

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

October 10, 2017, Wiscasset Community Center  
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
Ms. Stacy Linehan	Yes
Mr. Steve Jarrett	No
The Honorable Dana Dow	No
Mr. Scott Houldin	No

## Introduction

Chair Don Hudson welcomed CAP members and audience to the CAP meeting which began at 4:00 p.m. Each CAP member introduced him or herself. Audience included: Charlotte Boynton, Lincoln County News; Gina Hamilton, Wiscasset Newspaper; George Richardson, First Selectman Westport Island; Mark Winter, Senator Collins' representative; Pamela Trinward, Rep Pingree's representative; (Arriving at 4:30 were Marge Kilkelly former CAP Chair and current staff to Senator Angus King, and Scott Wilkinson also Senator King's representative); Pat Dostie, State Nuclear Safety Inspector; Larry Doucette, Maine Yankee; Robert Fairfield, Bob Conklin, Mark Collins, Susan Robson, and a few other members of the general public.

## **CAP Business**

The CAP voted unanimously to appoint Chris Johnson as a public member of the panel. The September 28, 2016 CAP meeting minutes were approved unanimously without change. The CAP also unanimously approved a change to its Charter regarding the process for filling the Lincoln County Delegation member position. Chair Hudson explained that the change was being proposed as a more efficient way to fill the position. The previous Charter language in this section and the new approved Charter language are below with the new approved language in bold. Mr. Johnson noted that the Charter does not address how to fill this position if there is no member of the Lincoln County delegation who wishes to serve on the CAP. Chair Hudson suggested that if this

were to occur the CAP could address it at that time. He also said that he thought finding an interested legislator to serve would not be difficult as the issue of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) stranded in Wiscasset has implications beyond Lincoln County.

### **Previous Charter language**

1. The CAP will consist of at least seven members including a representative of the Lincoln County Legislative Delegation, a representative appointed by the Governor, a representative appointed by the Wiscasset Selectmen, and Maine Yankee's representative. Other members may have been members of the Decommissioning CAP, but are not limited by that requirement.
3. Replacement of the Governor's representative, the Wiscasset representative, and the Maine Yankee representative, shall be by the selecting body. In the event the legislator from Lincoln County resigns the CAP will request that the Lincoln County Legislative Delegation select a replacement from among its members.

### **Approved Charter language change**

1. The CAP will consist of at least seven members including a representative of the Lincoln County Legislative Delegation, **invited to serve on the CAP by the CAP Chair who may delegate this task to CAP staff**, a representative appointed by the Governor, a representative appointed by the Wiscasset Selectmen, and Maine Yankee's representative. Other members may have been members of the Decommissioning CAP, but are not limited by that requirement.
3. Replacement of the Governor's representative, the Wiscasset representative, and the Maine Yankee representative, shall be by the selecting body. In the event the legislator from Lincoln County resigns **or is no longer a Lincoln County legislator, the CAP Chair will invite another member of the Lincoln County Legislative Delegation to serve on the CAP and may delegate this task to CAP staff.**

Chair Hudson then deferred item 2 on the agenda - CAP 20th year recognition - as former CAP Chair Marge Kilkelly had not yet arrived at the meeting. Chair Hudson asked Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Manager J. Stanley Brown to give his presentation.

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

Mr. 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 and that Maine Yankee maintains regular contact with its primary regulator the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and also the State of Maine.

Mr. Brown noted that in August Maine Yankee marked a significant safety milestone of 500,000 safe hours without a lost time accident. The last LTA was in 2005. He said Maine Yankee held a celebration lunch and provided everyone with a commemorative jacket.

Mr. Brown updated the CAP on the three security systems related events that occurred in April. He said one of the events had to do with equipment failure and two with human performance. He said a team from the three Yankee sites - Maine Yankee, Connecticut Yankee, and Yankee Rowe - was convened to perform Apparent Cause Evaluations (ACE). The NRC and State of Maine have been informed of the results of the ACEs and corrective actions which include improved training and a clarification of roles and responsibilities. He said the corrective actions are being implemented and are expected to be complete later this fall. Construction for the Central Alarm Station upgrade has been put off until fall 2018 to allow time for the corrective actions to be fully integrated into ISFSI operations.

Mr. Brown said the annual emergency plan drill is tomorrow. He said this year's drill is smaller than the exercise held last year in which there were 40-50 participants including the state police, Wiscasset Police, and Lincoln County Emergency Management. He said Maine Yankee appreciates the support.

Regarding the chemical groundwater monitoring program Mr. Brown said that Maine Yankee along with other companies in Maine regulated under the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) attended a May meeting initiated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) to solicit ideas for streamlining the process for sites like Maine Yankee to move towards closure of the groundwater monitoring program. At MDEP's request Maine Yankee sent them a letter in July (which was included in the CAP's meeting package) with recommendations for how the RCRA process could be improved. Among Maine Yankee's recommendations were more timely reviews and face to face meetings that avoid the time lost with the back and forth of written correspondence.

Maine Yankee plans a follow up letter to MDEP recommending the elimination of the remaining 7 sampling wells at the site. Under the current program the wells are sampled triennially every 5th year with 2018 being the next sampling year. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Brown to clarify the term "triennially". Mr. Brown said the wells are sampled three times seasonally over the course of the year to account for fluctuations in groundwater level. Ms. Linehan noted Maine Yankee has gone from 21 monitoring wells to 7 and asks whether this is because the sampling results are so good?

Mr. Brown said one reason is that Maine Yankee was monitoring the same constituents in wells that were very close together. He noted that many of the constituents are naturally occurring at the site. Maine Yankee has decades of data from groundwater sampling and the results being obtained are not expected to change much in coming years. In addition there are restrictive covenants in place regarding use of the site.

Mr. Brown reported that the quarterly meetings between the State of Maine and Maine Yankee continue to be productive and that Radiation Control Program Manager Jay Hyland and State Nuclear Safety Inspector (SNSI) Pat Dostie are participants along with the MDEP, State Police, and the Public Advocate's office.

Mr. Brown noted that the next NRC site inspection is scheduled for spring 2018.

At the NRC's request in March Maine Yankee hosted a bench marking, fact finding trip for federal agencies to learn about ISFSI security program implementation and response protocol from local law enforcement. Representatives from the NRC, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Energy (DOE) as well as local law enforcement attended the meeting. The federal agency visitors were very appreciative and complimentary of the ISFSI security program.

Mr. Brown updated the panel on the significant effort underway at Maine Yankee working with NAC International to prepare and submit the NAC storage license renewal application in advance of the 2020 expiration date.

Mr. Brown discussed the ongoing efforts with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and others to continue developing the technical basis for dry cask storage canister inspections. He noted that EPRI has created a subcommittee for mitigation and repair of inspection findings and that Maine Yankee's cask relicensing project manager and the aging management project manager are each serving on one of these subcommittees. Mr. Johnson asked if there was anything from last year's canister inspection needing mitigation. Mr. Brown said there was not and the canister looked very good. Mr. Brown noted that Maine Yankee inspects the concrete casks every year. He also said Maine Yankee has an air sampling system to gather data to help assess the potential for corrosion of dry cask storage components over time from chemical contaminants. Chair Hudson noted for those new to the subject that the relicensing is for the canisters the SNF is now stored in. He also said the river water near Maine Yankee is brackish and as such the air has less chloride concentration than air closer to the ocean. Ms. Linehan asked if the canisters when installed had an estimated life expectancy. Mr. Brown said they do not have an engineered design life but were originally licensed for 20 years and the relicense application is for 40 years. He said studies have shown that canisters - whether Maine Yankee's or other designs - are expected to perform their function for many years without degradation. Aging management assures the canisters and concrete

casks are inspected regularly. Chair Hudson echoed Mr. Brown regarding studies that conclude the canisters will safely store fuel over long periods of time and that the NRC and industry have taken a very conservative approach to aging management which is why you look at it every year. Vice-Chair Thompson added there is great value in annual inspections to show that, when the time comes, the canisters are in good shape to be shipped off-site. He noted the canisters at Maine Yankee are licensed for storage and transport.

Mr. Brown closed his presentation noting the Colorado School of Mines in collaboration with the DOE has engaged Maine Yankee as a test site for test corrosion coupons to evaluate the effect of typical dry storage environments on canister materials. Coupons have been installed in one inlet and one outlet vent of four casks at Maine Yankee. The data collected is expected to benefit relicensing and aging-management activities in the industry.

### **CAP 20th Year Recognition**

Chair Hudson recognized Maine Yankee's Director of Public & Government Affairs and CAP staff Eric Howes for remarks regarding the CAP's 20th year. Mr. Howes said it hardly seems possible that today's annual meeting marks the CAP's 20th year. He noted that Chair Hudson and Vice-Chair Thompson are the two remaining Charter members from that first CAP meeting on August 21, 1997 and that Marge Kilkelly was then the CAP Chair. He added that Steve Jarrett and Ralph Keyes have served nearly as long - 18 years - Joining the CAP in 1999. Mr. Howes said the CAP has remained true to its Charter first through decommissioning and now focused on the safe storage and removal of the SNF and Greater-than-Class C waste from Maine Yankee: "to enhance open communications, public involvement and education..." Mr. Howes reminded the CAP of its accomplishments such as the 2005 report on their experience through decommissioning and that the CAP's work has benefited and will continue to benefit other communities with shutdown plants now on the front end of decommissioning such as Vermont Yankee, San Onofre, and soon Pilgrim Station.

Mr. Howes noted that it's been 12 years since the end of decommissioning. He recounted the CAP's accomplishments during that time such as hosting the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future Subcommittee on Storage & Transportation for a site tour and public meeting at Chewonki in 2010, and the CAP letters sent to members of the Maine and New England congressional delegation in 2014 and 2015 urging Congress to remove SNF as a priority from permanently shutdown reactor sites to a pilot consolidated interim storage facility. Mr. Howes thanked veteran CAP members who have devoted much time to following the many twists and turns of decommissioning and the SNF issue and who have provided Maine Yankee with sound advice along the way. He also thanked the newer CAP members who are helping keep the SNF issue in the

forefront as we all await the day the federal government meets its obligations to remove this material from the Maine Yankee site.

Mr. Norton then offered his comments on the CAP's 20th year. He reiterated Mr. Howes' appreciation for all of our CAP members and specifically to our veteran members - Don, Dan, Steve and Ralph - and to Marge as our long term Chair and continued supporter, all of whom continue to add value to the CAP, its Stakeholders and the Company.

Mr. Norton noted he was involved with the CAP at the time of its origin and said that the establishment of the CAP was one of the smartest decisions the Company made during the decommissioning of the site and subsequently during this "interim end state" that we find ourselves in. As intended, the CAP was successful in "enhancing open communications, public involvement and education on Maine Yankee decommissioning issues". He said it was clear to us from the onset, that when given the chance and the appropriate forum, the "level of trust" that Don and others have discussed in the past, would be recognized by the Company, the CAP and our Stakeholders. Mr. Norton said we must continue to actively engage at the national level in order to achieve success in affecting the future movement of the SNF and high-level waste from our site. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!!

Mr. Norton then thanked Mr. Howes for his hard work and support of the CAP over the 20 years.

Each CAP member then received a commemorative mug from Maine Yankee with the inscription: Maine Yankee Community Advisory Panel 1997-2017.

Mr. Howes next presented Chair Hudson and Vice-Chair Thompson each with a plaque honoring their 20 years of service as original CAP members and for their leadership - Chair Hudson as Vice-Chair from 1997-2012 and Chair from 2013-2017, and Vice-Chair Thompson 2013-2017.

Chair Hudson then offered his thoughts. He said his first interaction with Maine Yankee was when Maine Yankee approached him for a solution to ospreys nesting on the yard crane which interfered with plant operations. Chair Hudson said the yard crane was an ideal nesting location for the ospreys. After helping Maine Yankee resolve the problem the company gave Chewonki a 3 year grant to perform an osprey population survey. This work began a relationship that evolved into the CAP. Mr. Hudson thanked Mr. Howes for having "herded us" these many years and keeping the CAP together. He said he very much wanted to give Mr. Howes a cat nip mouse as a symbol of that relationship but couldn't find one in time for the CAP meeting. Chair Hudson then presented Mr. Howes with a restaurant gift certificate from the CAP in appreciation of his service.

Ms. Linehan also thanked Mr. Howes saying she appreciates the regular correspondence between CAP meetings.

Vice-Chair Thompson said he was Wiscasset Town Planner at the time the CAP was formed. He said Maine Yankee's shutdown and loss of tax revenue was a significant challenge for the town. He said he appreciated that the CAP was inclusive and representative of the community. He noted the CAP has had a benefit internationally citing the meeting a number of years ago with members of a community from Russia with a shutdown plant beginning decommissioning.

Mr. Keyes then roasted Mr. Howes with a joke about a public affairs officer.

Mr. Richardson, First Selectman of Westport Island, said he's known Mr. Howes for many years and thanked him for keeping him informed of activity at Maine Yankee. Mr. Richardson said that years ago he collected fish samples for Maine Yankee with his trawler.

Mr. Winter then read a letter from Senator Collins congratulating the CAP on 20 years of service, public involvement, and for their dedication to the removal of the SNF stored at Maine Yankee.

Ms. Kilkelly said Senator King sends his congratulations to the CAP for 20 years of service. She said the senator's priority is removing SNF from decommissioned sites and that he supports the comprehensive senate bill expected to be reintroduced that would implement many of the Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations. She said we need to stay focused, keep this issue in the forefront of policy makers so the day comes when the "Resident Farmer" can live on the site.

Chair Hudson explained that radiological remediation of the Maine Yankee site during plant decommissioning was based on the Resident Farmer model whereby a subsistence farmer would safely grow crops and extract groundwater on the former plant site. He recalled the MARRSSIM (Multi-agency Site Survey Investigation Manual) training he and some other CAP members went through at Maine Yankee to better understand the methodology underlying site remediation. He also noted a success of decommissioning that he monitored: the high marsh that has naturally taken hold in the former forebay area with the right plants in the right places.

Mr. Johnson noted that the half life of the material stored in the dry cask canisters is not in sync with the half life of the CAP members, and it is important for the CAP to heighten public awareness of the ISFSI and the need for the federal government to remove this material from the site.

Mr. Hudson agreed saying that as he has noted before, far in the future English likely won't be the spoken or written language. We must plan to safely isolate this material for a very long time and continue to make people aware of it.

### **State of Maine Update**

State Nuclear Safety Inspector Pat Dostie, updated the CAP on State oversight activities since the last CAP meeting. Mr. Dostie spoke from slides contained in the CAP meeting package.

Mr. Dostie said he is essentially caught up on monthly reports to the State Legislature. At present he is working on the August 2017 report and expects to finish it this week. Mr. Dostie said he is somewhat behind schedule due to his increased duties performing mammography inspections. The State's X-ray inspector retired in July leaving Mr. Dostie as the only federally qualified inspector in Maine. Since August he said he has performed 14 inspections at various hospitals throughout the state.

Mr. Dostie said he distributed the annual February report on receipts and disbursements from the Interim Oversight Fund to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities, Energy, and Technology. His slides include details of the amount disbursed to each department having oversight of Maine Yankee.

Mr. Dostie also provided his activities report for incorporation into the Radiation Control Program's annual Oversight Activities and Funding Report to the Joint Standing Committee.

Mr. Dostie said his State Nuclear Safety Inspector's 2016 annual report to the legislature is awaiting the Acting Commissioner's review and approval.

Mr. Dostie noted activities he has been involved with such as: Participating in Maine Yankee's ISFSI Emergency Plan exercise held in October 2016, Observing Maine Yankee's annual Fire and Medical drill in May 2017; Attending the DOE's National Transportation Stakeholder Forum in Pittsburgh in June 2017; Reviewing daily security operations shift turnovers at Maine Yankee; and participating in various DOE related meetings related to SNF transportation and planning for state involvement in the process. A list of Mr. Dostie's activities is contained in his first two presentation slides.

Several of Mr. Dostie's slides were maps from the DOE's Initial Site Specific De-Inventory Report for Maine Yankee issued in March on how DOE potentially would ship SNF from Maine Yankee. He said DOE assessed potential shipping routes including: heavy haul truck to Portland, barging options, and rail options with the destination for each being the Geographic Center of the United States as a placeholder since there is not currently a destination for SNF shipments. Mr.

Johnson said it looks like the rail routes around the urban areas differ depending on which slide you look at. Why the difference? Mr. Dostie said he couldn't say without consulting the report which he had with him. He noted that the report is available on the DOE website. Mr. Norton added it is available for anyone to read. During the Public Comment period at the end of the CAP meeting Mr. Dostie said he verified from the DOE report that the routes taken by DOE were intentional and they do differ slightly in urban areas around places like Boston and New York. He offered to provide more detail to Mr. Johnson following the meeting.

Vice-Chair Thompson said he is just thrilled DOE is doing this transportation planning. Chair Hudson added, "with maps!" Vice-Chair Thompson said the transportation of radiological material is done safely and routinely in this country. I hope that's the case when we begin moving commercial SNF and it's good to see the foundation for such a program being laid.

Mr. Dostie concluded his presentation reporting that he performed quarterly field replacements of the environmental TLDs (thermoluminescent dosimeter) placed around the ISFSI and Bailey Cove with field controls at Ferry Landing on Westport Island, Edgecomb, and the roof of the State's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL). Updating the CAP on the TLD reading anomaly issue discussed at recent annual CAP meetings, he said there is nothing definitive to report now on the TLD controls storage exposure assessment in HETL's steel vault. Mr. Hyland said he and Mr. Dostie continue to believe the vendor did not read the TLDs in a timely manner which would account for the higher than expected exposure. Mr. Dostie said he and Mr. Hyland are in discussions with the vendor's technical consultant. He said they expect to have findings to report in the first half of next year. Mr. Johnson said it would be interesting if we could match up the control TLDs with those you had anomalies with previously.

Chair Hudson noted that Mr. Dostie has been at this as long as we have. We've had some bumps along the road, and we are grateful for your participation.

### **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 said that Maine Yankee continues to work with others advocating for priority removal of SNF from permanently shutdown sites without an operating reactor to a pilot consolidated interim storage (CIS) facility, while at the same time supporting completion of the Yucca Mountain (YM) license application process. A list of the groups MY works with is on slide 3. They include: the Maine congressional delegation, the Decommissioning Plant Coalition, the Nuclear

Waste Strategy Coalition, New England state policy makers, the Nuclear Energy Institute and others.

He said there have been some positive developments in the past year such as the Trump Administration's \$120 million FY 2018 budget request to restart the YM license application process and to initiate a CIS program, and \$30 million for the NRC to support restart of the YM license application review. Mr. Howes noted there is also a House bill - The Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017 - that would amend the NWPA to move YM licensing forward and begin steps to develop a single CIS facility. Mr. Howes said that the impasse between the House and Senate over comprehensive nuclear waste policy reform continues, particularly as it relates to YM. He said given the uncertainty over federal policy for the removal of SNF, this material will likely remain stored at Maine Yankee for decades.

Mr. Johnson said the budget numbers for the YM license application restart and CIS are not serious. Mr. Howes agreed the requested funding for these programs is small but also noted it's the first time since 2010 that any funding has been requested for YM and the first time for CIS.

Mr. Johnson said we should find a way to put the budget request into perspective, frame the figures. It's not enough funding to make meaningful progress.

Mr. Norton said that until there is agreement between the House and Senate on a path forward the amount of funding proposed by the Administration is not the central issue.

Ms. Linehan asked what role CIS could play in making progress toward the removal of SNF? Can this move forward independent of Yucca Mountain?

Mr. Howes noted there are two applications that have been submitted to the NRC for private CIS facilities, one in Texas and one nearby in New Mexico. Both proposals could be licensed by 2021 and would initially receive SNF from shutdown reactor sites. The NRC's review of the license application from Waste Control Specialists in Texas is currently suspended at the company's request while they seek to finalize discussions with a potential new buyer. They are hopeful of resuming the license application review once the acquisition is concluded.

Mr. Norton said while DOE may have the authority to enter into contracts with private entities to store SNF, practically speaking, without funding from Congress, little beyond the planning associated with the transport of SNF is likely to occur. Congress needs to enact reform that includes sufficient funding for both CIS and YM to move forward.

Chair Hudson said CIS is more efficient and cost effective than storing SNF at more than a dozen shutdown sites across the country.

Mr. Howes said Maine Yankee favors a pilot CIS program as a nearer term solution than a geologic repository.

Ms. Parker asked what is the concern of those who want to delay implementation of CIS until there's a final determination on the YM license application.

Mr. Howes said the concern expressed most often is that if SNF begins moving to a CIS facility before a final determination by the NRC on the YM license application then the repository won't be completed. Maine Yankee's view, shared by others including the Nuclear Energy Institute, is that YM and a pilot CIS program should proceed on parallel tracks.

Mr. Howes briefed the panel on other nuclear waste related bills in Congress besides the comprehensive House bill including two bills recently introduced that would compensate shutdown site communities. He noted that a similar bill was introduced last session by then Rep. Dold of Illinois.

On DOE litigation Mr. Howes said that the Phase IV case was filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in May 2017 and addresses damages for the 2013-2016 timeframe resulting from the federal government's failure to honor its contractual obligations to remove the SNF from Maine Yankee. Mr. Howes said in the Phase IV case Maine Yankee is seeking approximately \$35 million.

Mr. Howes noted that the Phase III case is complete. Maine Yankee was awarded approximately \$24.6 million for the years 2009-2012 in the spring 2016 decision. The funds were transferred to Maine Yankee in mid-October 2016 and were disbursed in December 2016 in accordance with a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission filing agreed to between Maine Yankee and the state utility regulators in Maine, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Mr. Howes closed his slide presentation by briefing the CAP on Maine Yankee's decision to pay-off its pre-1983 SNF disposal fee obligation to the DOE. Under the Standard Contract established by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, utilities must pay the DOE a one-time fee for the disposal of SNF used to generate electricity prior to April 7, 1983. Under Maine Statute a trust fund was established to meet this obligation. With the trust fund balance exceeding the amount owed, Maine Yankee chose to retire this obligation, and the payment was made to DOE in December 2016. The funds in excess of the disposal fee obligation were disbursed in accordance with the terms of the trust, and in July 2017 the Maine Public Utilities Commission issued an order approving dissolution of the trust.

## **Community Advisory Panel Discussion**

Chair Hudson asked would it be helpful to send the Maine Congressional delegation a letter thanking them for their support on the SNF issue and noting that the CAP is still here 20 years later?

The CAP agreed that would be a good idea. Mr. Johnson suggested the letter include the CAP's sentiment of appreciation for the Administration's funding request regarding the YM license application and CIS. Chair Hudson and Mr. Howes will work on a draft letter for the CAP's consideration.

Vice-Chair Thompson asked if the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future (BRC) 2012 recommendations have been dismissed. Mr. Howes said the Senate's comprehensive bill introduced last session and expected to be reintroduced this session would implement a number of the BRC's recommendations. Both Senator Collins and Senator King were cosponsors. Vice-Chair Thompson said the BRC was a wise choice of people to address the issues involved. Mr. Norton noted that the BRC was not allowed to consider YM.

## **Public Comment**

During the public comment period Mr. Richardson asked if YM is still a possibility. Mr. Howes said it is a possibility though Nevada's Governor and Congressional delegation remain adamantly opposed to the project.

Audience member Mark Collins asked Maine Yankee to elaborate on why the company plans to request that the DEP close out the groundwater monitoring program.

Mr. Brown said there is no value in continuing to sample groundwater when the results are essentially the same and won't change for a number of years. There are restrictive covenants in place to assure the protection of public health and safety and the site personnel.

Mr. Norton agreed saying the groundwater monitoring program has already confirmed the adequacy of the site remediation and it presently is not adding value and we do not expect that the test results are going to substantially change in the near term. He added that our recommendation to the MDEP is in response to them asking Maine Yankee for its recommendations regarding the groundwater monitoring program.

Chair Hudson said the MDEP will make the appropriate decision.

As noted under the State Nuclear Safety Inspector update, Mr. Dostie at the close of the CAP meeting provided clarification about potential DOE rail routes around urban areas in response to Mr. Johnson's question about the maps.

The CAP meeting adjourned at 6:03.