

Environmental Management Monthly Report to the NSSAB February 2013

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- In November, Nevada Site Office (NSO), Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducted a facility evaluation at the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) in South Carolina. RWAP issued four Corrective Action Requests and four Observations that resulted in the NSO suspending SRNL's certification program. In December, SRNL submitted its Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which RWAP approved. In January, SRNL was in the process of implementation. After implementation, RWAP will revisit the site and verify the CAP's completion.
- For FY 2013, the forecast for low-level waste has been updated to 1.3 million cubic feet (ft³) from 1.2 million ft³.
- In January, the NSO RWAP conducted two facility evaluations:
 - Perma-Fix in Florida: Evaluation resulted in two observations. Perma-Fix is correcting the observations and is able to continue sending low-level waste to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).
 - Duratek, Tennessee: Evaluation resulted in three observations and one Corrective Action Request. Duratek is correcting the observations and CAR and is able to continue sending low-level waste to the NNSS.
- In February, RWAP will conduct an impromptu surveillance of a generator.
- For February, the NNSS is forecasted to dispose approximately 75,000 ft³ of low-level waste.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat

Review and comment resolution of the flow and transport model document continues.

CAU 98, Frenchman Flat

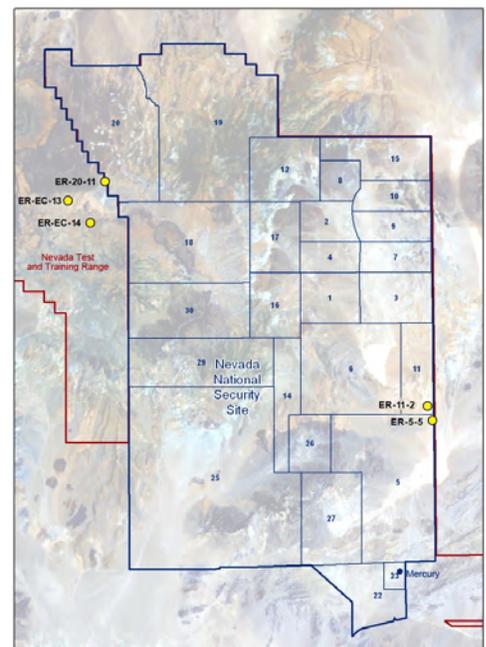
In January, the geologic characterization and Well Completion Reports for Wells ER-5-5 and ER-11-2 were finalized. Well development and testing activities at the ER-11-2 site will begin in February.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

Compilation of the flow and transport model document continues.

CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa

Work continued on the geologic characterization and Well Completion Reports for Wells ER-20-11 and ER-EC-14 in



January. These two reports will be finalized in February. Work continues on the Phase II framework and conceptual models. Well development and testing activities continued at the ER-EC-13 site and will continue in February. Also in February, equipment will arrive at the PM-3 well.

Industrial Sites

CAU 114, Area 25 Engine Maintenance, Assembly and Disassembly (EMAD) Facility

In January, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) ballasts and absorbent were removed and transported for off-site treatment and disposal as hazardous waste. Annual radiological surveys at EMAD building were performed in January.

Non-Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include 128 Corrective Action Sites (CASs) where post-closure inspections and maintenance are performed in accordance with closure requirements. Due to significant precipitation in August 2012, there is erosion that requires repair at the CAU 547 *Mullet* and *Player* sites. In January, development of the erosion control design for CAU 547 by the same engineering organization that developed the original corrective action design was completed. In February, erosion repairs and construction of erosion prevention features at *Mullet* and *Player* will begin, and repairs identified at other non-RCRA sites during the annual inspections will begin.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure monitoring and maintenance is performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Post-closure monitoring at these CAUs is required either quarterly or semi-annually. In January, the final annual RCRA post-closure report was submitted to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP).

Tonopah Testing Range (TTR) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The TTR Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include five CAUs on the TTR where post-closure inspections and maintenance are performed in accordance with closure requirements. Post-closure monitoring at these CAUs is required annually. In January, the final annual TTR post-closure report was submitted to NDEP.

Soils

CAU 104, Area 7 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites

CAU 104 comprises 15 CASs related to historical nuclear testing. The Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan was approved by NDEP in November. In January, corrective actions, including location and removal of lead-sheathed cable, continued. In February, removal of lead-sheathed cable is expected to be completed.

CAU 105, Area 2 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites

CAU 105 comprises five CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Field investigation of these sites consists of radiological surveys, soil sampling, and thermoluminescent dosimeter measurements. In January, soil sampling and radiological surveys continued and will continue in February.

CAU 366, Area 11 Plutonium Valley Dispersion Sites

CAU 366 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In January, preparation of the Corrective Action Plan continued. The Corrective Action Plan is an enforceable milestone under the *Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order*, and is due to NDEP in May 2013.

CAU 550, Smoky Contamination Area

CAU 550 comprises 19 CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Field investigation of these sites consists of radiological surveys, soil sampling, and thermoluminescent dosimeter measurements. In January, the thermoluminescent dosimeters were retrieved and corrective action investigation activities continued. Additional field activities will continue in February.

CAU 569, Area 3 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites

CAU 569 comprises nine CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Field investigation of these sites consists of soil sampling and thermoluminescent dosimeter measurements. Development of the Correction Action Decision Document (CADD) and corrective action alternatives (CAAs) continued in January. The CAAs are the various alternatives for closure of a CAU; one will be selected as the path forward and presented in the CADD. A meeting with NDEP was held in January to discuss the CAA. The CADD is due to NDEP in May 2013.

CAU 570, Area 9 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites

CAU 570 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Field investigation of these sites will consist of radiological surveys, soil sampling, and thermoluminescent dosimeter measurements. The thermoluminescent dosimeters were retrieved in January.

CAU 571, Area 9 Yucca Flat Plutonium Dispersion Sites

CAU 571 comprises five CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In December, development of the data quality objectives (DQO) continued. The DQO process is a seven-step approach to plan investigation activities ensuring the data collected will provide sufficient information to recommend corrective actions for CAU 571. A DQO meeting will be held in February. The DQOs will be included in the Corrective Action Investigation Plan for CAU 571, which is due to NDEP by August 2013.

Public Involvement:

- Ongoing exhibits:
 - *Operation Clean Desert* – Nevada Public Reading Room, Las Vegas
 - *Groundwater at the Nevada National Security Site* poster – Amargosa Valley Library, Goldfield Library, and Central Nevada Museum
 - Environmental Management kiosks –Sahara West Library, Las Vegas and Beatty Historical Museum, Beatty
- Publications:
 - Published one (1) EM News Flash article: *The NSSAB Welcomes New County Liaisons*
- Outreach:
 - Participated in *Connecting Hands: Offering Lifelong Learning Adventures (CHOLLA)* educational group meeting
 - Participated in the *Southern Nevada Math & Science Conference*
 - Distributed 800 *Operation Clean Desert* Activity Books, 33 *Operation Clean Desert* Teacher’s Guides, 571 *Operation Clean Desert* worksheets and 700 factsheets

- Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board:
 - Full Board Meeting on January 16
 - Membership Committee Meeting on January 24