

**MINUTES
of the
FIRST MEETING
of the
RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMITTEE**

**June 22, 2022
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

The first meeting of the Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee was called to order by Representative Joanne J. Ferrary, vice chair, on June 22, 2022 at 9:25 a.m. in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown
Rep. Christine Chandler
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Rep. Stefani Lord
Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana

Absent

Sen. Jeff Steinborn, Chair
Sen. Gay G. Kernan

Advisory Members

Sen. Ron Griggs
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez
Sen. Gregg Schmedes
Rep. James G. Townsend

Staff

Tom Kricka, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Lenaya Montoya, LCS
Sara Wiedmaier, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Welcome and Introductions (9:25 a.m.)

Representative Ferrary welcomed everyone to the meeting and had members of the committee and staff introduce themselves.

Discussion of the 2022 Work Plan and Meeting Schedule (9:28 a.m.)

Mr. Kricka reviewed and explained the work plan to the committee. Members of the committee discussed work plan topics and potential presenters. On a motion made by Representative Sariñana and seconded by Senator Rodriguez, the committee unanimously passed the work plan.

Overview of the Department of Environment's (NMED's) Regulation of Radioactive and Hazardous Materials (9:38 a.m.)

Chris Catechis, acting director, Resource Protection Division, NMED, and Santiago Rodriguez, chief, Radiation Control Bureau, NMED, presented an overview of the department's regulation of radioactive and hazardous materials. They discussed the NMED's authorities at facilities statewide and provided an update on the Los Alamos National Laboratory consent order. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/RHMC%20062222%20Item%202%20NMED.pdf>.

Overview of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department's (EMNRD's) Regulations Related to Radioactive and Hazardous Materials (11:09 a.m.)

Eletha J. Trujillo, chief, Hazardous Waste Planning Bureau, EMNRD, presented an overview of the department's regulations related to radioactive and hazardous materials. Ms. Trujillo discussed the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) working group and the current funding levels for the working group. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/RHMC%20062222%20Item%203%20EMNRD.pdf>.

Public Comment (12:35 p.m. and 3:16 p.m.)

Comments from members of the public included the following:

- concerns about the expansion of the WIPP;
- increasing public knowledge of transportation of radioactive and hazardous materials; and
- concerns about increased production of nuclear warheads.

Overview of the Office of Natural Resources Trustee's Role in Restoring Resources Affected by the Release of Radioactive and Hazardous Materials (1:40 p.m.)

Maggie Hart Stebbins, natural resources trustee, Office of Natural Resources Trustee, and William Grantham, assistant attorney general, Office of the Attorney General, provided an overview of the Office of Natural Resources Trustee's role in restoring resources affected by the release of radioactive and hazardous materials. Trustee Hart Stebbins gave an overview of all of the settlements with which the Office of Natural Resources Trustee has been involved since 2000 and provided an update regarding current restoration projects. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/RHMC%20062222%20Item%204%20ONRT.pdf>.

Overview of the State Land Office's Regulation of Radioactive and Hazardous Materials (2:39 p.m.)

Stephanie Garcia Richard, commissioner of public lands, State Land Office, and Sunalei Stewart, deputy commissioner of operations, State Land Office, presented an overview of the State Land Office's regulation of radioactive and hazardous materials. Commissioner Garcia Richard provided the committee with a status update on the Holtec International site and reviewed the office's remediation and reclamation efforts. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/RHMC%20062222%20Item%205%20NMSLO.pdf>.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.