**SOUTHEAST COMPACT COMMISSION**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

### DRAFT MINUTES

**JUNE 26, 2018**

The 110th meeting of the Southeast Compact Commission was held at the Georgia Environ-mental Finance Authority office in Atlanta, GA. Chairman Debra Shults called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum of the Commission was established by Steve Harrison, Chairman-Elect.

**Members participating:**

Debra Shults (Chairman)

Steve Harrison (Chairman-Elect)

Paul Burks (Secretary-Treasurer

Kevin Clark

Les Foldesi

Karl Frost

Donna Hodges

John Lanza

Michael Mobley

Maureen Neighbors

B.J. Smith

Jack Storton

David Turberville

David Walter

John Williamson

**Staff participating:**

Ted Buckner

**Approval of Minutes**

The June 22, 2017 minutes were approved with minor edits to spelling and dates.

**Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

**Executive Director’s Report**

Ted Buckner, Executive Director, reported on the following activities and events:

* Commissioner Jack Storton presented the 2018 Richard S. Hodes Memorial Award to The National Nuclear Security Administration and the Off-Site Source Recovery Program of the U.S. Department of Energy in recognition of the program’s innovative efforts in solving low-level radioactive waste management challenges in the United States.
* The Commission has solicited nominations for the 2019 award. Staff will work with an ad hoc group of commissioners to review the nominations and letters of support. Staff will notify the Commission once this group has made its decision. So far, no nominations have been received.
* Staff and commissioners attended the Spring 2018 Forum meeting in San Francisco, CA on April 16-17.
* The next LLW Forum meeting will be held on October 3-4 in Hanford, WA. Commissioners should contact staff if interested in attending. There is funding in budget.
* Recent activities of the Disused Sources Working Group of the LLW Forum.
* In the Texas Compact, a joint legislative committee will have a hearing in the fall to discuss issues related to the operation of the Texas Compact regional disposal facility.
* Past activities and upcoming meetings of the other Compact Commissions.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Paul Burks and Ted Buckner reviewed the Treasurer’s Report and noted that the expenditures are less than revenues. The report is attached.

**State and Liaison Reports**

**Alabama** – David Walter and David Turberville reported on Bellefonte operations training classes and NRC training classes for resident inspectors at nuclear power plants. The resident inspector training is especially useful for others who are involved in emergency response and/or need to be more familiar with the in-depth knowledge of nuclear power plants.

Mr. Walter reported that the NRC has approved an amendment to the Browns Ferry license to allow TVA to have a power upgrade to 3952 megawatts (MW) thermal/per unit. These units were previously approved for a little over 3200 MW thermal and 3500 MW thermal.

Alabama will have an ingestion pathway drill, which is required every eight years, for the Farley plant.

**Florida** – John Williamson reported that in the previous year Florida generators had scheduled 108 LLRW shipments and had actually shipped 108. He gave a summary of the volumes and curie activity of the Crystal River and Turkey Point shipments.

Crystal River is proceeding with decommissioning. All of the spent fuel has been removed and the spent fuel pools will be drained. The site will be placed in safe store for approximately 60 years.

The St. Lucie power plant will have an ingestion pathway drill in 2020. There are allegations of of cancer clusters near the St. Lucie plant which will be investigated.

The State is involved in planning for the Mars 2020 space launch because it involves radio-isotope thermoelectric generators that contain plutonium 238. Contingency planning is also underway for major events including a Super Bowl and possibly a national political convention.

**Georgia** - Paul Burks reported that Georgia Power continues to work toward completing construction of the two new reactors at Vogtle.

There was a bill introduced into the legislature to determine whether there are state organizations that are no longer needed. The Southeast Compact Commission was included in the list of organizations. Someone in Commissioner Kevin Clark’s office spoke to members of the review committee to explain the importance of Georgia’s continued membership in the Compact. The session ended before the bill passed both houses. However, it is probable that it will be introduced again in the 2019 session.

**Mississippi** – B.J. Smith reported that WIPP has started again and is working with the states to provide training on the corridors. The State held a full-scale exercise drill with a waste cask for emergency responders.

Terry Coggins has resigned from the Radiation Advisory Council and will no longer serve as a commissioner from Mississippi. The Radiation Advisory Council will have to nominate a new commissioner, who will then have to be approved by the State Board of Health before being named by the Governor.

**Tennessee** – Debra Shults reported that TVA is still working on a small modular reactor near Oak Ridge on the Clinch River. Environmental work is progressing. TVA held a public hearing on the draft environmental impact statement. The State is working with NRC and FEMA to determine the Emergency Planning Zone around the site. TVA is requesting “fence line” and the State is advising the Governor that a two mile zone in needed.

There are pending applications for mergers of some of the processors and some new applications for a centrifuge operation and other processing operations.

**Virginia –** Steve Harrison reported that Virginia is undertaking a total revision of its radiation regulatory fee structure. The last revision was in 2009. They are undertaking an initiative to validate all of the environmental monitoring points.

The U.S. Supreme Court is to hear a case involving a moratorium on uranium mining in the State. There is a question of whether the moratorium is interfering with the NRC’s authority to regulate uranium mining.

Dominion is consolidating its emergency operation facilities into a single facility.

The legislature has asked for a study of the effectiveness of the radon testing program in the state.

Jack Storton reported on the creation of a new entity, Orano, from Framatome and Areva. BWXT is now working on the development of a nuclear reactor for space exploration to Mars.

**Liaison Reports –** Commissioner David Waltergave a report on the most recent meeting of CRCPD and Commissioner David Turberville provide information on the OAS providing comments on the very low-level waste scoping study by NRC.

**New Business**

**Status Report on the Operations of the Nuclear Power Industry**

Ben Carmichael of Southern Nuclear gave a presentation on the operations of the nuclear power industry, which included:

* Challenges of keeping costs down for the new generation of nuclear reactors;
* The new reactors of Southern Nuclear’s Vogtle plant expected to be on line in 2023/2024;
* Advanced need to be safe, cheaper and easier to build;
* Congress is working on four bills that include language that nuclear power is supporting;
* Nuclear is needed along with renewables to help reach reduced emissions goals;
* Demand for electricity in region is projected to be flat in the near future;
* Southern Nuclear Development active in research of advanced nuclear technologies;

**Report of the Policy and Planning Committee**

John Lanza, Chairman of the Policy and Planning Committee, gave a report on the meeting, which included the following items:

* Strategic Plan, Goal 1.4 The Committee requested Ted Buckner to make sure that the references to the National Directory of Brokers and Processors is consistent throughout the Strategic Plan.
* National Directory of Brokers and Processors The Committee discussed whether to discontinue support of the Directory and have interested parties rely on the similar information maintained by CRCPD on its web site. Ted Buckner noted that the Commission is using a contractor to update and maintain the web site and suggested that the Commission continue supporting the Directory and revisit the question in a year.
* On-Site Storage of LLRW by Utility Generators Staff will explore with the Forum the issue of joining with others to approach the NRC with concerns of continued on-site storage by nuclear utility plants.
* Number of Commission Meetings Required by Bylaws The Committee wanted to make sure that the Administrative Committee addresses the bylaw requirements for meetings to give the Commission more flexibility in holding its meeting.
* Policy Statement on the Management of Low-Level Radioactive Waste The Committee reviewed the policy and did not recommend any changes.
* Letter to Governors of Party States The Committee named an ad hoc group of Commissioners Lanza, Wheary and Shults to develop the letter with a one-page attachment explaining the advantages of membership in the Compact. The Committee discussed the timing of distribution of the letters and deferred the question to the Commission.

Chairman Shults appointed the ad hoc group for the letters to the Governors and the Commission discussed the timing of the letters without setting a specific date.

**Report of the Administrative Committee**

Donna Hodges, Chairman of the Administrative Committee, reported on the following items:

* Report on Financial Status of Commission Bynum Satterwhite of Raymond James gave a detailed report on the financial status of the Commission and its investments.
* Proposed Budget for 2018/2019 Ted Buckner presented the proposed budget for 2018/2019 and the supporting documentation to the Committee. He noted that the significant differences between the proposed budget and the 2017/2018 approved budget. The Administrative Committee recommended that the proposed budget for 2018/2019 be considered for approval by the Commission.
* Discussion of Ad Hoc Recommendations on Staff Salaries and Benefits The Ad Hoc Committee was charged with looking at job responsibilities and duties of staff, and determining whether salaries and benefits are commensurate with the staff’s responsibilities and duties. Following a discussion for its findings, the ad hoc committee recommended to the Administrative Committee that (a) for 2018/2019, salaries and benefits remain the same as they are for the current year; (b) staff support for the Commission will then be provided by part-time independent contractor rather than by an employees; (c) the recommendations will require a review and revision of Commission bylaws and personnel policies; and (d) the Commission will need to implement additional internal accounting controls as recommended by the Commission’s auditors.
* Need for Establishing a New Finance Committee A new Finance Committee should be established to assist in implementing additional internal controls and maintaining good internal controls over the Commission’s investments.
* Succession Planning The Administrative Committee did not discuss succession planning but noted that it goes hand-in-hand with the recommendations regarding salaries and benefits and will be addressed as the Commission moves forward over the next two years.
* Scanning of Existing Commission Paper Files The Administrative Committee discussed the need to scan and verify the some sixty boxes of documents held by the Commission and that the Committee and Commission should follow up in the near future.

The Commission discussed how to proceed with all of the items presented by the Administrative Committee.

**The Chairman Shults called for a vote on the proposed Budget for 2018/2019. It was approved unanimously.**

The Commission then discussed the process of scanning the paper records, including the cost and the ability of retrieving documents from the digital files. **Commissioner John Lanza made a motion that the staff proceed with the scanning, Commissioner Mobley seconded the motion.** **The motion passed unanimously.**

**The Commission set up an ad hoc bylaws review committee of Commissioners Williamson, Storton and Frost.**

**The Commission established a Personnel Policy review ad hoc committee with Commissioners Hodges, Foldesi and Shults.**

**The Commissioners agreed to set up a conference call of the Administrative Committee and other Commissioners who will be serving on ad hoc committees to discuss on how to move forward with the issues identified by the Administrative Committee.**

**Commissioner David Walters made a motion to accept the reports of the Treasurer, the Policy and Procedures Committee and the Administrative Committee and Commissioner Mobley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

There was no further new business to discuss.

**Election of Officers**

**Commissioner John Lanza nominated John Williamson to serve as Chairman-Elect of the Commission. Commissioner Mobley moved to close the nominations and Commissioner Shults seconded the motion. Commissioner Williamson was unanimously elected Chairman-Elect.**

**Commissioner Donna Hodges nominated Paul Burks to serve as Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission. Commissioner Mobley moved to close the nominations and Commissioner Lanza seconded the motion. Commissioner Burks was unanimously elected Secretary-Treasurer.**

**Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.