

Final Draft

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

**October 29, 2024, 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	No
The Honorable Chris Johnson	No
Mr. Ralph Keyes	Yes
Ms. Misty Parker	No
Mr. Steve Jarrett	Yes
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 Maine House Representative Ed Polewarczyk, Evan Goodkowsky Lincoln County Board of Commissioners District One elect, Senator King's representative Scott Wilkinson, Senator Collins' representative Alysson Cavaretta, Wiscasset resident Brian Stevens, Town of Wiscasset's Director of Economic Development Aaron Chrosowsky, 3 Yankee Companies staff John Macdonald, Shae Hemingway, Dan Laing, Melanie Tibbetts, Sue Arnold, and Kathleen Capstick.

CAP Business

The CAP approved the minutes of the September 21, 2023, CAP annual meeting.

Chair Hudson mentioned that there will be a slight change to the agenda because Jay Hyland, Maine State Nuclear Safety Inspector, is unfortunately sick and not in attendance. He asked Kathleen Capstick if she could follow up with Mr. Hyland to see if he could share his presentation with the CAP later.

Chair Hudson said as stipulated in its Charter, the CAP had to decide whether to continue its work for another two years. The CAP discussed editing Section IV

Part A of the CAP Charter to extend the operation of the CAP until 2030. Vice-Chair Dan Thompson said he favored the CAP's continuation as the CAP is the only interface between the public and Maine Yankee and through Maine Yankee to our congressional delegation in Washington. Ralph Keyes said he favored continuing the CAP's work, saying that in his experience as a former high school science teacher, he found that students and adults are often unaware there used to be a nuclear power plant in Wiscasset. He emphasized the need to annually highlight that spent nuclear fuel (SNF) remains stored at the site and suggested that the CAP should explore additional methods to engage and educate the public about SNF issues. Chair Hudson said that based on information from the recent ECA meetings, siting work is likely to continue until at least 2030. Chair Hudson motioned to change section IV Part A of the CAP Charter to extend operation until 2030 and vote again at that time. The CAP voted unanimously to continue its work until the annual meeting in 2030 and Chair Hudson asked Ms. Capstick to update the CAP Charter to indicate this change.

Chair Hudson said that as stipulated in its Charter, the CAP is required to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for another two years. Steve Jarrett then nominated Chair Hudson and Vice-Chair Thompson to another two-year term. Mr. Keyes seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations the CAP voted unanimously for Chair Hudson and Vice Chair Thompson to serve another two years in their respective positions.

Chair Hudson briefly explained the role of the CAP and said 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, Kathleen Capstick keeps the CAP up to date on national issues related to Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) and the various efforts by the federal government to find a solution to the commercial SNF issue.

Chair Hudson also mentioned that the MY CAP was invited to attend and participate in the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) and the Decommissioning Plant Coalition (DPC) two-day meeting at the Chewonki Foundation two weeks prior – where they discussed the Department of Energy's (DOE) efforts to find a solution for the SNF. He explained that the two-day meeting included a site visit to Maine Yankee. He said that he felt encouraged by the two-day meeting because it felt like there is a renewed effort from DOE in solving the SNF impasse.

Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) 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 industrial safety, Mr. Laing said that there have been no Lost Time Accidents, OSHA Recordable Injuries, or near misses since the last report. He said that the last Lost Time Accident (LTA) at Maine Yankee occurred in November 2005. On August 11, 2024, Maine Yankee surpassed one million person-hours worked since the last LTA. He said that a site celebration took place earlier that day (October 29, 2024).

Mr. Laing explained that overall security performance at MY is good, with an active pipeline of ISFSI Shift Supervisors (ISSs), ISS Upgrades, and a capable on-site Allied leadership team. He added that three newly hired ISFSI Security Officers recently completed their training, are now on shift, and that the Maine Yankee Security team is fully staffed at this time.

Regarding site projects, Mr. Laing explained Maine Yankee completed replacement of the regulatory camera enclosures in the Protected Area as well as Phase 3 (final phase) of the industrial camera replacement, providing the site with more robust cameras with an extended view range.

Mr. Laing continued his presentation, explaining that in 2024, Maine Yankee held two annual Emergency Plan drills. He stated that the 2024 Emergency Fire & Medical Drill was completed on July 16, 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 2024 Emergency Plan Radiological Drill was completed on October 1, and all the objectives were met.

Regarding US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspections, Mr. Laing said the NRC triennial Operations/Safety Inspection at Maine Yankee was conducted on May 13-14, 2024. He explained that an exit meeting was convened on May 14, 2024. The preliminary inspection results determined no cited, non-cited, or minor violations. The inspectors concluded licensing documentation was thorough and accurate, and the material condition of the protected area, the pad and the VCCs was excellent. The inspectors specifically commented on the ownership, professionalism, and pride in the entire site team.

Mr. Laing explained that on August 10, 2024, a required four-hour verbal notification was made to the NRC Operations Center following the security force observation of unmanned aerial activity (a drone) within the restricted air space of the facility. The FBI, FAA, and local law enforcement were also notified. Ultimately, it was determined that an “amateur” drone enthusiast was responsible and appropriate warnings were issued.

Mr. Laing updated the CAP on the multi-year effort with Maine Yankee’s vendor NAC to renew the ISFSI storage Certificate of Compliance (C of C) for 40 years. The NAC-UMS Certificate of Compliance (C of C) renewal application was approved with an effective date of July 15, 2024. NAC will issue the revised

FSAR for the renewed C of C within 90 days of its effective date. Mr. Laing said the Aging Management Programs must be implemented within one year of the renewed C of C effective date.

Mr. Laing explained that the Aging Management Program and procedures for Maine Yankee are being drafted. The change management plan for the transition to the renewed C of C has been revised to update the status of the effective date and include a schedule for implementing the renewed NAC-UMS C of C for MY. Mr. Laing added that the next VCC internal and canister external inspections will be conducted at MY in 2026. The last inspection was in 2018, and no issues were discovered in that inspection.

Mr. Laing explained that the 3 Yankee Companies continue to be actively involved in relicensing and aging management activities and continue to work on a variety of industry committees for mitigation and repair of inspection findings on dry storage canisters. Wet candle air particulate sampling is in service at Maine Yankee to provide atmospheric monitoring for the site.

Following Mr. Laing's update, CAP Vice Chair Dan Thompson asked if there are assurances Maine Yankee can provide that the unmanned aerial activity that took place on August 10 was an outlier and that the site is sufficiently prepared to handle these incidents. Mr. Laing reassured the CAP that the Maine Yankee security force is vigilant and takes these incidents very seriously. He reminded everyone that Maine Yankee was in close communication with the FBI, State Emergency Management Agency, Homeland Security, FAA, and local law enforcement about this incident. Mr. Laing also mentioned that most of these organizations are involved in the emergency drills and exercises Maine Yankee conducts.

State of Maine Update

State Nuclear Safety Inspector (SNSI) and CAP member Jay Hyland was not in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Hyland's presentation was included in the meeting package.

Spent Nuclear Fuel Removal/Disposal Update

Maine Yankee Government and Public Affairs Director Kathleen Capstick updated the CAP on the national status of the SNF issue and the Department of Energy (DOE) litigation. Ms. Capstick noted that the October 29, 2024, 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.

Ms. Capstick explained that the DOE has been focused on developing a consent-based siting process for commercial SNF. She explained that as mentioned at

last year's annual CAP meeting, the DOE awarded \$26 million to 12 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 fuel.

Ms. Capstick continued to explain that the DOE held its fifth Consolidated Interim Storage Consent-Based Siting Webinar on August 31 – this one to expand the national conversation on SNF. She added that the DOE will hold its sixth Webinar on November 20 – this one will address questions drawn from public feedback received during previous webinars, from social science research, and from inquiries sent to the DOE email inboxes.

Ms. Capstick said that the DOE also issued two Requests For Information (RFI) – one to identify industry partners interested in contributing to the development of federal consolidated interim storage facilities – as well as an RFI about a Spent Fuel Transportation Package Performance Demonstration (PPD) effort to help build public trust and confidence in the safety of spent nuclear fuel transportation casks. She added that DOE also held a Webinar about the Transportation Package Demonstration RFI on October 2 -- and extended the public comment period to Oct. 31, 2024.

Ms. Capstick then explained that the only other Administration item to mention is that the Energy Communities Alliance consortia (ECA), one of the 12 consortia working on DOE's consent-based siting efforts, held their fall quarterly consortia meeting up in Wiscasset, Maine, two weeks ago at the Chewonki Foundation. She provided some context information about the ECA and explained that outside of the DOE's CBS efforts, the ECA is a long-standing non-profit organization of local governments and communities that host, are adjacent to, or impacted by nuclear facilities and DOE nuclear-related sites and activities – also known as legacy Manhattan Project Sites (members of the ECA include Hanford, Idaho National Lab, Los Alamos National Lab, Nevada National Security Site, Oak Ridge Reservation, Paducah, Savannah River, WIPP, West Valley Demonstration Project, etc.)

Ms. Capstick said that at the ECA's July consent-based siting quarterly meeting, the ECA asked the Decommissioning Plant Coalition (which is a non-compensated member of the ECA's consortia) to host their fall quarterly meeting at one of the DPC shutdown sites as most of the ECA members have never visited a stand-alone Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). She explained that Wayne Norton, President of the 3 Yankees and chair of the DPC Steering Committee, volunteered Maine Yankee to host that meeting and provide a tour of the Maine Yankee site.

Ms. Capstick explained that on Oct. 16, Maine Yankee hosted a site tour for the ECA members, Department of Energy's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Spent

Fuel and High-Level Waste Disposition Paul Murray, and state and local officials and tribal nation representatives. Following the tour, the ECA, MY Community Advisory Panel (CAP) – (Don, Dan, Ralph, Steve, and Jay were all in attendance), and Decommissioning Plant Coalition (DPC) held a discussion about the important role of the community in Maine Yankee’s decommissioning and SNF storage efforts. Over 40 people attended the meetings, including Congressional staff from Senator King and Senator Collins’ offices, representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute, the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, and other state and local officials (Dennis Simmons - Wiscasset Town Manager and Aaron Chrostowsky – Wiscasset Director of Economic Development).

Ms. Capstick said that on Oct 17, ECA consortia members continued their discussions on CBS and the efforts made by the three local communities that the ECA awarded 12-month grants to develop public engagement processes for nuclear waste management. They are also offering additional funding for other interested organizations.

Ms. Capstick paused her presentation to ask the CAP members who attended the ECA meeting in Wiscasset if they had anything they wanted to add about the meetings. Mr. Ralph Keyes said that he would go into more detail during the CAP discussion section of the meeting agenda, but did comment that he was glad that the two-day ECA meeting took place and mentioned that it is crucial that we keep the community engaged about SNF and the need for a solution to the SNF at Maine Yankee, noting that due to climate change and rising sea levels, it will only become more critical that the SNF at Maine Yankee be moved. Mr. Keyes added that one question that came up during the ECA meetings was about the level of community engagement and awareness around Maine Yankee, which he feels is not strong. As a former high school teacher, he said that most students (and many adults) were unaware that the Maine Yankee site was located in Wiscasset and that SNF is stored at the site now.

Chair Hudson added that he really appreciated meeting and hearing from the ECA communities, especially given that they are other “nuclear communities” who understand the need for a solution for storing all the nation’s nuclear waste forms. Chair Hudson specifically appreciated hearing from a Mayor from Idaho who spoke during the meeting about their community's interest in hosting a consolidated interim storage facility. Chair Hudson also agreed with Mr. Keyes’ comments about the need to educate the public about the safety of storing SNF. The CAP agreed to continue the discussion about the ECA meeting in Wiscasset after Ms. Capstick finished her presentation.

Regarding the U.S. Congress, Ms. Capstick explained that the U.S. House and Senate lawmakers passed a Continuing Resolution on September 25 to avert a government shutdown that was signed by President Biden. The bill (H.R. 9747) will maintain fiscal year 2024 funding levels through December 20.

Regarding Appropriation legislation, Ms. Capstick said that the House FY 2024 Energy & Water Development Appropriations bill (H.R.8997) was approved by the full Committee on July 9. The funding tables indicate that they held Used Fuel Disposition R&D stable at \$47 million, but again cut the Integrated Waste Management System program, this time by \$30 million from last year's level and \$28 million from the Administration's request for additional funding. This is similar to the position taken by the House last year that was overturned by the Senate and in the bicameral negotiations at the end of the FY '24 process.

Ms. Capstick explained that this cut in funding in the House E&WD Appropriations underscores the need to get DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Spent Fuel and High-Level Waste Disposition Paul Murray and his team in DOE Nuclear Energy sustained annual funding from the Nuclear Waste Fund – which electric ratepayers have paid upwards of \$3 billion into and now totals over \$47 billion, or at the very least access to the nearly \$2 billion in annual interest on the fund – for an integrated nuclear waste program that includes near-term consolidated interim storage with priority for SNF stored at shutdown reactor sites.

Ms. Capstick explained that the Senate Energy & Water Development (E&WD) FY 2024 Appropriations bill (S.4927) was unanimously approved by the full Senate Appropriations Committee. She said the Committee Report language accompanying the E&WD bill text clarified that the Committee fully funded the Administration's request of \$53 million for the DOE's Integrated Waste Management account. It also specifically directed the DOE to move forward under its existing authority to identify a site for a Federal CIS Facility (CISF) with priority for shutdown reactor sites.

Ms. Capstick added that the Senate E&WD Report directs the DOE to use a consent-based siting approach for a Federal CISF - and specifically reminded DOE that the Nuclear Waste Policy Act provides for a wide variety of activities that may take place prior to the limitations in that act. It also included that DOE provide Congress with recommendations for a mechanism to ensure any SNF/HLRW stored at a consolidated storage facility pursuant to the section shall move to deep geologic disposal capacity.

Ms. Capstick also explained that the Senate Interior & Environment Appropriations FY 2025 bill (S. 4802) passed the Senate on July 24th and for the first time included funding to develop a generic, technology-neutral standard for a second nuclear waste disposal repository. She said the goal is for the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) to use modern and international practices in creating - new plans to dispose of all the nation's SNF and HLW (commercial, naval, WWII legacy, and new nuclear). The EPA had requested \$635,000 to fund this work - but the bill's proposed \$250,000 - would assist in getting the process initiated so, hopefully, the Senate language prevails.

Regarding Authorizing legislation – Ms. Capstick commented that two bills were introduced in the last week of September. A bi-partisan Senate bill was introduced on September 24 by Senators Cruz (R-TX) and Heinrich (D-N.M.) – called the “Advancing Research in Nuclear Fuel Recycling Act of 2024” – that seeks to establish a DOE-commissioned study evaluating the costs, benefits, and risks -- of recycling U.S. spent nuclear fuel into usable fuels for commercial and advanced reactors -- as well as for other nonreactor applications, including medical, space, industrial, and advanced battery applications.

Ms. Capstick said that in the House -- a bi-partisan bill was introduced on September 25 by Congressmen Levin (D-CA) and Pfluger (R-TX) -- called “The Nuclear Waste Administration Act” that seeks to establish a new single-purpose, independent federal agency to manage the nation’s nuclear waste. The bill would transfer the responsibilities for siting, constructing, and operating nuclear waste storage facilities and repositories from the Department of Energy to a new Nuclear Waste Administration. She explained that Rep. Levin’s bill mirrors legislation introduced a decade ago by a bipartisan group of Senators – which was largely inspired by recommendations made by an Obama-era Blue Ribbon Commission report that studied how to best deal with existing and future nuclear waste. She reminded everyone that Senator Joe Manchin most recently reintroduced the bill in 2022 – and all the prior versions of the Nuclear Waste Administration Act have died in Committee - even if they got a hearing.

Ms. Capstick said that it was very unlikely that neither the Senate nor the House bill will move before the close of this Session – so we’ll wait to see if they are introduced next year.

Regarding the Texas and New Mexico proposed Private Consolidated Interim Storage Facility litigation, Ms. Capstick explained that the future of those sites now rests with the U.S. Supreme Court – as the Court recently agreed to hear the case involving the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s authority to grant licenses to the private companies for consolidated interim storage of SNF in Texas and New Mexico. She reminded everyone that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit – vacated the licenses NRC granted to Interim Storage Partners for their CIS facility in Texas and Holtec International for theirs in New Mexico. She explained that the Fifth Circuit ruled that NRC lacked the statutory authority to issue such licenses and held that individuals who had not participated in the NRC hearing process could nonetheless challenge agency actions in court. A decision by the Court is expected by the middle of next year.

Ms. Capstick closed her presentation with an update on the DOE Spent Fuel Lawsuit status. She 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.

Ms. Capstick reported that the 3 Yankees are currently in the fifth phase of litigation with the DOE in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, seeking to recover monetary damages resulting from the federal government's ongoing failure to fulfill its contractual obligations to remove the SNF from the three Yankee sites for the period of 2017-2021. She reminded everyone that the CAP update report covers all the legal proceedings since the last update - but the upshot is that the government asked for a delay in the trial and requested a conference with the Yankees to discuss a possible settlement - which the Judge agreed to - and the parties met in September.

Ms. Capstick reported that the proposed settlement, if approved, would provide the Yankees with approximately 97% of their alleged damages, with the government maintaining their appeal to the trust fund offset issue that they lost on summary judgment. The proposed settlement is subject to approval by both sides' higher authorities. The three Yankee Company Boards approved the proposed settlement. The necessary government approvals are still needed. Ms. Capstick also reminded the CAP that damages awarded to Maine Yankee by the U.S. Court of Federal Claims are paid out of the U.S. Judgement Fund – not the Nuclear Waste Fund that the electric ratepayers paid into.

Maine House Representative Ed Polewarczyk asked how much the settlement was, and Wayne Norton said that approximately 97% of the alleged damages for the three Yankees would come to roughly \$145 million. Mr. Norton reminded the CAP that once the Yankees receive the proceeds, they expect to have a full 15 years of financial assurance and might be able to flow some proceeds back to the ratepayers. Mr. Norton also mentioned that if the federal government doesn't agree to the settlement, a trial is scheduled for January 2025.

Chair Hudson also added that during the ECA meeting in Wiscasset, DOE Deputy Secretary Paul Murray showed the group a chart that showed the annual estimated remaining liability that DOE owes (roughly \$44 billion) due to its breach of the Standard Contracts. The chart also showed the Fiscal Year budget amounts that Congress annually appropriates for DOE's SNF program. Chair Hudson remarked that the chart clearly illustrated the stark contrast in the numbers and the strong argument that with sustained funding DOE could get an integrated waste management program off the ground and find a solution for the SNF – ultimately ending the need for litigation and significantly lowering the DOE's liability – that ultimately falls on taxpayers. Chair Hudson noted that the Nuclear Waste Policy Act's (NWPA) consent-based siting program is primarily focused on finding a community for interim spent nuclear fuel (SNF) storage. It does not authorize the DOE to build a long-term geologic repository for nuclear waste disposal. However, he hopes a new program for a national repository can be established as the siting process progresses, which will help ratepayers. He

felt both encouraged by the ECA meetings and sobered by the amount of work and time required for the program.

An audience member asked if the DOE had given up on Yucca as a geological repository for SNF. Ms. Capstick and Mr. Norton responded that the project had been vacated in 2010. Chair Hudson added that several countries, including France, Finland, Canada, and Sweden, have plans for long-term geologic storage of SNF. These countries provide opportunities for the U.S. to see how a repository will operate and gain confidence in the program. Chair Hudson added that one of the issues to address is how to overcome negative social constructs associated with nuclear power. An audience member said that it seems like views are starting to change, especially with the advent of small modular reactors.

An audience member also asked if Maine Yankee provides public tours of the ISFSI. Mr. Laing said that, historically, since decommissioning, Maine Yankee has not done this, but they could certainly discuss the possibility. Mr. Norton added that a tour might be possible in a consolidated fashion. Chair Hudson agreed with Mr. Norton, saying individual tours would be challenging, but perhaps a group tour could be arranged with interested community members. Chair Hudson said that the more people understood that the SNF was being stored safely, the better.

Community Advisory Panel Discussion

CAP Member Steve Jarrett expressed his appreciation for being invited to participate in the ECA's two-day meeting in Wiscasset. He felt that the discussions were productive and showed the DOE's interest in finding a solution to the SNF impasse.

CAP Member Ralph Keyes agreed with Mr. Jarrett's assessment of the ECA meeting. Mr. Keyes added that he thought the tour of Maine Yankee was an important aspect of the two-day meeting and thought that maybe providing a public tour of Maine Yankee would go a long way to helping to educate the public up in Maine. He said that he lives in Brunswick, and folks don't know that there is SNF stored in Wiscasset. He repeated his comment that he made during Ms. Capstick's presentation – noting that with rising sea levels it will only become more critical that the SNF at Maine Yankee be moved. Mr. Keyes also mentioned that he reached out to Ms. Capstick in May to find out whether Maine Yankee had taken any tide measurements near the ISFSI during the tidal surges associated with the January and March storms. He said that he understands it is a far reach from the mean high-water level up to the ISFSI, but it is something he thinks should probably be documented by either Maine Yankee or the State of Maine.

Vice Chair Dan Thompson weighed in with his perspective of the ECA's two-day meeting. He noted that people from all over the country attended the meeting at

Chewonki, and he was impressed by the attendees' depth of knowledge and strong interest in the Maine Yankee ISFSI. He said that he had the opportunity to speak with a representative of an Indigenous Tribe from a community in the southwestern region of the US, interested in potentially hosting a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). He mentioned that he thought the DOE's plan to have between 5-7 CISFs seems like a good plan since a permanent geologic repository at Yucca Mountain isn't likely an option. He thought it was great that Maine Yankee provided a site tour for the ECA communities to give them a sense of the serious level of security at the site and to gain an appreciation for the efforts of Maine Yankee to maintain the safe storage of SNF. He said that whenever the SNF finally starts to move – there will be a great level of interest, and it is important that we maintain public awareness. He noted that the CAP has something to contribute, having participated in one of the first major plant decommissioning in the U.S., and posited that maybe these other communities could benefit from the Maine Yankee CAP.

Chair Hudson added that based on what he heard from the DOE during the ECA meeting, if the DOE starts an integrated waste management project in 2026, the 2030s would be the earliest we could have a CISF, and the 2060s would be the earliest we could possibly have a geologic repository. He mentioned that shutdown sites, like Maine Yankee are thoroughly regulated. He added that while it's a shame that the geologic repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada has stalled, there are communities around the country that are interested in hosting a CISF. He remarked that he's not sure he'll be around to ever see the first cask move – but feels that the CAP should continue to be supportive and helpful in getting an integrated waste management program back up and running. He said that there is a need for an interim solution for ratepayers and, ultimately, a need for a long-term plan. He mentioned that the U.S., Spain, and Ukraine are the only countries without a deep geologic repository plan. He said that other countries have been moving forward on developing deep geologic repositories – like Finland – using knowledge and technology developed over the years in the U.S.

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 appreciates the leadership that Senators Collins, King, and Representative Pingree have consistently demonstrated in trying to resolve the decades-long policy impasse on the SNF issue. He mentioned that he recently ran into Senator King and thanked him for his continued support. Chair Hudson thanked Senator Collins' and King's staff representatives for attending and participating in both the ECA meeting at Chewonki and the annual CAP meeting. Vice-Chair Thompson agreed with sending a letter to the delegation and noted that it would be important this year since for the first time in a long time there wasn't a member of the press in attendance at this year's CAP meeting.

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

CAP Member State Senator Cameron Reny asked if it would make sense for the CAP to send out a press release about the evening's CAP meeting – given that there wasn't any press in attendance. The CAP agreed, and Ms. Capstick will draft a press release and send it to Chair Hudson for his review to send on behalf of the CAP.

Public Comment

A member of the public asked if it would be possible to put a small modular reactor on Maine Yankee land. Wayne Norton responded and explained that while Maine Yankee has enough land, this isn't something that the company has any interest in doing because the company has been trying to go out of business since 1998 when DOE was contractually obligated to begin removing the SNF and GTCC waste from the site.

Chair Hudson added that in the early days of decommissioning Maine Yankee, there were thoughts of ways to re-utilize the land, and that information can be found in the 2005 Maine Yankee Decommissioning EPRI Report on the Maine Yankee website.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.