

Minutes

Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

RAD Committee Meeting

Tuesday June 29, 2021
1:30pm - 4:00pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Christina Wilson called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Role was taken of members and a quorum was present.

Members Present

Jon Bakkedahl
Gus Farias
Eric Santos
Jeremy Hynds
Tiffany Gamero
Eric Millett

Staff Present

Christina Wilson
Katie Brady

3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 10, 2020 MINUTES

Jeremy Hynds made a motion to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes. Gus Farias seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Bakkedahl called for public comment. There were none.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVE SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (CONOPS) AND SUSTAINMENT PLAN

Mr. Bakkedahl stated the committee will review and approve suggested changes to the concept of operations, the ConOps document and sustainment plan. Mr. Bakkedahl added both documents were created by a working group composed of the US Department of Energy, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, and Radiological experts from Nevada. Mr. Bakkedahl added the documents will be maintained on the FTP site for the SERC, in a read only version. Mr. Bakkedahl noted he took all the comments from the November 10th meeting and any suggested changes emailed to him to create the documents as presented today.

Mr. Hynds made a motion to approve the documents as written. Eric Millett seconded the motion. Mr. Bakkedahl stated the Chief will need to sign on the promulgation line with the date being the June 2021 version. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. RAD COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS RECENT INCIDENTS INVOLVING RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS WITHIN THE STATE

Mr. Bakkedahl stated there was an incident in Las Vegas where a moisture density gauge at a construction site was destroyed by a piece of heavy equipment which displaced the source. The materials stayed intact and the source was recovered by the radiation control program and all pieces of equipment were sent back to the manufacturer for disposal. With the responders doing what they're supposed to do there were small doses, but nothing that warranted any sort of measures or a recovery plan. This incident was reported through the concept of operations to the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) to help assist.

7. I-80 WIPP SHIPMENTS

Mr. Bakkedahl noted in the fall of 2020, the Department of Energy (DOE), specifically the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Program successfully moved out about two thirds of the waste in storage at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab in California. Mr. Bakkedahl added there were separate shipments released one at a time from the DOE facility, which were contained at the state line until a convoy shipment was completed across I-80 with the Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP). Mr. Bakkedahl stated all involved were pleased with the process and outcome.

Mr. Hynds questioned the WIPP's capacity. Mr. Bakkedahl stated they are expanding and have applied to New Mexico for a license; however, this is under a lot of environmental and regulatory assessment. Mr. Bakkedahl added they have been digging multiple rooms down below in the salt flats and the capacity is now twice what it originally was, and the closure date has gone away.

Eric Santos questioned where the final destination is for the WIPP shipments. Mr. Bakkedahl stated Carlsbad, New Mexico is the permanent storage site for all waste in the United States. Mr. Bakkedahl added he will provide information on the WIPP to share with the group.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bakkedahl called for public comment. Ms. Wilson noted Brandi Salisbury is no longer the SERC Administrator and to email her if something is needed. Mr. Hynds added that Carlito Rayos replaced Richard Brenner with Clark County.

Mr. Bakkedahl stated DEM will be doing their own calibrations across the state for radiation detection equipment. Mr. Bakkedahl added nobody will have to give up their detection equipment for days or weeks and repairs can be completed at the same time. Mr. Millett stated the calibration program is phenomenal with it being so much easier, kudos to the group.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Millett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Santos seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.