

**Program Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2019**

**Attendees**

Boby Abu-Eid  
Frazier Bronson  
Jim Byrne  
Mark Campagna  
Gene Carpenter  
Doug Davis  
Nadia Glucksberg  
Lynne Goodman

Leo Lagos  
Gerry van Noordennen  
Miles van Noordennen  
Young Soo Park  
Leah Spradley Parks  
Jay Peters  
Donald Schultz  
Jan Van Erp

**The Sessions DESD is sponsoring for the ANS Winter Meeting are listed below**

- The Path Towards a Low-Carbon Sustainable Energy Supply System– Panel—I, Mon. pm
- The Path Towards a Low-Carbon Sustainable Energy Supply System– Panel—II, Mon. pm
- Overview of the Various Environmental Standards Projects–Paper/Panel, Tues. am
- TMI-2 Forty Years Later, Tues. AM
- Integrated Energy Systems: Integrating Nuclear Plants with Renewable Sources Through Alternative Applications Beyond the Grid–Panel, Tues. pm
- General Topics in Decommissioning—I, Tues. pm
- General Topics in Decommissioning—II, Thurs. am
- Advanced and Innovative Technologies for Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and Environmental Remediation of Radiological Contamination–Panel, Wed. am
- International Decommissioning–Paper/Panel, Wed. pm

**At the ANS Annual Meeting in Minneapolis the following sessions were proposed for the ANS 2020 Annual Conference DESD Sessions – June 7-11 Phoenix, AZ**

- 4a. General Topics in Decommissioning – This will consist of whatever papers are submitted
- 4b. Uranium Mine Reclamation (P) – Jim Byrne will organize this session
- 4c. Department of Energy Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Activities (P) -unless someone volunteers to organize this session it will be cancelled
- 4d. Community Advisory (P) – This Session will be postponed to the Winter Meeting in Chicago as the NRC Report to Congress will not be completed until July.

4e. Nuclear Energy's Role in Climate Change Policy (P) – This is a joint session with the Operations and Power Division. Leah Parks will be the DESD organizer for this session

4f. Work Force Development (P) – Jim Byrne will work with the Education, Training and Work Force Development Division to pull this session together. Some suggestions for this session is the University of Tennessee is offering a Minor in Decommissioning I've spoken with Wes Hines and he has agreed to participate, Gerry Van Noordennen will discuss Project Manager training for decommissioning. A few suggestions are to talk to Larry Boing to talk about his course, Manchester University in the UK offers a degree in decommissioning Bobby Abu-Eid will try to get me a contact the South Koreans are also starting a decommissioning course.

**A conference call was held on November 13 to discuss the Program for the ANS 2020 Utility Working Conference DESD Sessions – August 9-12, 2020 Marco Island, FL**

The following are the notes from this call with some added notes from this meeting. We are looking for volunteers to help the designated session organizers.

Decommissioning is a very important part of the Nuclear Life Cycle and with implications in different stages in development, licensing and operations of the nuclear power plant. The topic is complex with licensing, cost and personnel implications which are not of immediate impact on Plant working/operations, but towards the end of the operating life of the plant, become incredibly important to owners/investors, Local and state stakeholders as well as an entire branch of the USNRC. This track will look at topics of interest to Nuclear Power Reactors.

Overall Goal of the 2020 UWC Decommissioning Program Track is to develop and deliver a program that will cover the spectrum of contemporary commercial nuclear plant decommissioning issues including sharing information on the overall process, planning, decision making, options, execution and lessons learned. The presentations are developed with the intention of educating & informing the attendees and causing a desire for further inquiry into the various subjects presented.

Seven Tracks are being recommended for the conference which covers 3 days (TBD) in August 2020.

Planned Tracks are:

- **Session 1 – Introduction to Commercial Nuclear Plant Decommissioning.** Speakers will address the basic building blocks of the Decommissioning Process in a high level, focused set of presentations. These presentations include; Preplanning decision making, alternatives for project ownership & risk management, time based regulatory options for project execution, fundamentals of radiological waste management, considerations of early plant closure, and environmental stewardship obligations & objectives.

Organizers: Lynne Goodman – (Nadia Glucksberg has volunteered to help Lynne organize this session)

- **Session 2 - Spent Fuel Management options during the phases of site decommissioning.**

Speakers will provide valuable insights on shut down plant experiences dealing with Spent Fuel. Topics covered will include spent fuel pool isolation & independent cooling system installations, dry vs. wet storage decision making approaches, re-racking & spent fuel consolidation options, as well as, the feasibility of accessing and using a Consolidated Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facilities. The interim storage approach has been tried, without success, during the planning of the Private Fuel Storage Facility; lessons from this effort will be solicited and shared.

Organizers: Richard St. Onge

- **Session 3 - Decommissioning Planning, Estimating and Assumptions: Examining past planning efforts against actual execution performance.**

Speakers would provide insights on managing Decommissioning Cost Estimates (DCE) and the challenges that owners face as they defend those estimates against an increasing critical public and private audience. This session will examine the recent approach of non-operating companies purchasing retired nuclear assets with the intent to complete the D&D quicker and cheaper. Has this impacted the plants DCE developed while the plant was operating? Are the new owners using the existing DCE as a baseline? Best practices will be highlighted based on lessons learned in the industry.

Organizers: Joe Carignan

- **Session 4 - Regulatory perspectives and updates on Commercial Decommissioning processes**

Speakers will provide perspectives on decommissioning regulatory advancements including the current state of affairs regarding NRC rule-making, as well as the emerging participation of State and Local authorities in the decommissioning processes.

Organizers: Jim Byrne

- **Session – 5 Status of Decommissioning Projects in progress and completed to date.**

Speakers offer insights on past and current D&D projects with a focus on major differences between the original decommissioning plan and the realities of how things turned out during actual project execution.”

Organizers: Gerry van Noordennen

- **Session - 6 Decommissioning Nuclear Safety, Security, and Safety Culture.**

This panel will explore 21st Century methods and tools available that would optimize project planning and performance now; these methods would be deployable during both NPP operation and transition to DDER. These techniques are simultaneously being developed with increased pace/urgency benefiting from recent progress in the Advanced Reactors and SMR sector.

Organizers: Mark Campagna (Mark reported that Skip Young has volunteered to help him organize this session)

- **Session – 7 Innovation and Optimization in Decommissioning: Lessons Learned on Technology and Approaches to Shorten Project Durations.**

Decommissioning projects focus on the health & safety of its workers and the public as they complete the final closure and license termination of these facilities. As the experience base of these projects expand, methods are refined to be timelier & more cost effective.

Speakers in this session will provide insights on innovative approaches to make decommissioning activities more efficient and effective.

Organizers: Jim Byrne

**We solicited ideas for sessions for the ANS 2020 Winter Conference – November 15-19, 2020 Chicago, Illinois. The following ideas were suggested.**

Community Advisory Panel – as discussed above this has been moved from the Annual Meeting to the Winter Meeting to follow the NRC Report to Congress. Gerry Van Noordennen will also attempt to get a member of the Zion Community Advisory Panel to participate.

Risk Informed Approach to Decommissioning – This session was suggested by Bobby Abu-Eid. Bobby I need a 100 word summary on what this session is about and who we should be targeting to present.

FRTR – Federal Round Table on Technologies – Bobby Abu Eid suggested this may be a good group to engage in a decommissioning technology session. Bobby again I need a 100 word summary on this session

Argonne Lab Decommissioning Training session – Have a session to discuss Larry's Course and the other courses tied into the certificate on Decommissioning Training. Jim Byrne will talk to Larry.

Innovative Approaches to Characterization – This session was suggested by Jay Peters. Jay I will need a 100 word summary from you.

Integrated Approach to Decommissioning and Waste Management – My notes don't say who suggested this but in any event I need a 100 word summary. All Summaries are due by Thanksgiving.

### **Embedded Topical**

It was agreed to Organize an Embedded Topical Meeting for the ANS 2021 Winter Meeting in Washington DC. We will be working with the Robotics and Remote Systems Division again.

Volunteers for the Program Committee that I wrote down are

Nadia Glucksberg  
Sue Aggarwal  
Mark Campagna  
Gene Carpenter  
Martin Plys  
Frazier Bronson  
Leah Parks  
Gerry Van Noordennen

Leo Lagos will be the Robotics Division liaison. I met with the Robotics Division representatives on Monday.

I will submit the paperwork to ANS (Complete Calendar Placement Received)

We agreed to periodic (monthly) phone calls starting in January

We need to identify key people in each country and contact them to solicit their support for the Program Committee. Leo through his ties through FIU will help with that.

Anyone else on the committee that can help with contacts in the UK, France, Spain, Germany, Japan and Korea please let me know.

After we get ANS approval we will get ANS to put out a Save The Brochure for distribution at Every Meeting one of us attends starting with Waste Management.

### **Action Items**

**Leah** – I will need the names of your speakers for Nuclear Energy's Role in Climate Change Policy (P) by the end of January

**Jim** – I will work on speakers for Uranium Mine Reclamation and Work Force Development on the same schedule

**Mark** – Contact Noah Fetherston and see if he is able to support the UWC Meeting this year. (Noah Contacted)

**Boby** – Provide 100 word Summaries for the Risk Informed Approach to Decommissioning and FRTR session for the 2021 Winter Meeting by Thanksgiving.

**Jay** – Provide 100 word summary for Innovative Approaches to Characterization for the 2021 Winter Meeting by Thanksgiving

**Jim** – Talk to Larry Boing about organizing a session on the Decommissioning Certificate Program

**Whoever Suggested it** – Provide a 100 word summary on the Integrated Approach to Decommissioning and Waste Management for the 2021 Winter Meeting by Thanksgiving.

**Jim** – Submit ANS Paperwork for a 2021 Embedded Topical (Complete)

**Jim** – Issue a separate action item list for the Embedded Topical Meeting.