



Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities Monthly Report to the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) November 2023



External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Participated in NSSAB annual work plan tour of the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS). The NSSAB members and liaisons had the opportunity to visit the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex that included the current Real-Time Radiography (RTR) equipment, well drill site ER-20-1 in Pahute Mesa, drive-by progress status for Test Cell C and Engine Maintenance Assembly and Disassembly (EMAD) Facilities, and Apple II Surface Groundwater Zero/Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS) training location. – October 18, 2023
NOTE: During the tour, NSSAB members and liaisons requested the document, *U.S. Nuclear Tests-July 1945 through September 1992* (DOE/NV-209). The document can be accessed [here](#)



NSSAB get first-hand view of the RTR Control Room



NSSAB visits EMAD Facility



NSSAB provided a rare view of well drill site ER-20-1 in Pahute Mesa



NSSAB visits Apple II Houses

- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Hosted quarterly partnering session with the EM Consolidated Business Center, EM Nevada Program, and Navarro senior staff at the Molasky Corporate Center, Las Vegas, NV – October 12, 2023
 - Hosted a briefing for the Clark County Office of Traffic Safety with the EM Nevada Program, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc., National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office, and Mission Support and Test Services, LLC at the Molasky Corporate Center, Las Vegas, NV – October 25, 2023
 - Conducted a presentation during Amargosa Town Board meeting to promote NSSAB membership recruitment – October 26, 2023
 - Hosted a vendor booth in support of NSSAB membership recruitment during Beatty Days, Beatty, NV – October 28, 2023
- Publications:
 - The current *EM Strategic Vision: 2023-2033* can be accessed [here](#). NNSS is featured on pages 32-33. [standing item]
- Planned activities for November 2023:
 - Host interactive groundwater demonstration during NNSS STEM Saturdays event at the Atomic Museum, Las Vegas, NV – November 4, 2023
 - Host Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB Rep. to attend) – November 7, 2023
 - Host EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB leadership to attend) – November 8, 2023

- Host NSSAB Full Board Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV, including social media, news release with 38,255 subscribers, and newspaper advertising for promotion – November 8, 2023
- Attend U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Intergovernmental meeting for state, local, tribal, and federal officials to discuss priorities and strategies for managing and storing defense nuclear waste and for remediation of production sites in Minneapolis, MN – November 14-16, 2023

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fiscal year 2023 Waste Volume Report for the fourth quarter (July - September 2023) is available at [Radioactive Waste Management - Nevada National Security Site \(nnss.gov\)](https://www.nnss.gov)
- Update from previous reports – Erwin, TN generator. In May 2022, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In September 2022, the generator submitted its corrective action plan (CAP) that was reviewed and approved by RWAP. The generator submitted a position paper to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review. In April 2023, NRC concurred with the RWAP’s Finding. In October 2023, the generator accepted NRC’s concurrence with RWAP’s Finding and is working to meet the NRC requirement. The generator cannot ship this specific waste stream for disposal until the Finding is closed. (please see June – July 2022, September – October 2022, and May – June 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Idaho Falls, ID generator. In May 2023, RWAP conducted an onsite facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In July 2023, RWAP approved the generator’s CAP. In October 2023, the generator accepted the generator’s objective evidence. RWAP evaluated and accepted the submitted evidence and closed the Finding in October 2023. (please see June – August 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Gainesville, FL generator: In June 2023, RWAP conducted an onsite facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In October 2023, RWAP evaluated and accepted the generator’s objective evidence and closed the Finding. (please see July – October 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Pantex, TX generator: In August 2023, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In September 2023, RWAP conducted a surveillance to specifically verify the closure objective evidence submitted by the generator in response to the Finding from the August 2023 facility evaluation. The Finding was closed by the verification review and the generator shipped the waste to the NNSS. (please see September – October 2023 Monthly Reports for more information)
- In the month of October 2023, RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
 - Paducah, OH generator: A tabletop facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
 - Brookhaven, NY generator: A facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: A tabletop facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
- In the month of November 2023, RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In the month of November 2023, approximately 62,254 cubic feet of low-level waste (LLW), mixed (MLLW), and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) - Groundwater

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 101/102, Pahute Mesa

In October 2023, the Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan for the Pahute Mesa CAUs was submitted to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for review. Collection of groundwater samples from Pahute Mesa wells continued.

Industrial Sites

CAU 114, Area 25 Engine Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly (EMAD) Facility

CAU 114 comprises three Corrective Action Sites (CASs) in Area 25 of the NNSS. The Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan was approved by NDEP in June 2021. In October 2023, preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued, and will continue in November 2023.

CAU 572, Test Cell C (TCC) Ancillary Building and Structures

CAU 572 comprises five CASs in Area 25 of the NNSS. The SAFER Plan was approved by NDEP in April 2021. Preparation of the Closure Report continued in October 2023 and will continue in November 2023. The Closure Report is due in December 2023.

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five CASs located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. In October 2023, NDEP approved the second Addendum to the Closure Report for CAU 577. This CAU is now considered closed.

CAU 578, Miscellaneous Inactive Sites

CAU 578 comprises eleven CASs on the NNSS. Preparation of the Closure Report occurred in October 2023 and will continue in November 2023. The Closure Report is due in February 2024.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance were performed in accordance with closure requirements. Maintenance and repairs identified during the 2022 annual inspections will continue through calendar year 2023. The annual post-closure inspections began in July 2023 and will continue through the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include seven CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance were performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. In October 2023, required repairs and maintenance identified during the September 2023 inspections were performed.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

In October 2023, finalization of the Draft Addendum to the Closure Report for CAU 98, Frenchman Flat, continued.

Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO)

The FFACO is a regulatory agreement that identifies sites of potential historic contamination on the NNSS and outlines a strategy and timeline for completing corrective actions. A collaborative effort with all signatories to modify the FFACO is underway to update the main body and appendices. One key change is the identification of the EM Nevada Program as a separate signatory (previously, the EM Nevada Program and NNSA/NFO were represented by NNSA/NFO signature). A new Appendix, VII, was also written to provide a Post-Closure Strategy for closed CAUs that includes processes for transitioning responsibility of FFACO sites to long-term stewards. This extensive revision process was last undertaken when the FFACO was modified in 2010. The proposed changes in progress further solidify the Department's commitment to long-term environmental protection and support the evolution of the EM Nevada Program mission. The NSSAB will provide input on this topic in November 2023.