

**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
January 2019**

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- Update from previous months' reports - In October 2017, the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) issued a Finding of Alleged Violation (FOAV) to the Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) as a result of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) accepting 93 containers of waste from a generator and disposing as low-level waste (LLW) when the containers should have been disposed as mixed LLW (MLLW). In May 2018, NDEP issued a Final Findings and Draft Settlement Agreement to the DOE/NNSA. The EM Nevada Program, NDEP, and the NNSA/Nevada Field Office have discussed the scope and cost of a proposed Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) that would be undertaken in lieu of paying a penalty associated with the violation. A document entitled *Proposed Supplemental Environmental Project* was formally transmitted to NDEP in October 2018 for approval and incorporation into a formal Administrative Settlement Agreement. In December 2018, NDEP transmitted a redrafted Settlement Agreement that incorporated the proposed SEP. The final open corrective action plan (CAP) action was completed prior to the regulatory deadline of December 31, 2018. A final report to NDEP documenting the completion of the CAP items is due by January 26, 2019. (please see November 2017 – December 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous month's report - In November 2018, in accordance with the overweight permit issued by the State of Nevada, a waste shipment from an Oak Ridge, TN generator travelled across the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge destined for the NNSS. After travelling across the bridge, the remainder of the transport was made on an NNSS-approved route. The driver self-identified upon arrival at the NNSS that he traversed the bridge. As this is a violation of the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC), a Finding was issued and the generator will be required to submit a CAP. An alert was issued to all NNSS-approved generators to ensure routing directions provided under state-issued permits align with the NNSSWAC-approved routes. The EM Nevada Program is updating both the generators driver's route/shipment form to clarify requirements and the permit maps and instructions for the Nevada Department of Transportation to ensure they have accurate information regarding routing of waste shipments to the NNSS. (please see December 2018 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)
- Update from previous month's report - In late November 2018, a reactor vessel and components (not the reactor or reactor fuel) from the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor (SEFOR) began transport from a University of Arkansas site to the NNSS. The Navarro Transportation Subject Matter Expert was onsite during loading in Arkansas and performed a surveillance of the motor carrier on the day of shipment and observed marking, labeling, loading, placarding, and load securement, monitored shipper/carrier interface, and ensured that applicable permits were in place. Subsequently, the shipment was transported to the NNSS safely on December 13, 2018. (please see December 2018 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)



SEFOR Transport
Arrives at NNSS Gate
(December 2018)



SEFOR Offloaded at Area 5
RWMC (December 2018)

- Update from previous months' reports – Paducah, KY/Portsmouth, OH generator (same generator): In May 2018, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In June 2018, the generator submitted its CAP that was accepted by the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP). In November 2018, the generator requested to revise its CAP that was also approved by RWAP. The Finding was closed by RWAP in December 2018. (please see June 2018 – December 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous month's report – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In November 2018, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. RWAP issued its report in December 2018. The generator has 30 days to respond. (please see December 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information.)

- In December 2018, RWAP conducted one facility evaluation:
 - Albuquerque, NM generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
- In January 2019, RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In January 2019, approximately 143,661 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat

The Model Evaluation Report development continued in December 2018 and will continue in January 2019.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

In September 2018, responses to the comments on the Rainier Mesa External Peer Review (RM EPR) report were transmitted to NDEP. Development of an addendum to the Flow and Transport model report that formally addresses comments from the RM EPR concluded in December 2018. Work on data packages to document the modeling conducted in support of the addendum will continue in January 2019.

CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa

Development of the Corrective Action Investigation Plan continued in December 2018. Groundwater sampling for fiscal year 2019 began in October 2018 and will continue through the fiscal year.

Post-Closure Monitoring

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

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include Corrective Action Sites (CASs) where post-closure inspections and maintenance are performed in accordance with closure requirements. Annual inspections began in September 2018 and were completed in December 2018.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance are performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. In December 2018, irrigation of the CAU 111 revegetation test plots continued, as well as monthly inspections of the plots. Both activities will continue in January 2019. In addition, the quarterly inspections of post-closure RCRA sites were conducted in December 2018.

Soils

CAU 413, Clean Slate II Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 413 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. The final Closure Report (CR) was approved by NDEP in November 2018. With the approval of the CR, CAU 413 is now considered closed.

CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 414 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. The Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) was approved by NDEP in January 2018. Field work began in August 2018 that consists of removal and disposal of contaminated soil and debris above action levels. At the end of December 2018, 381 bags of contaminated soil have been filled. The shipping campaign to the NNSS began in October 2018, and 175 shipments of 350 bags have been shipped and disposed at the Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS) and Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) as of December 30, 2018.



CAU 576, Miscellaneous Radiological Sites and Debris

CAU 576 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. The draft CADD/CR was approved by NDEP in November 2018. Fencing at Kennebec and signage at all six of the CASs has been completed. The final CADD/CR will be submitted to NDEP in January 2019.

Industrial Sites:

CAU 575, Area 15 Miscellaneous Sites

CAU 575 comprises four CASs related to historical nuclear testing. The final CR was submitted to and approved by NDEP in December 2018. With the approval of the CR, CAU 575 is now considered closed.

External Affairs:

- Publications:
 - Ongoing social media campaign – 13 posts on Facebook, 12 original tweets on Twitter, and two videos uploaded onto YouTube
 - Published *2017 Groundwater Characterization Sampling Results Now Available* via EM News Flash (11,101 subscribers), nns.gov, and social media
 - Published and distributed updated *Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board* and *Transporting Waste to the NNSS* fact sheets

- Ongoing exhibits:
 - *Operation Clean Desert* – Nevada Public Reading Room in Las Vegas, Amargosa Valley Library, Goldfield Library, Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah, NV, and Pahrump Valley Museum in Pahrump, NV
 - EM kiosk – located at National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room
- NNSS Tours:
 - Hosted public tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC – December 11, 2018
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for NNSA Graduate Fellowship Program – December 17, 2018
- Planned activities for January 2019:
 - Host LLW Stakeholders Forum meeting in Pahrump, NV – January 16, 2019
 - Attend Nye County Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting in Pahrump, NV – January 16, 2019
 - NSSAB to host an Administrative Board Meeting in Pahrump, NV – January 16, 2019
 - EM Nevada Program to conduct an intergovernmental meeting with NSSAB liaisons and NSSAB leadership in Pahrump, NV – January 16, 2019
 - Attend Clark County Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting in Las Vegas, NV – January 17, 2019
 - Continue delivering Operation Clean Desert books to schools/teachers in Las Vegas, NV