



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

September 30, 2025

Members

Erik Anderson
Joycelyn Austin-Mabe
Robert Blackstock
Lisa Blandi
John Cole
Gary Elgort
Thomas Fisher
Pam Handor
Mark Hilton (Chair)
Tammi Odegard
Lori Olson-Arzaga
Anntoinette Rivera
Brandon Schmidt
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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*
Tiffany Gamero, and John Myers,
Alternate DDFOs
*U.S. Department of Energy,
EM Nevada Program*
Barbara Ulmer, Administrator
*Navarro, Contractor for the U.S.
Department of Energy,
EM Nevada Program*

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

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Low-Level Waste (LLW) Facility Evaluations
(Work Plan Item #4)

Dear DDFO Boehlecke,

The Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) was asked to provide a recommendation, from a community perspective, to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for how the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations could be enhanced.

In support of the scope of this work plan item, Jhon Carilli, DOE LLW Activity Lead, conducted a presentation and answered questions during the April 16, 2025, NSSAB Full Board Meeting. The briefing included a definition of a facility evaluation and its purpose. His briefing also included information on the frequency, documentation, and personnel needed for a facility evaluation.

In August 2025, Member Tammi Odegard and I accompanied the RWAP Team and Jackie Petrello from the EM Nevada Program to observe first-hand a surveillance at a generator site in West Valley, NY. During the September 10, 2025, NSSAB Full Board Meeting, Member Odegard and I provided an oral report for the Board on the facility evaluation process and our experiences and observations during their visit.

We received an incredible education from all who conducted the surveillance who are ultimately concerned with the safety of the current and future citizens of Nevada and anyone else impacted by the waste being stored, shipped across the country, and then disposed of at the Nevada National Security Site. The attention to detail and the significant time that the RWAP Team spent reviewing records prior to arrival at the waste generator sites was extensive and we commend them for an outstanding job.

After Board discussion, the NSSAB recommends that the EM Nevada Program provide NSSAB members, prior to travelling to a site to observe a facility evaluation, with a list of inspection items that includes a description, a summary of previous inspections, and a listing of the waste generator's risk value with a reasoning for that value.



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EM Nevada Program

The NSSAB thanks the EM Nevada Program for the opportunity to observe RWAP conducting a facility evaluation in support of this work plan item. Special thanks to Jackie Petrello, and Leroy Duran and Deron Linkenheil from the RWAP Team for their availability to answer our questions during the facility evaluation and the NSSAB meeting.

Sincerely,

Mark Hilton, Chair

cc: Kelly Snyder, DOE/HQ (EM-2.33)
Michelle Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-2.33)
Leroy Duran, Navarro
Jeff Jarry, Navarro
Deron Linkenheil, Navarro
Glenn Puit, Navarro
Barbara Ulmer, Navarro
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
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Catherine Hampton, EM
John Myers, EM
Jackie Petrello, EM