

Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority Board Meeting

Thursday, May 9 2019 | 10:00 AM

VCU East Engineering Hall | Room E3218 | Richmond, VA

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority (VNECA) Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom DePonty at 10:00 A.M. EDT.

The following VNECA Board Members were present: Chairman Tom DePonty, Vice Chairman Gary Tepper, Bill Briscoe, Regina Carter, Colleen Deegan (via dial-in), Gene Grecheck, Andrew Hutton, Woody Lawman, and Will Payne.

The following VNECA Board members were absent: Sean Agnew, Ken Ball, John Capps, David Christian, Rich Diddams, Michael Lempke, Jack Lesko, and Tim Stuller.

The following non-members were present: April Wade (VNEC), Ali Haghghat (VT on behalf of Jack Lesko), Brandi Frazier Bestpitch (DMME), Lynne Astroth (DMME), Erica Gray (Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter) and David Martin (Martin Images News).

INTRODUCTIONS:

After Chairman Tom DePonty's welcoming remarks, Authority Board members provided introductions.

VIRGINIA NUCLEAR ENERGY CONSORTIUM 03/06/19 Draft Meeting Minutes:

After brief review, Gene Grecheck requested a motion to approve 03/06/19 meeting minutes. Woody Lawman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Joshua Saks, Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources

- Briefed the authority on the administration's current carbon mitigation initiatives (CMI) welcoming an open dialogue with the authority.
- Authority requested suggestions for making nuclear a part of the CMI discussions stressing it's important role in these initiatives.

VNEC UPDATE- April Wade:

- Briefed authority on meeting with Governor and Secretary Ball. Discussed at length the Energy Plan and Authority's disappointment that recommendation regarding nuclear not included. Stressed we must stay in forefront of these discussions with climate change and how nuclear is a source to combat GHG emissions.
- 17th Energy Cluster legislation passed. \$80,000 budgeted to implement plan. Virginia

now fifth state to include energy cluster. Discussed how nuclear plays a vital role in the workforce and must be included in the development.

- Putting summit together occurring later this summer as a platform for this discussion.
- Matt Kellam from Virginia Energy Workforce Consortium (VEWC) currently compiling the workforce demand and talent supply data and in the early planning stages with the college system and the Virginia Department of Education.

NUCLEAR NEWS – Chairman DePonty

- In energy news, Exelon announce May 8 that it will shut down Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station’s Unit 1 reactor. This news has a negative economic impact to Virginia. Planning and design for an effective and efficient replacement capacity is important and takes time. With a shutdown of this magnitude, replacement capacity will almost definitely be fossil fuels, which will have a negative impact on the GHG emission reduction policies.

VNECA MEMBERSHIP- Will Payne

- Secretary of the Commonwealth representative will be reaching out to everyone up for re-appointment effective July 1
- Chairman DePonty distributed awarded certificates

ENERGY ASSET INVENTORY:

- To be an ongoing agenda topic to maintain and keep up to date. This week’s suggestions:
 - Areva removed
 - Dominion logo update
 - Bechtel chairman update
 - ANS President update
- Send any other updates to Brandi

NEW BUSINESS:

- Gene Grecheck announced ANS news that Idaho National Laboratory’s (INL) proposed STEM themed nuclear reactor LEGO playset released this week. Playset will be considered as an Official Limited Edition LEGO set for sale if enough votes received.

<https://ideas.lego.com/projects/af5510c6-8111-4fe0-8ab8-da7d36e5dcb5>

- 2019 Activities –
 - Requested speakers/topics for the upcoming September 12 and November 13 VNECA meetings include:
 - Representatives from the clean energy authorities
 - Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA)
 - Virginia Solar Energy and Energy Storage Authority (VSEDA)
 - Chairman DePonty will work with Brandi on VOWDA/VSEDA discussion agenda
 - Suggested VNECA would also be available to attend/address their meetings if beneficial

- Dr. Rita Baranwal, Presidential Nominee, Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear)
- BWXT nuclear medicine R&D
- NuScale modular reactors

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The Authority heard Erica Gray representing the Sierra Club.

ADJOURNMENT:

As all business was conducted for the day, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m. EST.