



# Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

September 25, 2023

## Members

Erik Anderson  
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Lisa Blandi  
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Consolidated Group of Tribes  
and Organizations  
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Esmeralda County Commission  
Lincoln County Commission  
Nye County Commission  
Nye County Emergency  
Management  
Nye County Natural Resources and  
Federal Facilities Office  
State of Nevada Division of  
Environmental Protection  
U.S. National Park Service  
White Pine County Commission

## Administration

Robert Boehlecke, Deputy  
Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)  
*U.S. Department of Energy,  
EM Nevada Program*  
Barbara Ulmer, Administrator  
*Navarro, Contractor for the U.S.  
Department of Energy,  
EM Nevada Program*

Mr. Robert Boehlecke, DDFO  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program  
100 N. City Parkway, Suite 1750  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

SUBJECT: Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Nevada Site Specific Advisory  
Board (NSSAB) Work Plan

Dear Mr. Boehlecke,

At our September 20, 2023, Full Board meeting, the NSSAB had the opportunity to review the list of activities the U.S. Department of Energy EM Nevada Program proposed the NSSAB incorporate into its FY 2024 work plan. In addition, the NSSAB also discussed potential tasks. After Full Board discussion, the NSSAB would like the EM Nevada Program's approval for the attached work plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on EM activities at the Nevada National Security Sites and look forward to a productive year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Graham', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Anthony Graham, Chair

Attachment

cc: Michelle Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-2.22)  
Kelly Snyder, DOE/HQ (EM-2.22)  
Glenn Puit, Navarro  
Barbara Ulmer, Navarro  
NSSAB Members and Liaisons  
Tiffany Gamero, EM  
Bill Wilborn, EM

**Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) FY 2024 Work Plan  
(October 2023 – September 2024)**

**Proposed**

<b>Work Plan Item 1:</b>	<i>Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Prioritization</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	February 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	February 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> As part of the federal budget process, the EM Nevada Program must provide funding request information to Headquarters as it relates to planned FY 2026 activities. In February 2024, the EM Nevada Program will provide briefings on planned FY 2026 activities.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation ranking the planned activities to inform the EM Nevada Program’s budget submission.</p>

<b>Work Plan Item 2:</b>	<i>Low-Level Waste (LLW) Visual Verification</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	January 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	July 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducts LLW visual verifications at generator sites throughout the country. These verifications focus on the packaging of waste into the shipping containers to ensure the waste is consistent with the waste profile and meets the Nevada National Security Sites Waste Acceptance Criteria (NNSS WAC). Up to two members from the NSSAB will be invited to observe RWAP conducting a LLW visual verification. These members will present their observations to the Full Board.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide recommendations for how RWAP’s visual verifications could be enhanced.</p>

<b>Work Plan Item 3:</b>	<i>Low-Level Waste (LLW) Facility Evaluations</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	January 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	July 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducts LLW facility evaluations at generator sites throughout the country. These facility evaluations evaluate the generator’s waste program to verify continued compliance with the Nevada National Security Sites Waste Acceptance Criteria (NNSS WAC). Up to two members from the NSSAB will be invited to observe RWAP conducting a LLW facility evaluation. These members will present their observations to the Full Board.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide recommendations for how RWAP’s facility evaluations could be enhanced.</p>

**Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) FY 2024 Work Plan  
(October 2023 – September 2024)**

**Proposed**

<b>Work Plan Item 4:</b>	<i>Real-Time Radiography (RTR) Operations at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) at the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS)</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	January 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	July 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducts real-time radiography (RTR – essentially x-ray technology) on waste containers received by generators across the DOE complex at the Area 5 RWMC. RTR examinations are used to verify compliance with the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria for disposal at the NNSS. Up to two members (due to size of the facility only one member at a time can observe) from the NSSAB will be invited to observe RWAP conducting an RTR evolution. These members will present their observations to the Full Board.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide recommendations for how RWAP’s RTR operations could be enhanced.</p>

<b>Work Plan Item 5:</b>	<i>Transfer Process of Environmental Management (EM) Sites on the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) to National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO)</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	April 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	July 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> In April 2024, the EM Nevada Program will provide a briefing to the NSSAB on the normal transfer process for the stewardship of sites; the differences that the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) sites on the NNSS present from this process; a tentative timeline and draft Site Transition Plan outline.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation on specific topics to be included in the final Site Transition Plan and how and to whom it should be communicated.</p>

<b>Work Plan Item 6:</b>	<i>Updates to the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO)</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	November 2023
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	November 2023
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> The FFACO is a regulatory agreement with the State of Nevada that identifies sites of potential contamination related to legacy testing in Nevada and outlines the strategy to address sites identified. In November 2023, the EM Nevada Program will provide a briefing to the NSSAB on approved updates to the FFACO, including revisions to Appendix V. <i>Public Involvement</i> and the new Appendix VII. <i>Post-Closure Strategy</i> that provides processes for implementation once corrective actions have been completed (i.e., Corrective Action Unit is closed).</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation on improvements or enhancements to Appendix V. <i>Public Involvement</i> and the new Appendix VII. <i>Post-Closure Strategy</i>.</p>

**Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) FY 2024 Work Plan  
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<b>Work Plan Item 7:</b>	<i>Annual Update Presentation for Pahute Mesa Groundwater Corrective Action Units (CAUs)</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	November 2023
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	November 2023
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> Annually, the Underground Test Area (UGTA) activity provides an annual update presentation on the status of the Pahute Mesa CAUs to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). These presentations meet Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order milestones. In November 2023, the EM Nevada Program will provide a briefing to the NSSAB on the annual update presentation prior to providing to NDEP.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide a recommendation on improvement and/or refinement for the annual update presentation for the Pahute Mesa CAUs prior presenting to NDEP in December 2023.</p>

<b>Work Plan Item 8:</b>	<i>Enhancements to Public Outreach and Media Communications Approach</i>
<b>Briefing/Discussion Date:</b>	April 2024
<b>Recommendation Deadline:</b>	September 2024
<b>Description:</b>	<p><u>Background:</u> The EM Nevada Program recognizes the importance of keeping the public aware of its current activities on the Nevada National Security Sites. In April 2024, the EM Nevada Program will provide a briefing to the NSSAB describing the current approach to public outreach and media communications.</p> <p><u>NSSAB Scope:</u> From a community perspective, the NSSAB will provide recommendations for ways to enhance the EM Nevada Program’s public outreach and media communications.</p>