



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



External Affairs

- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Hosted an exhibit booth, participated in panel sessions, *Update of the DOE EM Consolidated Business Center and Monitoring Challenges at DOE Sites: Regulatory and Site Perspectives*, and presented in session, *Communication Enhancing Tools for Cleanup Decision Making*, at the Waste Management Symposia (WMS) in Phoenix, AZ (NSSAB member attended) – March 11-14, 2024
Articles on WMS:
 - *EM Update, *Turk, White Envision EM Sites as Hubs for Economic Development, Clean Energy*, can be accessed [here](#) – March 12, 2024
 - *Special EM Update: Highlights 2024 Waste Management Symposia, can be accessed [here](#) – March 19, 2024
 - Conducted update presentation for the Waste Coordination Leadership Group with support from National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) and EM Headquarters – March 12, 2024
- Publications:
 - The current *NNSS Environmental Report* can be accessed [here](#). This report is written to inform the public, regulators, employees, and other stakeholders of the performance of the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) environmental program. [*standing item*]
 - **NOTE RECENTLY UPDATED:** The current *EM Strategic Vision: 2024-2034* can be accessed [here](#). The NNSS is featured on pages 32-33. This vision outlines EM’s anticipated accomplishments in protection of the workforce, the public, and the environment. The 2024 edition was developed with feedback from state and local officials, Tribal Nations, and stakeholders. EM remains committed to working in a collaborative manner with Congress and the cleanup community to advance shared goals of safe, effective cleanup, and fiscal responsibility. [*standing item*]
Article on EM Strategic Vision: 2024-2034:
EM News Flash and social media, *New Strategic Vision ‘Charts a Steady Beat of Progress’ Across EM Complex*, can be accessed [here](#) – March 12, 2024
- Planned activities for April 2024:
 - Present and attend the Tribal Annual Meeting hosted by NNSA/NFO in Las Vegas, NV, and update during a tour of the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex at the NNSS – April 2 – 3, 2024
 - Host NSSAB Full Board Meeting via hybrid format in Beatty, NV, including social media, news release with over 35K subscribers, and newspaper advertising for promotion – April 17, 2024
 - Host EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via hybrid format in Beatty, NV (NSSAB leadership to attend) – April 17, 2024

- Present groundwater demonstration during Earth Day event in Pahrump, NV – April 20, 2024
- Present and attend the Devils Hole Workshop & Beyond 2024 in Amargosa Valley, NV (NSSAB representatives to attend) – April 25 – 27, 2024
- Participate in EM Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) National Chairs’ Meeting and site tours hosted by Portsmouth Site and the Portsmouth SSAB in Chillicothe, OH (NSSAB Chair and NSSAB Vice-Chair to attend) – April 29 – May 2, 2024

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fiscal year 2024 Transportation Report for the first quarter (Oct. – Dec. 2023) can be accessed [here](#)
- Update from previous reports – Los Alamos, NM generator: In January 2024, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. In March 2024, RWAP submitted the final report. The generator will have 30 days to respond to the Finding. (please see February - March 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous report – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In February 2024, RWAP conducted 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. (please see March 2024 Monthly Report for more information)
- In the month of March 2024, RWAP conducted two facility evaluations:
 - Paducah, KY generator: RWAP conducted an assist visit that does not generate Findings.
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: RWAP conducted an assist visit that does not generate Findings.
- In the month of April 2024, RWAP will conduct three facility evaluations.
- In the month of April 2024, approximately 68,572 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 March 2024, planning activities for collection of new data for the Pahute Mesa CAUs 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 the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) in June 2021. In March 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 March 2024, preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued and will continue throughout 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 2023 annual inspections will be conducted in calendar year 2024.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

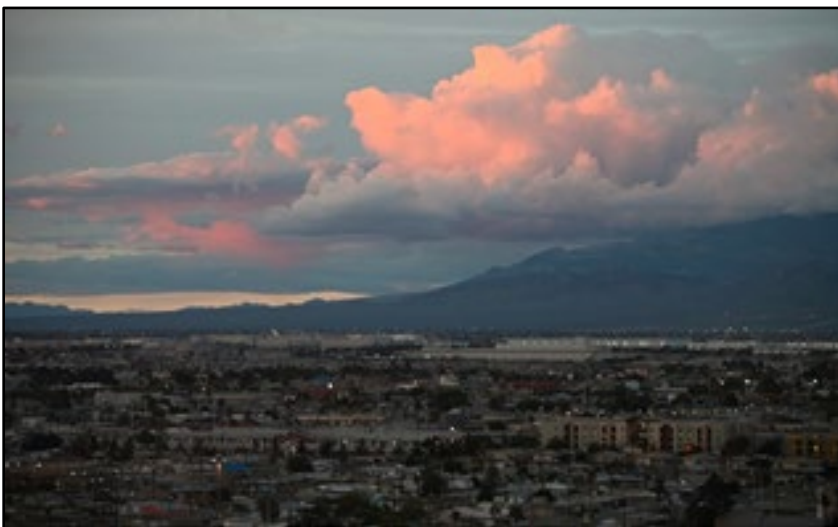
The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include seven CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance were performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. In March 2024, quarterly inspections were conducted, and repairs needed following the inspections were completed.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

In March 2024, the Final Addendum to the Closure Report for CAU 98, Frenchman Flat, was completed. The Annual Letter Report for all Closed Groundwater CAUs was submitted to NDEP for review.

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 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 March 2024, the approval and final signature process continued.



Pink skies made for a scenic view from the 15th floor conference room during the February NSSAB Meeting – photos by K. Knapp

NOTE: Continue to next page for more photos from the February NSSAB meeting.

Photos: NSSAB Gathers for February Meeting (Article taken from internal newsletter):

In late February, the NSSAB held its second meeting of the year. Participants gathered in the 15th floor conference room in the Molasky Building and discussed a host of topics related to EM Nevada Program activities. The next NSSAB meeting will be held on April 17, 2024, in Beatty, NV.

