



The safe and cost-effective disposal of classified and radioactive waste at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) must be accomplished in accordance with state and federal regulations and permits. To facilitate compliance, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program funds a program to provide waste generators technical support and resolution assistance. The Waste Generator Services and Technical Support Program assures that generators have quick access to technical expertise regarding the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria.

Services Provided

The Waste Generator Services and Technical Support Program is staffed by Mission Support and Test Services (MSTS), the Management and Operating contractor for the NNSS. Highly qualified and experienced personnel familiar with the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria provide the following services:

- Performing on-site generator facility visits
- Interpreting and providing compliance guidance
- Conducting preliminary reviews of generator documents, waste profiles, waste certification documentation and corrective action plans
- Providing expertise to address policy, regulatory, and operational uncertainty
- Reviewing/distributing inquiry resolution information
- Sharing best practices and lessons learned
- Identifying processes that could be streamlined
- Providing subject matter experts for meetings or position paper development
- Presenting information on NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria and eligibility for NNSS disposal

Classified Components Disposal

Permit modifications allow the NNSS to accept non-radioactive hazardous and non-hazardous classified components. The goal of the classified component disposal program at the NNSS is to provide a cost-effective alternative for permanent disposal of legacy and retired classified components. Benefits include:

- No sanitization required prior to disposal
- Significant reduction in disposal costs
- Direct disposal path to the NNSS
- Reduction of inventory requirements as inventory decreases

Definitions

Generator: DOE and U.S. Department of Defense sites that generate classified, low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste.

Waste Generator Services Group: A program to assist sites who qualify to ship to the NNSS but do not have or intend to establish a formal waste certification program. MSTS will act as the generator and “supply” the certification program via the Waste Generator Services Group. Waste Generator Services will also assist in the waste characterization process, if needed.

Waste Profile: Documentation detailing the origins, composition, analytical and preparatory methods, quantity, and packaging of a specific waste stream proposed for disposal at the NNSS.

Waste Stream: A waste or group of wastes from a process or a facility with similar physical, chemical, and radiological properties.

Waste Generator Services & Technical Support

User Benefits

Generators who utilize the Waste Generator Services and Technical Support Program can achieve a more thorough understanding of the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria and EM Nevada Program processes. Specific benefits include:

- Regulatory and policy issue evaluation
- Fast response time and on-site assistance
- Screening candidate waste stream eligibility and acceptability
- Preliminary review of technical documents (process knowledge, treatment options, etc.)
- Resolution of waste stream specific inquiries



Shipments of low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste are staged upon arrival at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex.

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