exercises Maine Yankee conducts.

Chair Hudson asked what the frequency of the aging management inspections of the ISFSI canisters was. 3 Yankees Director of Operations Matt Marston said that NRC code requirement is that inspections are conducted every 10 years. Mr. Laing noted that the inspection in 2018 observed no unusual results. Maine Yankee President and CAP member Wayne Norton added that Connecticut Yankee and Yankee Rowe are on the same inspection schedule as Maine Yankee and that the findings and data are shared throughout the companies and data from other ISFSIs across the industry are regularly shared.

### **State of Maine Update**

State Nuclear Safety Inspector (SNSI) and CAP member Jay Hyland then updated the panel on his activities. Mr. Hyland's presentation is included in the meeting package. Mr. Hyland began by updating the CAP on the Maine Center for Disease Control (Maine CDC) staffing changes. He said that the Radiation Control Program has hired a new manager, Nate Saunders, who comes to the program with nearly 20 years of experience working for the State of Maine in the Drinking Water Program. Mr. Hyland said that Mr. Saunders' most recent position before this was Senior Environmental Engineer for the Drinking Water Program and he started for the Radiation Control Program in September of 2022. Mr.

Hyland also said that the Division of Environmental and Community Health Director, Michael Abbott, will be leaving his position for private industry on September 29th. Mr. Hyland explained the Maine CDC has hired a new Director to replace Dr. Nirav Shah who left for the National CDC in February. He said that Dr. Puthiery Va started with the Maine CDC on August 28, 2023. Dr. Va earned her doctorate at the University of New England in Biddeford and before coming back to Maine worked for the National CDC as a disease investigator and did her residency and was Chief Medical Resident at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, NY. Mr. Hyland said that most recently Dr. Va was the director of the Division of Public Health for the Indian Health Service in Arizona during the COVID pandemic.

Mr. Hyland reported that Maine's Radiation Control Program hired two people this year, filling previous vacancies in the radon section and the radioactive materials section. Mr. Hyland added that the radioactive materials section underwent its Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation with the NRC. The program was found to be adequate to protect public health and compatible with the agreement that the State has signed with the US NRC. He said that this is the highest possible rating.

Mr. Hyland reported that the Maine Yankee Oversight Group continues to meet quarterly to address any concerns regarding spent fuel storage in Maine. He said that this past quarter Maine Yankee hosted the group for a tour of the site due to the number of new individuals on the group. The group consists of The State Public Advocate, the Radiation Control Program, Maine Yankee, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Environmental Protection as defined by Statute.

Mr. Hyland provided an update on the state of Maine's emergency response plans. He said Maine has spent the last year working on updates to all its emergency response plans. The Radiation response plan is an appendix to the State-wide response plan. He added that presently the State disaster recovery team is working on updates to the disaster recovery plan. He also mentioned that the State Public Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory is in the process of moving to a remodeled building on the Augusta AMHI campus. The environmental air sampling system has been moved to the top of the new building from the former building across the river.

Mr. Hyland then provided an update from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) about Ukraine. He said that the IAEA has released 183 updates about Ukraine since the beginning of the invasion by Russia on February 24, 2022. The IAEA has remote data capabilities with all 4 operating reactor sites in Ukraine as well as Chernobyl. Mr. Hyland said that there are 15 reactors at the 4 sites in Ukraine and 3 sites have reactors that are presently operating and connected to the grid. The Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) is currently on the front line of the fighting. Mr. Hyland said that ZNPP is occupied

by Russian forces and operates under a minimal staffing of Ukrainians whose reside in the nearby city of Enerhodar. He said Enerhodar is where the workers live, and the city has been evacuated for months. He added that Enerhodar also includes a thermal power plant that is not operating currently. The dam that created the reservoir that held the water that the nuclear power plant and the thermal power plant used for water was destroyed in June. Mr. Hyland said that the area outside the fence of the nuclear power plant has been mined. He added that due to the concerns regarding an adequate supply of water the facility has drilled 10 wells that supply roughly 200 cubic meters of water per hour. This is considered barely enough to maintain the water level in the spray ponds and cooling pond. Mr. Hyland said they are currently evaluating the water capacity to determine how many more wells to drill. The six reactors at the ZNPP are in shutdown but unit number 6 is in what they call hot shutdown. Mr. Hyland added that they use one unit in hot shutdown to supply steam to their water treatment system. Both the IAEA and the Ukrainian nuclear authority have requested that a diesel boiler be brought in to create the needed steam so that all the reactors can be shut down. The IAEA has an inspection crew at each reactor facility and Chernobyl in Ukraine.

Mr. Hyland explained that he provided this update about the IAEA and situation in Ukraine because back when the Chernobyl accident took place, the State of Maine received readings that there was a spike in radiation levels due to the radioactive cloud. Chair Hudson added that this spike was discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CAP meeting back then and ever since the CAP occasionally receives an update on the nuclear reactor situation in Ukraine.

Mr. Hyland then gave an update about the Maine Legislature. He said that three different bills were introduced during the last legislative session that were related to the interest of the sponsors in bringing new nuclear power plants to Maine. He said two of the bills specifically referenced small modular nuclear reactors. He said that all three of the bills were tabled and so they didn't go anywhere and may eventually die, but all three bills included a section that requested a study to determine the cost and benefit of constructing a new facility. He added that Maine CDC has proposed a state agency stakeholders' group to determine what requirements the state has that a new facility would have to meet so that we could be more prepared should additional bills be presented in future legislative sessions.

Mr. Hyland said that Mr. Howes would be providing a more in-depth update on SNF disposal, but he wanted to update the CAP about how other countries have been managing SNF disposal. He said that Sweden has a hard rock laboratory doing research for its ultimate disposal site which has been chosen at the Forsmark site which is north of the laboratory. He said Sweden expects to have the Forsmark spent fuel disposal facility open to accept waste in the 2030's. Mr. Hyland added that the spent fuel presently resides at the Swedish interim storage facility and opinion polls conducted indicate a large majority in the municipalities

that host the facilities support the construction. Sweden is showing that storage, disposal and most importantly, public support is possible. Mr. Hyland also added that Finland's nuclear repository at Onkalo is expected to begin operating in the next few years. The Finnish design is largely based on the research from the Swedish hard rock laboratory.

Vice Chair Thompson asked if people were still concerned about the radiation detection from Chernobyl. Mr. Hyland said that nothing currently indicates detection from Chernobyl. Vice Chair Thompson also asked about Fukushima and Mr. Hyland said that while the radioactive cloud is said to have gone around the planet twice, nothing indicates detection from Fukushima.

Peter Arnold from Repower Wiscasset asked if Maine Yankee is interested in getting involved in the small modular reactor efforts in Maine. Maine Yankee President and CAP member Wayne Norton said that right now Maine Yankee is staying focused on getting the SNF moved off site and ultimately going out of business and is not looking to get into the generation side of nuclear energy.

### **Spent Nuclear Fuel Removal/Disposal Update**

Maine Yankee Public and Government Affairs Director Eric Howes announced he will be retiring at the end of 2023 and that Kathleen Capstick will be replacing him. Mr. Howes said that Ms. Capstick joined the 3 Yankee Companies as Assistant Director of Government and Public Affairs for Maine Yankee effective July 1<sup>st</sup> and that they have been hard at work transitioning his responsibilities to Ms. Capstick. Mr. Howes mentioned that information about Ms. Capstick and her background can be found in the Maine Yankee Report included in the meeting package.

Mr. Howes then updated the CAP on the national status of the SNF issue and the Department of Energy (DOE) litigation. Mr. Howes' presentation is included in the meeting package. Mr. Howes noted that the September 18, 2023, Maine Yankee Report to the CAP that is in the meeting package and as a handout for the public goes into more detail and contains more information on DOE and NRC topics.

Mr. Howes mentioned that the DOE is focused on developing a consent-based siting process for commercial SNF, a process that started under the Obama Administration, was put on hold during the Trump Administration, and has begun again under the Biden Administration. Mr. Howes said that on 6/9 DOE awarded \$26 million to 13 teams made up of university, nonprofit, and private-sector partners to engage with communities interested in learning more about DOE's consent-based siting approach to identify one or more federal consolidated interim storage facilities for the nation's spent nuclear. He said that these consent-based siting consortia will lead inclusive engagement efforts, elicit public feedback, and develop mutual learning strategies. He noted that DOE is not at

this time soliciting volunteer sites to host consolidated interim storage facilities. They are rather encouraging engagement, open dialogue, and building trust. Mr. Howes added that DOE is trying to answer the question: “how do we achieve consent across the nation? How do we keep consent?” Mr. Howes also explained that DOE anticipates it will be a 10 to 15 year process before a federal consolidated interim storage facility begins operation in a volunteer host community following a consent-based siting process.

Mr. Howes said that the Decommissioning Plant Coalition, which the 3 Yankees are a part of, is a non-compensated participant with The Advancing Solutions through Community Collaboration (ASCC) consortium. He added that other partners of the ASCC are the Southwest Research Institute as the lead, Westra Consulting, Community Transition Planning, Deep Isolation LLC, and Xcel Energy. Mr. Howes said that DOE hosted a 7/25 webinar to share progress on its consent-based siting process and to introduce the consortia teams. Mr. Howes added that CAP Vice-Chair Dan Thompson participated in the webinar and asked DOE “what steps are they taking to garner the experience of advisory panels such as MY’s?” DOE provided a general response.

He noted that DOE is continuing its efforts in preparation to ship SNF: performing research on the storage and transport of SNF, working on reports from shutdown site visits where site specific information was gathered regarding infrastructure for the eventual transport of SNF, developing two rail cars, and doing research on geology for an eventual repository. Mr. Howes added that in 2012 DOE came to Maine Yankee to gather information about site infrastructure for the eventual transportation of the SNF and GTCC waste. DOE has similarly visited the other two Yankee sites and has issued reports for all three on its initial evaluation of site infrastructure for transportation.

Regarding the congressional appropriations/budget process, Mr. Howes reported that the Senate FY 24 Energy & Water Development (E&WD) Appropriations bill was passed by the full Appropriations Committee in July. As in previous years, it included authorization for the consent-based siting of one or more CIS facilities and priority removal of shutdown site SNF/HLW. He also reported that the House Committee on Appropriations sent the House Energy & Water Development FY24 Appropriations bill to the floor in June. The bill cut funding from the Integrated Waste Management Program but is not expected to impact the DOE’s federal consent-based siting process.

Mr. Howes said that the House E&WD bill included a provision that no federal monies shall be expended on private entities for CIS that is not specifically authorized under federal law until such time that host state and local governments and any affected Indian tribes have formalized their consent. The prohibition would not apply to facilities presently storing commercial spent nuclear fuel.

Mr. Howes noted that as in past years a continuing resolution to fund the government beyond the 9/30 end of the fiscal year is expected if agreement on a CR can be reached and if an agreement can't be reached then a government shutdown will occur.

Mr. Howes reported that last winter the former Chair of the SONGS Community Engagement Panel invited a group of over two dozen to bring together front-line communities and interest groups from across the country to develop a set of policy principles aimed at overcoming the long-standing impasse on the spent nuclear fuel issue. The intent is to use the policy principles as the basis for outreach to members of Congress. Chair Hudson participated in this effort. Chair Hudson added that he was very impressed by the quality of participation during the discussions. Chair Hudson said the discussions focused on whether they could coalesce around the biggest issues and if they could establish a unified message, essentially all be "singing from the same sheet." He said that while at times it felt like a group edit of a policy document, the discussions were positive and hopeful.

Regarding the NRC, Mr. Howes mentioned that Commissioner Jeffrey Baran's term expired June 30th as the Senate did not vote on his nomination for another term before the July break. Currently there is no schedule for his reconfirmation. There are now 4 Commissioners rather than the full complement of 5.

Mr. Howes updated the CAP on the Decommissioning Plant Coalition interaction with NRC regarding security related initiatives and said that Maine Yankee's Report to the CAP included in the meeting package provides more detail about the initiatives. Mr. Howes did note that the DPC received a 6/30/23 NRC response to Maine Yankee President and CAP member Wayne Norton's 5/19/23 letter that requested the NRC pause its several security regulation initiatives and to meet to discuss impacts to DPC sites. Mr. Howes added that while NRC rejected the request to pause, it left open the possibility of a meeting. He said the DPC subsequently scheduled a mid-August meeting with NRC staff to discuss these issues with a focus on the Enhanced Weapons, Firearms Background Checks, and Security Event Reporting Final Rule concerns and discussions were moving in a positive direction.

Regarding the Texas and New Mexico proposed Private Consolidated Interim Storage Facilities, Mr. Howes reported that on May 9th the NRC issued a license to Holtec for its proposed CIS facility in New Mexico. He said the proposed Holtec and the Texas Interim Storage Partners NRC licensed remain subject to litigation and state/local political opposition. He noted that the New Mexico Governor signed into law on March 17th a bill that bans the storage or disposal of spent nuclear fuel and/or high-level radioactive waste in New Mexico unless the state has consented to the creation of the disposal facility. Holtec has said it plans to challenge the state law in court.



Regarding the Texas and New Mexico CIS Facility Litigation, Mr. Howes reported that on 8/25/23, in the case of Texas v. NRC challenging the NRC license of the Interim Storage Partners CIS facility, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that the NRC lacks the statutory authority to grant licenses to private entities for the storage of used fuel at reactor sites and vacated the ISP license. Given the court's ruling, the NRC and ISP may seek review by all the judges on the Fifth Circuit or by the Supreme Court. Mr. Howes added that they have until October 17<sup>th</sup> to request a hearing. He said this decision is at variance with two other appellate courts (the DC and 10th Circuits) who have previously upheld the agency licensing action. Mr. Howes added that on 9/8/23, petitioners filed three separate opening briefs (Beyond Nuclear; Fasken Land and Minerals; Sierra Club and 6 other groups) before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit challenging NRC's grant of a license for the Holtec CIS facility.

Mr. Howes closed his presentation with an update on the DOE Spent Fuel Lawsuit status. He said that the 3 Yankee Companies (which include MY, CY, and YR) expect to continue to litigate with the DOE every several years to request damages for costs incurred by the ratepayers for the federal government's failure to meet its statutory and contractual obligation to begin removing the SNF and GTCC waste from the sites beginning in January 1998. He explained that the total damages awarded to the 3 companies to date for the Phase I, II, III, and IV lawsuits are about \$575.5 million.

Mr. Howes reported that the Phase V DOE litigation cases filed by the three Yankee Companies in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims seeks recovery of monetary damages resulting from the federal government's ongoing failure to fulfill its contractual obligations to remove the SNF waste from the three Yankee sites for the years 2017-2021. Mr. Howes added that discovery was scheduled to end on 4/28/23. However, the parties agreed to extend the deadline until the end of May 2023. He said that the Yankees also filed a Motion for Summary Judgment seeking a legal determination that increases in the Trust Funds do not off-set damages as the Government argues. He noted that the Government responded opposing the Yankee Motion and included one of their own seeking a ruling in their favor on the off-set issue. He also added that the parties had a pre-trial conference with Judge Dietz in July. During the conference the Judge stated that he intends to rule on the Motions before going to trial and that he was considering having Oral Argument on them in the October/November 2023 timeframe. As a result, the judge said the earliest practical date for the Phase V trial would be in February/March 2024 and he asked the parties to confer and try to agree on a new schedule to propose to him.

Mr. Norton added that the 3 Yankees have a FERC settlement agreement reached between the three companies and the state utility regulators in Connecticut, Maine, and Massachusetts, who have historically intervened in the companies' FERC rate cases, which approved a filing following the award of the Phase I damages funds. That agreement detailed that Phase I damages

proceeds, and all future phase proceeds are utilized to support continued ISFSI operation and then the balance flows back to the Rate Payers.

Chair Hudson mentioned that he had participated in a meeting that the Canadian Nuclear Waste Management Organization put together to update people about the SNF issues in Canada and that it was his recollection that Canada was making progress on the SNF issue. Chair Hudson asked Mr. Howes and Mr. Hyland if they had any updates on Canada's efforts and Mr. Howes said that Canada has made substantial progress and that DOE, along with the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB) have been in conversations with Canada, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland on their efforts to manage SNF. Ms. Capstick added that Canada is far along in the process and that in their presentation at the NWTRB they mentioned there are two communities that are currently competing to be the host of a permanent repository for their commercial SNF. Chair Hudson said that the DOE should continue maintaining conversations with Canada and other nations because their experiences could really inform DOE's efforts.

Mr. Howes concluded his presentation by thanking Senator Reny for coming to Maine Yankee on September 14<sup>th</sup> for a tour and for joining the CAP. He also thanked Rep. Pingree's representative Pam Trinward for coming to the meeting and said that he was sorry Scott Wilkinson from Senator King's office couldn't be in attendance.

### **Community Advisory Panel Discussion**

CAP Member Steve Jarrett expressed his frustration that the SNF hasn't been moved. He feels that the discussion of where other countries are in their processes vs. the U.S. is typical of the U.S. government to "just kick the can down the road, and we haven't gained a thing." Mr. Jarrett asked, "where do we go from here?" Because he doesn't think the waste will ever move, "definitely not in his lifetime."

CAP Member Ralph Keyes weighed in that what we need is for the government to "kick the canisters *up* the road" – noting that with rising sea levels it will only become more critical that the SNF at Maine Yankee be moved.

This discussion prompted Chair Hudson to recommend sending a formal letter to the Maine Congressional delegation, as the CAP does every year and thank them for their efforts to keep the SNF issue at the forefront of DOE priorities and to ask them to continue these efforts. Chair Hudson said he is very appreciative of the leadership Senators Collins, King, and Representative Pingree have consistently demonstrated in trying to resolve the decades long policy impasse on the SNF issue. He thanked their representatives for attending and participating in the annual CAP meeting. Vice-Chair Thompson agreed with sending a letter to the delegation and noted that the CAP has something to

contribute to the discussion having participated in one of the first major plant decommissioning in the U.S. Vice Chair Thompson added that he's learned a lot during this meeting and asked how many decommissioned plants there are in the U.S., how many of them had community advisory panels, and posited that maybe these other CAP's could benefit from the Maine Yankee CAP

Mr. Norton and Mr. Howes said that there are roughly 21 shut down nuclear power reactors that are in various states of decommissioning and almost all of them have CAPs. Chair Hudson mentioned that the Maine Yankee CAP was unique because it was created with the collective efforts of the Maine Governor's office, Maine Yankee, and the community. He added that our CAP was successful during decommissioning because it's an effective mix of experiences and jurisdictions, which isn't the case for some other CAPs. Chair Hudson added that at one point Vermont Yankee had two CAPs – one established by the company and a separate one established by the government. Vice Chair Thompson added that the MY CAP is a good forum that others can learn a lot from.

Chair Hudson then received unanimous consent to send a letter from the CAP to the Congressional delegation and Mr. Howes and Ms. Capstick will draft a letter and send it to Chair Hudson for his review and signature on behalf of the CAP.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

Chair Hudson and Vice Chair Thompson then recognized and thanked Eric Howes for his many years assisting at CAP meetings. As he mentioned at the beginning of his presentation, Mr. Howes is retiring from the 3 Yankee Companies at this end of the year after decades of service. Mr. Hudson reflected on his many years of working with Mr. Howes, starting back in 1993 when Maine Yankee reached out to him for help with the ospreys nesting on the yard crane at the then operating plant. In Chair Hudson's words: "It has been a remarkable journey and we have valued your company and commitment the entire time we have been a CAP."

Vice Chair Thompson also expressed his thanks, reflecting on his years working alongside Mr. Howes. He remembered the various trips that the CAP went on with Mr. Howes, specifically recalling the trip to Yucca Mountain and the tour through the tunnel at Yucca Mountain. Chair Hudson and Vice Chair Thompson then presented Mr. Howes with a plaque from the CAP and Maine Yankee.

"We Honor Your Dedicated Service. Thank you for your decades of outstanding support to MY and the CAP. With your assistance, we enhanced open communication, public involvement, and education regarding the decommissioning of the plant, environmental remediation of

the site, and the storage of the Spent Nuclear Fuel & GTCC waste. Congratulations on your retirement – we wish you all the best in your future!”

Mr. Howes thanked everyone, remarking on his 30 years working for Maine Yankee and the CAP and how proud he was to be part of a successful community advisory panel and the progress the CAP has made since it began back in the 90's. Mr. Howes said he has greatly enjoyed helping at CAP meetings and getting to know all the members personally. The CAP then took a group photo with Mr. Howes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.