

Preliminary Version- Pending Commission Approval

Minutes of the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission Meeting, 4 April, 2006

Dr. Mecca called the meeting of the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission to order at 7:45 AM. Present were Commissioners: Dr. Alfred Allen, Dr. Stephen Mecca, Dr. Andrew Kadak, Dr. L. Peter Gromet, and Dr. Bahram Nassersharif and staff Dr. Terry Tehan, Jeff Davis and Mike Middleton.

1. Minutes of the 12 September 2005 RIAEC Meeting.

Dr. Gromet made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Bahram Nassersharif seconded the motion. The minutes of the meeting were reviewed. A Motion to accept minutes passed unanimously.

2. Operations report. Mike Middleton left to attend computer training in Providence. He submitted a written report on reducing spurious scrams, equipment updates and increased facility utilization and discussed the items with commissioners before the meeting. The Commission requested that an MCNP model be obtained to better understand the neutronic impact of experiments and detectors

inserted into the core.

3. Budget. Dr. Tehan presented a report on the budget through March 30, 2006. Dr. Gromet moved to accept the budget. Dr Nassersharif seconded it. The motion passed unanimously. It was suggested that Dr. Tehan begin training someone who can handle budget preparations for the Center. In addition, given the potential staffing implications of the Governor's plans regarding sick and vacation time, the Commission requested that Dr. Tehan prepare a contingency plan for the reactor should the Governor's plans be implemented. The Commission would like to review this plan to determine the best course of action to keep the facility in operation.

4. Grants. Dr Tehan submitted a written report on grant status.

5. Administrative Procedure One for Radioactive Material License Amendment Changes/ Byproduct License Renewal-NRC Inspection Results. The report was reviewed. The Commission requested that the NRSC review the loading of in core devices in regard personnel qualifications (training and fitness), responsibilities (Ops or HP) and overall safety of the plank used to walk across the top of the pool to determine whether reasonable alternatives exist. The Commission also requested a review of the liquid discharge cited by the NRC and other matters as contained in the NRC exit interview and final NRC

report. The Commission would like to receive the minutes of the upcoming NRSC meeting.

6. Jeff Davis submitted a written report on EMT Training and Procedures updates.

7. The results of the NRC security inspection were discussed.

8. Dr. Nassersharif made a motion and Dr. Gromet seconded a motion to commend Dr. Robertshaw for his many years of service on the RINSC safety committees. The motion passed unanimously. A letter of appreciation was signed by all commissioners and it will be forwarded with the letter of appreciation from the governor. The Commission approved Dr. John Breen of Providence College as his replacement. The Commission requested the director to research the appointment of someone with nuclear engineering expertise for appointment to the NRSC. Dr. Gromet made a motion which was seconded by Dr. Allen to approve Dr. Breen's appointment to the NRSC. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Old Business

The meeting schedule was discussed and it was decided that the next meeting would be at 8 AM, 12 July 2006 at the R.I. Nuclear

Science Center.

8. New Business

A discussion was held on ways to increase facility utilization. The Commission requested that a flyer be crafted to promote the capability of RINSC to the academic community and that a letter to chairs of every science and engineering department in the state's colleges and universities be drafted to accompany a set of flyers with a request that these be distributed to the science and engineering faculty. The Commission felt that it was important to increase university engagement with the reactor both in teaching and research. Continued dialogue with the RI Economic Development Commission was also encouraged.

9. Adjournment

Dr. Kadak made a motion and Dr. Nassersharif seconded a motion to adjourn which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.