



**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
March 2024**



External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV, including social media, news release with over 39K subscribers, and newspaper advertising for promotion – February 21, 2024
- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Sponsored and volunteered at Nevada Science Bowl, along with the signature sponsor, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO), held in Las Vegas, NV to encourage students to pursue careers in STEM-related fields (additional information can be accessed [here](#)) – February 3, 2024
 - Hosted Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum via hybrid format in Pahrump, NV (NSSAB representative attended) – February 7, 2024
 - Hosted Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order annual and transition meetings in Las Vegas, NV – February 14, 2024
 - Participated in tour of the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex at the Nevada National Security Sites (NNS) for Nevada Delegation Staffers – February 20, 2024
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via hybrid format in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB vice-chair attended) – February 21, 2024
 - Hosted retreat and tour of the NNS for U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) EM Federal Project Directors in Las Vegas, NV – February 27-29, 2024
- Publications:
 - The current *NNS Environmental Report* can be accessed [here](#). This report is written to inform the public, regulators, employees, and other stakeholders of the performance of the NNS environmental program. [standing item]
 - The current *EM Strategic Vision: 2023-2033* can be accessed [here](#). NNS is featured on pages 32-33. [standing item]
- Planned activities for March 2024:
 - Host an exhibit booth, participate in panel sessions, *Update of the DOE EM Consolidated Business Center and Monitoring Challenges at DOE Sites: Regulatory and Site Perspectives*, and present in session, *Communication Enhancing Tools for Cleanup Decision Making*, at the Waste Management Symposia in Phoenix, AZ (NSSAB member to attend) – March 11-14, 2024
 - Conduct update presentation for the Waste Coordination Leadership Group with support from NNSA/NFO and EM HQs – March 12, 2024

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- DOE does not envision waste from any projects sited as part of Cleanup to Clean Energy being disposed of at the NNSS. Commercially generated waste is not eligible for disposal at the NNSS. In the unlikely event that DOE becomes responsible for low-level radioactive waste and the waste meets the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria, NNSS disposal will be subject to approval by the Waste Acceptance Review Panel (WARP), of which the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is a participant.
- 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 February 2024, the generator submitted an updated waste profile that is undergoing WARP review. The generator cannot ship this specific waste stream for disposal until the Finding is closed. (please see June – July 2022, September – October 2022, May – June 2023, and November 2023 – January 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports - Portsmouth, OH generator: In November 2023, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In February 2024, the generator submitted a corrective action plan (CAP) that was approved by RWAP. The generator will provide follow-up objective evidence for its CAP to RWAP. (please see December 2023 – January 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous report – Los Alamos, NM generator: In January 2024, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. In February 2024, RWAP submitted a draft report to the generator to review for factual accuracy. In March 2024, RWAP expects to submit the final report. The generator will have 30 days to respond to the Finding after receiving RWAP’s final report. (please see February 2024 Monthly Report for more information)
- In the month of February 2024, RWAP conducted two facility evaluations:
 - Albuquerque, NM generator: A facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: A facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. The generator will have 30 days to respond to the Findings after receiving the RWAP final report.
- In the month of March 2024, RWAP will conduct two facility evaluations.
- In the month of March 2024, approximately 51,765 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 February 2024, planning activities for collection of new data for the Pahute Mesa CAUs began.

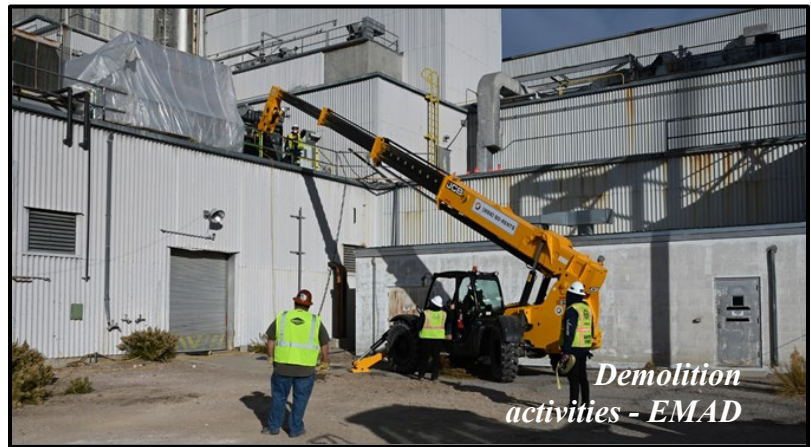
Industrial Sites

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 February 2024, preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued and will continue throughout 2024.

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. In February 2024, preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued and will continue throughout 2024.



CAU 578, Miscellaneous Inactive Sites

CAU 578 comprises eleven CASs on the NNSS. In February 2024, NDEP approved the Closure Report, which included a recommendation for the closure in place of six CASs. A closure in place strategy involves using engineering and/or administrative controls to manage remaining contamination. With NDEP's approval of the Closure Report, this CAU is now considered to be closed.

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 2023 annual inspections will be conducted in calendar year 2024.

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 February 2024, repairs identified during the December 2023 quarterly inspections will continue to be completed.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

In February 2024, finalization of the Draft Addendum to the Closure Report for CAU 98, Frenchman Flat, continued. Development of the Annual Letter Report for all Closed Groundwater CAUs began.

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 the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (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. In February 2024, the process neared completion as the final revisions were transmitted to signatories for approval and signatures.

NOTE: Continue to next page for photos from the January 2024 NSSAB meeting.

Photos: NSSAB Holds January Meeting (Article taken from internal newsletter):

On January 17, the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board held its first meeting of the year. Board members gathered at the Valley Electric Association’s Valley Conference Center in Pahrump to receive updates on current and planned activities performed by EM Nevada at the NNSS.



The meeting featured presentations about the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) by RWAP Manager Marilew Bartling (bottom left) and RTR Verification Technician Byron Smith (middle right).