



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



External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via hybrid format at the Beatty Community Center in Beatty, NV, including social media, news release with over 39K subscribers, email blast by Beatty Town Office with nearly 150 subscribers, and newspaper advertising in Pahrump Valley Times and Tonopah Times for promotion (see photos on page 4) – April 17, 2024
 - Participated 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 attended) – April 29 – May 2, 2024
- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Presented and attended at the Tribal Annual Meeting hosted by National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) in Las Vegas, NV, and updated during a tour of the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) – April 2 – 3, 2024
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via hybrid format at the Beatty Community Center in Beatty, NV (NSSAB leadership attended) – April 17, 2024



*EM Nevada Program
Visits Pahrump for
Earth Day/Arbor Day*

- Presented groundwater demonstration during Earth Day/Arbor Day event in Pahrump, NV – April 20, 2024

- Presented and attended the Devils Hole Workshop & Beyond 2024 at the Longstreet Inn in Amargosa Valley, NV (NSSAB representatives attended) – April 25 – 27, 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 NNSS environmental program. [*standing item*]
 - 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 vision 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*]
 - Published article and social media, *Tumbleweed Takeover at Nevada National Security Site*, in EM Update, can be accessed [here](#) – April 9, 2024
 - Photos featured in article, *Enduring Environmental Stewardship: EM Marks Earth Week Across Country*, in EM Update, can be accessed [here](#) – April 23, 2024
- Planned activities for May 2024:
 - Present groundwater demonstration during “Science Be with You” event at the Atomic Museum in Las Vegas, NV – May 2, 2024
 - Host meetings, networking event, and a tour of the NNSS for Waste Generator Workshop for contractors and federal staff supporting waste generator sites with approved NNSS waste certification programs – May 6 – 9, 2024
 - Host quarterly partnering session with EM Consolidated Business Center, EM Nevada Program and Navarro senior staff at the Molasky Corporate Center, Las Vegas, NV – May 9, 2024
 - Host Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum via hybrid format at the Molasky Corporate Center, Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB representative to attend) – May 15, 2024

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fiscal year 2024 Waste Volume Report for the second quarter (January – March 2024) can be accessed [here](#)
- In February 2024, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) posted its updated Administrative Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC). The document includes the requirements, terms, and conditions under which the NNSS will accept waste, which translates into waste acceptance that is compliant with applicable federal and state regulations, U.S. Department of Energy directives, permits, etc. The NNSS WAC, including both the Administrative WAC and Technical and Regulatory WAC, can be accessed [here](#).
- Update from previous reports – Erwin, TN generator. In May 2022, the RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. In May 2024, the generator submitted the causal analysis to the Finding that is undergoing RWAP 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 and March 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)

- Update from previous reports – Los Alamos, NM generator: In January 2024, the RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. In April 2024, RWAP worked with the generator concerning this Finding and expects a response in May 2024. (please see February - April 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In February 2024, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. In April 2024, RWAP submitted the final report, and the generator has 30 days to respond. (please see March – April 2024 Monthly Reports for more information)
- In the month of April 2024, RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in three Findings. The generator will have 30 days to respond to the Findings after receiving the RWAP final report.
 - Idaho Falls, ID generator: RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings.
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: RWAP conducted a facility evaluation of a second Oak Ridge generator that resulted in no Findings.
- In the month of May 2024, RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In the month of May 2024, approximately 85,610 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 April 2024, planning activities for collection of new data including drilling, surface geophysics, and groundwater sampling for the Pahute Mesa CAUs continued. Revision of the Pahute Mesa Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) to reflect drilling planning activities began. Modeling activities consistent with the Pahute Mesa CADD/CAP are ongoing.

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 April 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 April 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. No activities occurred in April 2024.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

In April 2024, NDEP provided comments on the Annual Letter Report for all Closed Groundwater CAUs and comment resolution began. Planning for groundwater sampling at well WW-C-1 in Yucca Flat 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 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 April 2024, the approval and final signature process continued and will continue in May 2024.

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

NSSAB Comes to Beatty

The Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) was in Beatty on April 17 for the third Board meeting of 2024. The event featured a presentation from EM Nevada Regulatory/FFACO Lead Tiffany Gamero on the transfer process of EM Sites on the NNSS to long-term stewardship. The Board then proposed a recommendation on specific topics to be included in the final Site Transition Plan and to whom it should be communicated. UGTA Modeler Tim deBues delivered a detailed presentation on the Pahute Mesa Flow and Transport Model and answered questions from virtual and in-person attendees.

For future meeting dates and more about the NSSAB, visit <https://nss.gov/NSSAB/>.



The meeting was held at the Beatty Community Center in Beatty.