

Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
March 2018

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- Update from previous months' reports – In July 2017, the EM Nevada Program received a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-permit modification granted by the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) that allows for the construction of a new mixed low-level waste (MLLW) cell at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Final quality assurance inspections were conducted in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018. The replacement cell is projected to be operational by May 2018. (please see December 2016 – February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports - In October 2017, NDEP issued a Notice of Alleged Violation to the Department of Energy (National Nuclear Security Administration [NNSA]) as a result of the NNSS accepting 93 containers of waste from a generator and disposing as LLW when the containers should have been disposed as MLLW. The DOE NNSA developed a written response for corrective actions that was submitted to NDEP in early January 2018. There has been no change in status. (please see November 2017 – February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports - Oak Ridge, TN generator (second generator): In July 2017, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In February 2018, the generator submitted the corrective action plan (CAP) closure evidence that is currently being reviewed by the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) and the EM Nevada Program. (please see August 2017 - February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports – West Valley, NY generator: In October 2017, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In February 2018, the generator submitted CAP closure evidence that is currently being reviewed by RWAP and the EM Nevada Program. (please see November 2017 – February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports – Pantex, TX generator. In November 2017, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in two Findings. In February 2018, the generator submitted its CAP that was approved by RWAP and the EM Nevada Program. The generator is required to submit CAP closure evidence to RWAP by the end of March 2018. (please see December 2017 – February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from last month's report - In December 2017, LLW shipments from a West Valley, NY generator bound for the NNSS began transport by rail to a transfer location in Kingman, AZ. In January 2018, two containers were identified with breaches due to shifting internal contents and the lids of three other containers were not fully sealed when the intermodals were inspected and moved from the rail car to the flatbed trailer. No contamination was detected outside the containers. These containers were repaired, reinspected, and recertified by the generator while in Kingman, AZ. Upon completion of this process, the containers were transported by truck to

the NNSS without further incident. West Valley has paused further shipments to the NNSS in order to make adjustments to the packaging and closure process to reduce the potential of further similar issues. The generator is required to submit CAP closure evidence to RWAP in March 2018. (please see February 2018 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)

- In February 2018, RWAP conducted the following facility evaluation:
 - Aiken, SC generator: This was a tabletop facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
- In March 2018, RWAP will conduct three facility evaluations.
- In March 2018, approximately 134,022 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
Pumping and sampling activities were conducted at well ER-6-1-1 in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain
The External Peer Review (EPR) panel began review of the Flow and Transport Model document in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018. During its review, the EPR panel has been in weekly contact by conference call with the UGTA team. The EPR panel has issued formal questions that are currently under review by the UGTA team. A meeting is being planned for the end of March 2018 for additional technical presentations and a status update from the EPR panel.

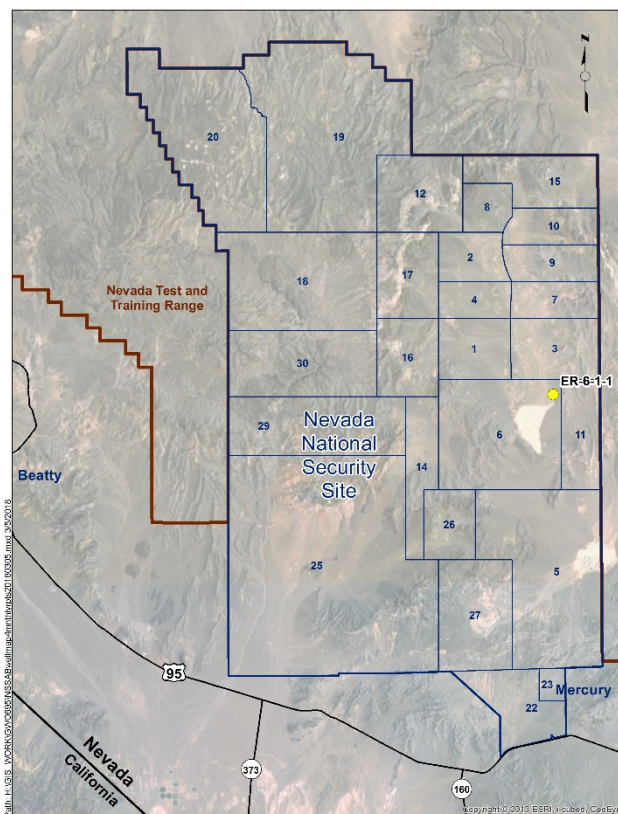
Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-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 were completed in December 2017; repairs and maintenance will be performed in fiscal year 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. Repairs and maintenance identified during the quarterly and semi-annual inspections were performed in February 2018. In addition, irrigation of the test plots for revegetation of CAU 111 at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) continued in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018.



Soils

CAU 413, Clean Slate II Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 413 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 June 2017. Field work continued in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018. Waste shipments continued in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018. As of the end of February 2018, 76 shipments for a volume of approximately 48,000 cubic feet were shipped and disposed at the Area 5 RWMC.

CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 414 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. The CADD/CAP was approved by NDEP in January 2018. Field work will consist of removal and disposal of contaminated soil above action levels at the Area 5 RWMC and will commence when field work at CAU 413 is complete.

CAU 575, Area 15 Miscellaneous Sites

CAU 575 comprises four CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In February 2018, development of the Closure Report (CR) continued and will continue in March 2018. The CR is due to NDEP in May 2018.

CAU 576, Miscellaneous Radiological Sites and Debris

CAU 576 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Development of the CADD and corrective action alternatives and cultural resource documentation continued in February 2018 and will continue in March 2018.

External Affairs:

- Publications:
 - Ongoing social media campaign – 34 original posts on Facebook, 37 original tweets on Twitter
 - Published and distributed updated *Waste Generator Services* fact sheet
 - Published *Bill Wilborn Selected as DOE EM Nevada Program Deputy Program Manager for Operations* via EM News Flash (8,864 subscribers) and nns.gov
- 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 kiosks – located at National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room and UNLV Lied Library in Las Vegas, NV
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Participated in Emergency Preparedness Summit in Pahrump, NV – February 7, 2018
- Outreach:
 - Hosted Operation Clean Desert booth at Southern Nevada Science Teachers Association conference – February 10, 2018
 - Hosted Waste Generator Workshop in Las Vegas, NV (included two separate tours of the NNS for attendees that included Area 5 RWMC) – February 12-15, 2018

- Provided 100 Operation Clean Desert activity books, 100 Operation Clean Desert teacher's guides and 100 Operation Clean Desert CDs to Southern Nevada State Science Teachers Association attendees
- NNSS Tours:
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for State of Nevada Legislature Committee on High Level Waste – February 6, 2018
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for DRI Science is Alive Teacher Training – February 15, 2018
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for members of the public – February 20, 2018
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Nevada Water Resources Association – February 26, 2018
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for members of the public – February 27, 2018
- Planned activities for March 2018:
 - NSSAB to conduct a targeted recruitment drive for Amargosa Valley, Goldfield, and Tonopah, NV; and Tecopa and Shoshone, CA – month of March 2018
 - EM Nevada Program to conduct an intergovernmental meeting with NSSAB liaisons in Las Vegas, NV – March 14, 2018
 - NSSAB to host a Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NV – March 14, 2018
 - Host tour of the NNSS for Argonne National Laboratory – March 15, 2018
 - Support NSSAB presentation to Math and Science Club in Mesquite, NV – March 18, 2018
 - Host NNSS booth at 2018 Waste Management Symposia – March 18-22, 2018 (NSSAB member to attend)
 - Host tour of the NNSS for members of the public – March 20, 2018
 - Attend Connecting Hands: Offering Lifelong Learning Adventures (CHOLLA) meeting – March 21, 2018
 - Host tour of the NNSS for members of the public – March 27, 2018
 - Host tour of the NNSS for Nye County Officials – March 28, 2018
 - Publish *Advisory Board Moves Forward with Plan to Gauge Community Perspectives* as an EM News Brief via GovDelivery
 - Publish *Calling New Advisory Board Members* as an EM News Brief
 - Publish Area 5 RWMC re-vegetation update article via EM News Brief
 - Publish 45-Day review article in national EM HQ newsletter