



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)

**Full Board Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada
4:00 p.m. – September 20, 2023**

Members Present: Erik Anderson, Joycelyn Austin-Mabe, Lisa Blandi, John Cole, William Dolan, Gary Elgort, Anthony Graham (Chair), Janice Six, Kevin Trainor, Eddie Williams

Members Absent: Mark Hilton (Vice-Chair), Bruce Jabbour, Dan Peterson, Favil West

Liaisons Present: Christine Andres (State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP]), Andrew Bennett (Clark County), Frank Bonesteel (Nye County Emergency Management [NCEM]), Frank Carbone (Nye County Commission), Richard Friese (National Park Service [NPS]), John Klenke (Nye County Natural Resources and Federal Facilities Office [NRFFO]), Bill Wolf (White Pine County)

Liaisons Absent: Richard Arnold (Consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations [CGTO]), Varlin Higbee (Lincoln County Commission)

Department of Energy (DOE): **Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program:** Robert Boehlecke (Deputy Designated Federal Officer [DDFO]), Tiffany Gamero (Alternate DDFO), Pamela Bailey, John Myers, Jackie Petrello
National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO): John Daniels, Kathryn Gladden

Government Contractors: **Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc. (Navarro):** Marilew Bartling, Irene Farnham, Grant Johnson, Kevin Knapp, Dona Murphy, Glenn Puit, Ari Rosenberg, Barbara Ulmer
Desert Research Institute (DRI): Chuck Russell
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS): Jeff Sanders

Members of the Public: Wayne Barber (Exchange Monitor), Susan Coleman (Hanford Advisory Board)

Open Meeting/Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Anthony Graham announced with a heavy heart that Member Bill DeWitt passed away on September 6, 2023. He was appointed to the NSSAB in October 2018 and served for five years representing Amargosa Valley, NV. Member DeWitt came to the meetings and tours with energy to participate, an eagerness to learn, and willingness to share his opinions on behalf of his community. Chair Graham asked for a moment of silence in his honor. In that spirit, Chair Graham reassured the Board that Member DeWitt would have wanted the NSSAB to engage in a productive meeting tonight. A card for the family was available for anyone interested in signing.

Member Kevin Trainor made a motion to approve the draft agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Liaison Updates

Clark County (*Andrew Bennett*)

Liaison Andrew Bennett introduced himself as the new liaison on the NSSAB and is the Clark County Director of Traffic Safety. He has been assigned the responsibilities of radioactive waste and the transportation of radioactive waste upon Phil Klevorick's retirement. Liaison Bennett has been with the county for two years and previously with the Nevada State Police and the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety. He concluded that it is a privilege to serve and thanked the Board for the warm welcome and information provided.

Nye County (*Frank Carbone*)

Liaison Frank Carbone had nothing new to report.

NCEM (*Frank Bonesteel*)

Liaison Frank Bonesteel noted that NCEM is waiting for a budget change for the Foam Task Force in anticipation of a meeting of DOE's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) next month regarding grant funding. This is currently a major activity in Nye County that will involve additional training. Any questions on this subject can be directed to Chief Scott Lewis. Liaison Bonesteel announced that the Pahrump Fall Festival is this weekend and there will be minor traffic issues associated on State Route 160 with a closure for a parade on Saturday morning.

NCNRFFO (*John Klenke*)

Liaison John Klenke reported that he had sent an email this month to the EM Nevada Program regarding concerns regarding the intense rains in August 2023 and its possible impacts on Area 25 since nuclear materials were tested in this area. DDFO Robert Boehlecke addressed this subject during the NSSAB Intergovernmental meeting and will be sharing the information with the NSSAB during his upcoming DOE update. DDFO Boehlecke reported that the intense rains from the two storms mainly fell to the west and south of the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) and did not affect Area 25 with erosion impacts. Liaison Klenke concluded that Nye County remains concerned with these areas, especially with climate change and the possibility of more frequent intense storm events and appreciates the feedback on this issue and the visual inspections that were conducted after the rain storms.

NDEP (*Christine Andres*)

Liaison Christine Andres introduced herself as the Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Federal Facilities for NDEP that has a mission of oversight and working with and regulating the DOE EM cleanup on the NNSS. NDEP also oversees the waste management and has regulatory authority over hazardous waste and oversight of low-level waste (LLW) through an agreement in principle with the EM Nevada Program. Liaison Andres noted that a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) inspection of the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) is scheduled for November 2023. In preparation, some of her new staff went to the Area 5 RWMC today for a visit to review items required by regulation. She mentioned that her office is reviewing the draft Closure Report for the EM Nevada Program for Test Cell C. Liaison Andres also attended the EM Cleanup Workshop last week and will be attending a dialogue meeting at the Hanford Site in mid-October 2023 along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), other state agencies, and DOE. The NNSS is not listed as a Superfund designated site on the National Priorities List, although she participates to share lessons learned. Liaison Andres concluded that she will be attending the DOE Intergovernmental Meeting in mid-November 2023 in Minneapolis, MN. This meeting brings five intergovernmental groups together with DOE to share information and lessons learned.

White Pine County (*Bill Wolf*)

Liaison Bill Wolf informed the Board that he is not on the White Pine County Commission, although was appointed by the commission as liaison to the NSSAB. He noted that he has 33 years in fire service, so has a strong background in emergency management. Liaison Wolf was chair of the Northeast Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Advisory Council (RAC). He is a member of the U.S. Forest Service RAC, on the board of directors for the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition and for Nevada Plants, and chair for the Ely Tree Board; so, he has a strong background in natural resources to bring to the table.

NPS (*Richard Friese*)

Liaison Richard Friese introduced himself as the hydrologist for Death Valley National Park (DVNP). Personnel have been focused on recovery efforts from the flooding associated with Hurricane Hillary that has since closed DVNP. Partial reopening of DVNP via State Route 190 from the west is estimated for October 15th, and there is no estimated reopening date for access from the east. DVNP received 2.5 inches in a 24-hour period that exceeded the record of 1.7 inches recorded last year. The best information for reopening and road conditions is available on the DVNP website that can be accessed [here](#). Liaison Friese reported that there have been two recent tractor trailer accidents on Daylight Pass Road that connects DVNP to Beatty, NV. This route is illegal for this type of vehicle, and both involved significant chemical spills and cleanup efforts. These events provide evidence that these routes remain an attractive shortcut. Liaison Friese expressed DVNP's appreciation that none of these growing number of accidents have involved motor carriers transporting waste to the NNSS.

NNSA/NFO Update (*John Daniels, Federal Public Affairs Officer, and Kathryn Gladden, Program Liaison for EM*)

Mr. John Daniels reported on a DOE carbon-free electricity initiative to encourage commercial industry to engage in clean energy opportunities. The NNSS has been identified by Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm as one of the DOE sites available to increase clean energy production. It is the goal of DOE to identify potentially capable parties that have an interest in using federal government lands in developing utility-scale carbon, pollution-free electricity projects. Secretary

Granholm's intent is to invite private industry to use federal land to conduct clean energy producing projects. In December 2023 or January 2024, the NNSS will host an information day on this initiative for interested parties to ask questions and provide feedback. Since there was great interest by the NSSAB, Mr. Daniels committed to providing additional information as this initiative evolves. Mr. Daniels concluded that the NNSS website, including the NSSAB webpages, has been refreshed with a modern look that is user friendly and easy to navigate, that can be accessed [here](#).

U.S. DOE Update (*Robert Boehlecke, DOE*)

DDFO Boehlecke expressed sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Member DeWitt on behalf of the EM Nevada Program. He was an outstanding member and a long-time contributor to the NSSAB and the EM Nevada Program, and will be remembered for his commitments to Amargosa Valley, the NSSAB, and the state of Nevada.

DDFO Boehlecke welcomed Liaisons Bennett and Wolf to the NSSAB. The Program looks forward to their contributions.

DDFO Boehlecke continued that he and Navarro Program Manager John Wrapp attended the DOE EM National Cleanup Workshop last week in Washington D.C. This workshop is a great opportunity to catch up with other DOE program leaders and learn about the latest progress at sites across the Complex. William "Ike" White, Senior Advisor for the Office of EM or EM-1, referenced priority cleanup commitments met by the EM Nevada Program and Navarro at the Test Cell C (TCC) facility. DDFO Boehlecke and Mr. Wrapp made a brief appearance to summarize the completion of demolition of four buildings at TCC while introducing a video documenting the demolition, that can be accessed [here](#). The link to the video was recently included in an EM Update article and serves as a great wrap-up of the work completed at TCC this year, that can be accessed [here](#).

DDFO Boehlecke updated that work continues with the Engine Maintenance Assembly and Disassembly (EMAD) facility by preparing the train shed for demolition with the removal of asbestos and other materials.

In response to an inquiry from Nye County, DDFO Boehlecke addressed the recent heavy rains in southern Nevada and any potential impacts on Area 25 at the NNSS. From a historical perspective after heavy rains like the ones received at the NNSS in August 2023, the Program has conducted inspections and a flyover and came across no migration of any contaminants. DDFO Boehlecke provided the following information on erosion issues on the NNSS:

- **Post Closure Inspections (PCIs)**
 - Sites closed in place under the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) have requirements for annual inspections and/or maintenance
 - Inspections and maintenance ensure that required controls (posting, fencing, landfill caps, etc.) are in place and maintained to perform as designed
 - Controls and inspection requirements vary by site based on potential hazards
 - Climate, weather events, animal burrows, and other factors may affect controls over time

- Only RCRA and FFACO sites in Areas 2, 9, 3, 6, 5 and 23 have required post-rain event inspections
 - NNSS weather stations monitored to determine whether amount of precipitation triggers a required rain inspection
 - Visual inspections are conducted when conditions are safe and roads are passible, usually within a couple of days (no time limit)
 - Sites shielded by some engineered cover and inspections focus on the integrity of covers
- 143 closed Corrective Action Sites (CASs) in 74 Corrective Action Units (CAUs) inspected per FFACO and RCRA requirements
 - RCRA permit identifies specific requirements for seven CAUs
 - Generally, FFACO inspections are conducted at various frequencies to verify the condition of implemented controls such as fencing, signs, monuments, and/or markers to identify any degradation that impacts integrity, visibility, or legibility; controlled areas are also inspected for surface changes (including subsidence and erosion)
- **NNSS Storm Damage - August 23, 2023**
 - All required inspections triggered by the storm were performed August 23-24, 2023
 - No significant damage identified
 - Additional inspections conducted at sites where the trigger threshold was not met but was close – no damage identified, or maintenance required
 - Required stormwater inspection (not required by RCRA or FFACO) near Fortymile Wash in Area 25 identified ponding but no damage to the facility
 - Visual observations in other portions of Area 25 indicated no damage to facilities
 - EMAD access road that was damaged and closed in 2015 was not impacted by the August 2023 rain event
- **NNSS Storm Damage - October 2015**
 - Primarily a rain and flash flooding event that occurred on October 18, 2015
 - Contributing factor was existing ground moisture from previous storm
 - Precipitation across NNSS varied with the northern portion of Area 14 (3.50”) and central Area 25 (3.43”) experiencing highest rainfall amounts
- **October 2015 Storm Impacts to FFACO Sites**
 - Within days of the event, inspections were conducted at several closed FFACO sites suspected to have been impacted
 - Three CAUs had precipitation triggers that required inspection after a rainfall event that exceeds one inch in a 24-hour period
 - Repairs at CASs 25-16-04 and 25-16-02 in Area 25 were required following the storm, including realignment of the wash
- **Summary**
 - Flood events may impact roads, buildings, and areas where surface contamination exists
 - Flooding dilutes and disperses any surface contamination (similar to an alluvium deposit at the mouth of a river)
 - Activity concentrations in the migrating sediments are always going to be lower than at the source
 - Most closed sites where contamination remains are located within closed basins
 - In drainages that flow off-site, it is estimated that less than one percent of the total soil erosion is from contaminated areas

- During the last 40-50 years of seasonal flooding, radiological surveys have not identified any significant contamination in eroded sediments

Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) 2023 Updates (*Irene Farnham, Navarro*)

- **FFACO Background**
 - Regulatory agreement with the State of Nevada (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, NDEP) that identifies sites of potential contamination related to legacy testing in Nevada and outlines strategy to address sites identified
 - Signed May 10, 1996
 - FFACO Signatories (FFACO Parties):
 - NDEP
 - DOE
 - U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)
- **Facilities with Sites Subject to the FFACO**
 - NNSS
 - Parts of Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) and Tonopah Test Range (TTR)
 - Central Nevada Test Area (CNTA)
 - Project Shoal Area (PSA)
- **FFACO Purpose**
 - Identifying sites of potential historic contamination and implementing proposed corrective actions based on public health and environmental considerations
 - Establishing specific sampling and monitoring requirements
 - Providing all parties with sufficient information to evaluate appropriate remedies
 - Ensuring that the parties work together in a cooperative manner
 - Substantially reducing the costs of cleanup activities
 - Satisfying the corrective action requirements of 40 CFR 264.101 and Sections 3004(u) and 3004(v) of the RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §6924 (u) and (v)
- **FFACO Structure**
 - **Main Body**
 - Six (6) Letter Agreements to Modify (2000 – 2010)
 - Update names, addresses, meeting frequencies, etc. to current
 - Added DOE, Office of Legacy Management (DOE/LM) as signatory and agency responsible for Offsites in 2006
 - **Appendices**
 - I. **Description of Facilities** (Rev. 5; 2014)
 - Description of facilities covered by the FFACO
 - II. **Corrective Action Sites/Units (CASs/CAUs)** (Updated Annually)
 - CASs not yet grouped into CAUs (0)
 - CAUs not yet transferred to subsequent appendices (0)
 - III. **Corrective Action Investigations/Corrective Actions** (Updated Annually)
 - CAUs currently undergoing investigations and/or corrective actions (5)
 - IV. **Closed Corrective Action Units** (Updated Annually)
 - CAUs where all corrective actions have been completed and approved by NDEP (574)
 - V. **Public Involvement Plan** (Rev. 8; 2014)
 - Provides an outline of the mechanisms used to continually provide information and seek public input

- VI. **Corrective Action Strategy** (Rev. 5; 2014)
 - Provides processes for implementing corrective actions for Soils, Industrial Sites, UGTA, and Offsites
- VII. **Post-Closure Strategy** (New)
 - Provides processes for implementing once corrective actions have been completed (i.e., CAU is closed)

- **Summary of New FFACO Updates**

- **FFACO Updates**

- 2023 Letter Agreement to Modify FFACO
- New Appendix (Appendix VII – Post-Closure Strategy)
- Revised Appendix I (Description of Facilities), V (Public Involvement) and VI (Corrective Action Strategy)

- **FFACO Working Group Collaboration**

- Representatives of NDEP, NNSA/NFO, DoD, LM, and EM Nevada Program
- Iterative review cycles

- **Updates planned for completion in 2023**

- **2023 Letter Agreement to Modify FFACO**

- Letter Agreement provides the following revised provisions that parties agree to comply with until the Agreement itself is re-signed:
 - Add DOE EM Nevada Program as a signatory*
 - Add Appendix VII
 - Document revision to Appendices I, V and VI
 - Document transition of TTR sites to LM
 - Provide updates to make the FFACO current, for example:
 - Nevada Test Site to NNSS
 - NNSA Nevada Site Office to Nevada Field Office
 - RCRA permit number

*EM Nevada Program has always been responsible for legacy cleanup activities mandated by the FFACO. EM Nevada Program and NNSA/NFO concurrence prior to this modification were reflected by a sole NNSA/NFO signature.

- **Appendix VII Post-Closure Strategy**

- Provides regulatory agreement for activities needed once the Corrective Action Strategy (Appendix VI) has been completed
 - Ensures that post-closure surveillance and monitoring requirements are maintained following CAU/CAS closure
 - Describes long-term stewardship transfer and implementation processes that require NDEP notification, input, and approval
 - Processes internal to DOE are not included
 - Ensures post-closure monitoring processes are consistent
 - Subsurface Monitoring (UGTA/Offsites)
 - Surface Monitoring (Industrial Sites/Soils/Offsites)
 - Presents tools to aid in implementing post-closure monitoring and long-term stewardship (e.g., FFACO database, meetings, Use Restriction forms)

- **Appendix I, V, and VI Revisions**

- **Appendix I: Description of Facilities**
 - Provided more consistent descriptions
 - Revised/removed outdated maps
- **Appendix V: Public Involvement**

- Streamlined discussion of tools available for communicating with the public, for example NSSAB, Public Reading Facilities, DOE websites
- **Appendix VI: Corrective Action Strategy**
 - Updated status of Offsites CAUs
 - Removed post-closure requirements from UGTA strategy that are now covered in Appendix VII
 - Revised permit discussion to be less time and version dependent

Other NSSAB Business *(Anthony Graham, Chair)*

LLW Stakeholders Forum Representative for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024

Chair Graham stated that there is an opening for an NSSAB representative on the LLW Stakeholders Forum for FY 2024. This forum provides an opportunity to share and discuss information related to the shipment and disposal of waste primarily at the NNS. Chair Graham added that these hybrid meetings are held quarterly and rotate locations between Las Vegas and Pahrump, NV, and the next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2023, in Las Vegas, NV. The NSSAB representative is tasked with attending the meeting on behalf of the NSSAB and providing a written report highlighting the main points from the meeting. For in-person meetings, there is DOE reimbursement available for one NSSAB member to attend each meeting. Members Lisa Blandi and Kevin Trainor volunteered to share the responsibility of representing the NSSAB at these meetings. The NSSAB Office will provide the final meeting details when available.

FY 2024 Chair/Vice-Chair

Chair Graham expressed interest in serving as Chair and Vice-Chair Mark Hilton expressed interest in serving as Vice-Chair for FY 2024. There was no other interest from NSSAB members. Member Trainor moved to approve that Anthony Graham serve as Chair and Mark Hilton serve as Vice-Chair of the NSSAB for FY 2024. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Board and staff thanked Chair Graham and Vice-Chair Hilton for their continued leadership.

Follow-up to Reevaluation of Audit Determination Process (Work Plan Item #3) *(Marilew Bartling, Navarro)*

During the April 19th NSSAB meeting, Marilew Bartling, Navarro RWAP Manager, briefed on work plan item #3. The NSSAB was asked to provide a recommendation, from a community perspective, on the processes used by the EM Nevada Program to develop Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluation schedules. Prior to the meeting, the NSSAB was provided the recording of the briefing to refamiliarize themselves with the topic to come prepared to have meaningful discussion with Chair Graham on recommendations for this work plan item.

In support of this work plan item, Member Joycelyn Austin-Mabe accompanied the RWAP Team to observe a facility evaluation of a waste generator in Kingston, TN, in August 2023, and Member Gary Elgort accompanied the RWAP Team to observe a facility evaluation of a waste generator in West Valley, NY in September 2023. Members Austin-Mabe and Elgort provided very informational and thorough oral reports, including PowerPoint presentations with photographs, that outlined their observations during their visits. They noted that the attention to detail and the

amount of work that the RWAP Team conducted prior to arrival at the waste generator site was extensive.

Ms. Bartling was available to answer any additional questions to assist the NSSAB in formulating recommendations for work plan item #3. She thanked Members Austin-Mabe and Elgort for acknowledging the amount of work that her team undergoes to review all the policies and procedures in advance, during, and after each facility evaluation. She also thanked them for the fantastic job they did with their presentations.

In response to Board questions/comments, the following clarifications were provided:

- The generator is responsible for completing the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) Implementation Crosswalk (NIC) and submitting to the RWAP Team in advance of a scheduled facility evaluation. This is documented in the NNSS WAC.
- The revised NNSS WAC was fully implemented in January 2023 and has resulted in an increase of Findings and observations documented during facility evaluations as generators are adjusting and incorporating the changes into its waste certification programs.
- The RWAP Team conducts follow-up with generators after a facility evaluation if all their questions and/or outstanding issues have not been addressed satisfactorily while onsite.
- If there is any contention during a facility evaluation, RWAP will consult with DOE to address any issues.
- During a facility evaluation, the RWAP Team focuses on five areas: packaging and transportation, radiological characterization, chemical characterization, quality assurance and waste traceability.
- The RWAP Team has the capability to use real-time radiography on waste containers to perform a visual verification of the contents.
- The EM Nevada Program, the RWAP Team, and NDEP work together to interpret waste management regulations relative to deviations in waste packaging, such as the wrapping for large waste containers. This is to ensure the waste is packaged to ensure the safety of personnel, the public, and the environment.
- The RWAP Team transportation specialist monitors every waste shipment via Haztrak, a software that tracks the arrival of hazardous materials including LLW sent to the NNSS for disposal.
- The RWAP Team uses a risk-based ranking process to schedule facility evaluations.
- Due to the recent implementation of the revised NNSS WAC, the RWAP conducted nine audits (each includes a five-person team for three full days) in FY 2023 while on a normal year generally six audits are conducted.
- There are special considerations involved in the risk-based scheduling, such as a suspension of a generator or a new generator, but there are typically two to three high-risk generators identified each fiscal year using the ranking process.
- The RWAP Team does use virtual means during facility evaluations for generators that are considered a low risk. Some areas, such as quality assurance, may be conducted effectively virtually, however, packing and transportation and waste traceability are assessed more effectively during an in-person site visit.

Chair Graham led Board discussion on work plan item #3 with potential recommendations provided by members during the meeting on the processes used by the EM Nevada Program to develop RWAP facility evaluation schedules as follows:

Member John Cole brought forward for discussion that the EM Nevada Program continue to use the risk-based methodology to schedule future facility evaluations. Member Trainor made a motion that this potential recommendation be approved for work plan item #3. The motion was seconded. After Board discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Member Elgort made a motion for a potential recommendation that the EM Nevada Program request that generators verify that NIC content is accurate so that evaluators can complete their work within the limited field schedule time. The motion was seconded. After Board discussion, the motion did not pass.

Member Austin-Mabe brought forward for discussion that the EM Nevada Program mandate that generators include a table of contents to ensure all required documentation is included. After Board discussion, Member Austin-Mabe requested that this potential recommendation be rescinded as the RWAP conducts regular meetings with its waste generators to share best practices and lessons learned.

Member Austin-Mabe made a motion for a potential recommendation that the EM Nevada Program add a virtual component so more surveillances can be added to the schedule. The motion was seconded. After Board discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Graham thanked Members Austin-Mabe and Elgort for their attendance and reports on their respective site visits and commended the Board for its diligence in providing recommendations for Reevaluation of Audit Determination Process - work plan item #3. DDFO Boehlecke also thanked Members Austin-Mabe and Elgort for taking the time for the site visits and their excellent presentations. The NSSAB Office will draft the NSSAB recommendation letter and submit it to the EM Nevada Program for its consideration and response.

FY 2023 Work Plan Status *(DOE Activity Leads)*

- **FY 2023 Work Plan Items Status**
 - **FY 2025 Prioritization** – from a community perspective, provide a recommendation ranking planned activities to inform the EM Nevada budget submission.
 - Status
 - NSSAB Recommendation – February 2023
 - EM Nevada Program Response – February 2023
 - Status update: NSSAB recommendation used to inform EM HQ of NSSAB priorities.
 - **Reevaluation of the Audit Determination Process** – from a community perspective, provide a recommendation on the processes used by the EM Nevada Program to develop RWAP facility evaluation schedules.
 - Status:
 - NSSAB Recommendation – Due tonight
 - EM Nevada Program Response – Upon receipt of NSSAB recommendation letter
 - **Revegetation of EM Sites** – from a community perspective, provide a recommendation on improvements or enhancements to revegetation of EM sites.
 - Status:
 - NSSAB Recommendation – May 2023
 - EM Nevada Program Response – July 2023

- Status update: EM Nevada Program will continue to look for opportunities to use transplanted from the Bureau of Land Management for future revegetation efforts.
- **Groundwater Open House** – from a community perspective, provide a recommendation on how communication to the public on groundwater topics on the NNSS could be improved or enhanced.
- Status:
 - NSSAB Recommendation – January 2023
 - EM Nevada Program Response – February 2023
 - Status update: NSSAB recommendations will be considered when planning for future public events.
- **Sampling Plan for Pahute Mesa Groundwater Corrective Action Units** – from a community perspective, provide a recommendation on improvement or refinement for the Pahute Mesa groundwater sampling plan.
- Status:
 - NSSAB Recommendation – July 2023
 - EM Nevada Program Response – July 2023
 - NSSAB in support of the Pahute Mesa groundwater sampling plan.

There were no Board questions on the FY 2023 Work Plan Status. Chair Graham and the Board thanked the presenters for being available to brief and answer questions during the meeting.

FY 2024 Work Plan Development

DOE FY 2024 Proposed NSSAB Work Plan Tasks:

The EM Nevada Program proposed the following seven work plan items related to EM activities planned for FY 2024 for the NSSAB's consideration. EM Nevada Program staff explained and answered Board questions for each of the proposed work plan items and the recommendation associated with each task.

1. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation ranking the planned activities for FY 2026 to inform the EM Nevada Program's budget submission.
2. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation for how RWAP's visual verifications could be enhanced.
3. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation for how RWAP's facility evaluations could be enhanced.
4. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation for how RWAP's real-time radiography (RTR) operations could be enhanced.
5. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will develop a recommendation on specific topics to be included in the final Site Transition Plan and how and to whom it should be communicated.

6. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation on improvements or enhancements to Appendix V. *Public Involvement* and the New Appendix VII. *Post-Closure Strategy* of the FFACO.
7. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation on improvements and/or refinement for the annual update presentation for the Pahute Mesa CAUs prior presenting to NDEP in December 2023.

Other NSSAB Task Input

Member Cole began discussion regarding a potential work plan item for the NSSAB to consider the subject of public outreach and media communications and suggested the following language for a potential work plan item:

8. From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide recommendations for ways to enhance the EM Nevada Program's public outreach and media communications.

Work plan item #1 is required by EM Headquarters; therefore, a vote was not taken on this item. Using task posters, members voted on each work plan item separately and the remaining seven tasks received a majority vote.

After further Board discussion led by Chair Graham, Member Trainor made a motion to approve the proposed FY 2024 work plan including the preceding eight work plan tasks and to submit to DOE for its consideration. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The NSSAB Office will submit the proposed FY 2024 Work Plan to the EM Nevada Program for its review and approval.

FY 2024 Meetings Schedule

Approval of Proposed Schedule

A proposed schedule was provided based on the timing of briefings and due dates for recommendations included in the FY 2024 Work Plan.

The Full Board meeting schedule for FY 2024 as follows:

- Wednesday, November 8, 2023 – starting at 4 p.m. in Las Vegas, NV
- Wednesday, January 17, 2024 – starting at 4 p.m. in Pahrump, NV
- Wednesday, February 21, 2024 –starting at 4 p.m. in Las Vegas, NV
- Wednesday, April 17, 2024 –starting at 4 p.m. in Beatty, NV
- Wednesday, July 17, 2024 –starting at 4 p.m. in Las Vegas, NV
- Wednesday, September 18, 2024 –starting at 4 p.m. in Las Vegas, NV

NSSAB Intergovernmental Meetings for NSSAB liaisons will be held prior to each Full Board meeting starting at 3 p.m. The meeting locations will be finalized by the NSSAB Office.

Meeting Wrap-Up and Adjournment

Upcoming calendar of events:

- EM SSAB National Chairs' Meeting in Oak Ridge, TN – October 3-5, 2023
- NSSAB Work Plan Tour of the NNSS – October 18, 2023 (full day)
- LLW Stakeholders Forum Meeting (invite only) in Las Vegas, NV – November 7, 2023

If you have any questions on the calendar of events, please contact the NSSAB Office at 702-523-0894.

Member Austin-Mabe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed with a majority. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.