

# Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority Board Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 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 10:10 A.M. EDT.

The following VNECA Board Members were present: Chairman Tom DePonty, Vice Chairman Gary Tepper, Ken Ball, John Capps, Treasurer Gene Grecheck, Andrew Hutton, Tim Stuller, Larry Corkey. No quorum was achieved for this meeting.

The following VNECA Board members were absent: Sean Agnew, Bill Briscoe, Regina Carter (announced resignation effective on October 1, 2019 due to retirement), David Christian, Colleen Deegan, Rich Diddams, Woody Lawman, Michael Lempke, and Jack Lesko.

The following non-members were present: April Wade (VNEC), Brandi Frazier Bestpitch (DMME), Tom Dolan (Director of Operations, Virginia Recycles SNF), Erica Gray (Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter) and David Martin (Martin Images News).

### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

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

### **VIRGINIA NUCLEAR ENERGY CONSORTIUM May 9, 2019 Draft Meeting Minutes:**

Vote for approval of the May 9 Meeting Minutes tabled until the next meeting due to no quorum.

### **Tom Dolan, Director of Operations, Virginia Program Office for Recycling & Disposition of SNF**

- Presented case on why Virginia is perfect to lead the effort in opening facility for recycling spent nuclear fuel
- Outlined next steps involved:
  - Establish Program Office for Spent Nuclear Fuel Recycling & Disposition
  - Enact detailed program plan
  - Need Virginia Governor and Congressional Delegation to consent to accepting SNF
  - Request VNECA sponsorship at upcoming American Nuclear Society's Winter National Meeting and Expo in Washington D.C., November 17-21

### **VNEC UPDATE- April Wade:**

- Tom DePonty opened the floor for April's briefing of the Authority on the Virginia is Nuclear Summit
  - Tom commended April on her efforts at making the summit a tremendous success. Added comments that the summit was well attended, including representation from both Senator Warner & Senator Kaine's offices as well as by business and institution leaders, which strengthened momentum in the industry.
- April briefed the Authority on key highlights from the summit & panel discussion topics:
  - Summit kicked off with representatives from NEI, ClearPath, & US Nuclear Industry Council providing an overview of the industry and activities going on across the country, which set the stage for the day.
  - Panel Discussions:
    - Infrastructure
      - Principal Assets
      - Discussion questions:
        - What programs absent?
        - How is Virginia positioned to lead?
        - What assets are missing?
      - Virginia can be a hub of clean energy- nuclear, solar, wind, etc.
        - Clean = Clean regardless of generation method if there are zero GHG emissions
    - Workforce
      - 17<sup>th</sup> Energy Career Cluster Education Cluster: Energy
        - Next steps and how companies already working with Virginia Department of Education to get 17<sup>th</sup> Energy Career Cluster in place
    - Research and Development
      - One of the better conversations because it is a hard conversation between the universities and the companies in finding common ground. Defined it as hard because not everyone walked away with the results they wanted, but they were able to vocalize their opinion.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Announced Virginia Energy Workforce Consortium (VEWC) upcoming meeting planned for Friday, September 20 at Goodwill Central and Coastal Virginia from 9-2: "Virginia Energy Plans, Progress, and Future"
- Announced American Nuclear Society's Winter National Meeting and Expo in Washington D.C., November 17-21
- New DOE Grant Opportunities Announced
- Final 2019 Meeting –
  - Requested meeting date change. Brandi will send out Doodle poll to determine best date. Stressed importance to have a quorum at this final meeting in order to add final touches and vote on final version of the 2019 VNECA Annual Report prior to submission to the Governor's office.

**ENERGY ASSET INVENTORY:**

- To be an ongoing agenda topic to maintain and keep up to date
- Send any other updates to Brandi

**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 11:24 a.m. EST.