



# Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

---

September 16, 2015

## Members

Michael Anderson  
Amina Anderson  
Michael D'Alessio  
Pennie Edmond  
**Donna Hruska, Chair**  
**Janice Keiserman, Vice Chair**  
Michael Moore  
Donald Neill  
Edward Rosemark  
Steve Rosenbaum  
William Sears  
Thomas Seley  
Cecilia Flores Snyder  
Jack Sypolt  
Francisca Vega

## Liaisons

Clark County  
Consolidated Group of Tribes  
and Organizations  
Esmeralda County Commission  
Nye County Commission  
Nye County Nuclear Waste  
Repository Project Office  
State of Nevada Division of  
Environmental Protection  
U.S. National Park Service

## Administration

Barbara Ulmer, Administrator  
*Navarro*  
Kelly Snyder, DDFO  
U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Field Office

Ms. Kelly K. Snyder  
Deputy Designated Federal Officer  
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Field Office  
P. O. Box 98518  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Communication Improvement Opportunities  
(Work Plan Item #10)

Dear Ms. Snyder,

The Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) developed a work plan item to provide recommendations, from a community perspective, to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on ways that DOE can improve/enhance communication to the public (i.e. presentations, open houses, documents, fact sheets). Interim suggestions from NSSAB Members were documented in the official minutes of each Full Board meeting.

During fiscal year 2015, the NSSAB made the following recommendations for ways DOE can improve/enhance communication to the public:

- The NSSAB tour was very informative, but the tour guide for future NSSAB tours should have a dynamic presentation and anecdotes and stories that assist attendees in remembering locations/facts regarding the tour of the Nevada National Security Site.
- DOE should consider including information on unrelated topics at its public events, for example, waste management, waste transportation, Office of Secure Transportation information at a Groundwater Open House.
- DOE should advertise NSSAB meetings/events at [vegasinc.com](http://vegasinc.com) and in *The Sunday*.
- DOE should contact editors of media outlets with the NSSAB's meeting dates after the schedule has been approved at the annual September planning meeting. This will provide editors the NSSAB meeting dates in advance to include in the community calendars section.

- DOE speakers should provide definitive answers for items that the NSSAB is asked to make an informed decision rather than providing copious details of possible but improbable scenarios.
- DOE should offer short informational videos at DOE public events and NSSAB meetings.
- DOE should continue to do news releases before each NSSAB meeting to increase community awareness and involvement.
- DOE should consider holding more NSSAB meetings in rural communities who have a more vested interest in the activities at the NNSS.
- DOE should make business cards with NSSAB contact information and fact sheets pertinent to the meeting's agenda available at the meetings as an immediate source to answer public questions.
- DOE should make accommodations for NSSAB members to introduce themselves and the community that they represent at each meeting; so the public can contact them during the breaks or in their communities.
- DOE should replace the display holders at the Mercury cafeteria as the current display holders do not hold the fact sheets upright so people can see them and some of the slots on the bottom tiers are too low to be comfortably viewed.
- DOE should make regular tour opportunities available for the Community Environmental Monitors in the Community Environmental Monitoring Program.
- DOE should make a binder of fact sheets relating to Environmental Management activities available to the public at all NSSAB Full Board meetings.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to provide meaningful input to DOE on ways to enhance/improve communication to the public.

Sincerely,



Donna L. Hruska, Chair

cc: D. A. Borak, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)  
M. R. Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)  
E. B. Schmitt, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)  
R. F. Boehlecke, NFO  
C. G. Lockwood, NFO  
S. A. Wade, NFO  
B. K. Ulmer, Navarro  
NSSAB Members and Liaisons