



Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities Monthly Report to the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) August 2025



External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted a site visit for NSSAB members that focused on Pahute Mesa groundwater drilling (see photos on pages 2-4) – July 9, 2025
 - Hosted a site visit for NSSAB members to observe real time radiography operations at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) in support of a work plan item – July 29, 2025
- Events/Stakeholder Meetings:
 - Presented at Community Environmental Monitoring Program (CEMP) Workshop in Las Vegas, NV and supported tour for Community Environmental Monitors of the Area 5 RWMC and historical sites on the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). EM Nevada Program presentations include EM in Nevada Overview, Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order, Underground Test Area (groundwater) Pahute Mesa Corrective Action Unit Drilling Program 2025, and Low-Level Waste Transportation at the NNSS. (NSSAB members were invited to observe presentations virtually.) – July 28-30, 2025
- Publications:
 - Published article in the EM Update Newsletter, *EM Nevada Well Drilling Underway for Groundwater Analysis at NNSS*, can be accessed [here](#) – July 22, 2025
 - Calendar year 2023 *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. The EM Nevada mission activities primarily appear in Chapters 5 (Water Monitoring), 10 (Waste Management), and 11 (Environmental Corrective Actions). [**standing item**]
- Planned Activities for August 2025:
 - Host Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum via hybrid format at the Nye County Emergency Management Facility in Pahrump, NV (NSSAB representative to attend) – August 13, 2025

Post-Closure Monitoring

- **Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring**
In July 2025, resolution of State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) comments for the 2024 post-closure monitoring letter report was completed and the report was finalized.
- **Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites**
The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include Corrective Action Sites (CASS) where post-closure inspections and maintenance were performed in accordance with closure requirements. Maintenance and repairs identified during the 2024 annual inspections were completed in calendar year 2025. The 2025 annual inspections have begun and will continue through the end of the calendar year.

*Photos from July 9, 2025, NSSAB Site Visit to Pahute Mesa
(photos taken by Kevin Knapp, Navarro)*



NSSAB received a groundwater update at the US Geological Survey (USGS) Mercury Core Library and Data Center by John Myers, DOE EM Nevada Program UGTA Activity Lead, Joe Johnston, Navarro (tour guide), and Jeff Sanchez, USGS Core Library Manager.



Jeff Sanchez provided a tour for the NSSAB of the USGS Core Library that contains over 42,000 boxes of core and cuttings in storage from over 2,600 drill holes. More information on the USGS Mercury Core Library and Data Center can be accessed [here](#).

*Photos from July 9, 2025, NSSAB Site Visit to Pahute Mesa
(continued)*



Brian Haight, Navarro Field Operations Manager, provided an update and a site visit of drilling of wells ER-20-13 on Pahute Mesa. The NSSAB also toured the well drilling yard during its visit. A fact sheet with more information on the NNSS groundwater program can be accessed [here](#). An educational session on the Pahute Mesa Flow and Transport Model can be accessed [here](#).

*Photos from July 9, 2025, NSSAB Site Visit to Pahute Mesa
(continued)*



NSSAB visited Landmark Rock, an important site for the 16 American Indian Tribes that have cultural ties to the NNSS. More information on Landmark Rock and a Fact Sheet on protecting cultural resources at the NNSS can be accessed [here](#).



NSSAB visited the remains of the Apple 2 Houses that are a high point of NNSS public tours. NSSAB members who attended the tour from left to right: Brandon Schmidt (Amargosa Valley), Tammi Odegard (Pahrump), Gary Elgort (Mesquite), Mark Hilton (Las Vegas), Eddie Williams (Pahrump), and Thomas Fisher (Las Vegas), not pictured Kevin Trainor (Tonopah). A Fact Sheet with more information on the history of the Apple 2 Houses can be accessed [here](#).

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fiscal year 2025 Waste Volume Report for the third quarter (April – June 2025) can be accessed [here](#).
- Update from previous reports – Erwin, TN generator: In June 2024, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. The EM Nevada Program received the corrective action plan (CAP) in August 2024 and closed the Finding in July 2025. (please see July - October 2024 and June 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Piketon, OH generator: In August 2024, RWAP issued a Finding regarding prohibited items found in waste container discovered during Real-Time Radiography. RWAP reviewed and recommended closure. The EM Nevada Program formally closed the Finding in June 2025. The self-suspended profiles remain suspended until an annual recertification is completed and approved or until those profiles are revised, resubmitted, and approved. In July 2025, the related profiles were entered into review by the Waste Acceptance Review Panel (WARP). (please see September - October 2024 and June 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – West Valley, NY generator: In September 2024, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in two Findings. The EM Nevada Program received the CAP in March 2025 that underwent WARP review. In July 2025, the EM Nevada Program received the closure package which is currently under review. (please see October 2024 – January 2025 and June 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports - Oak Ridge, TN generator: In December 2024, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in four Findings. The EM Nevada Program received the CAP in May 2025. In June 2025, RWAP requested additional information from the generator, and RWAP received the response that is under review in July 2025. (please see January -February 2025 and June – July 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Los Alamos, NM generator: In February 2025, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. The EM Nevada Program received the CAP in May 2025 and is currently waiting for the closure package. (please see March - June 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In April 2025, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. The EM Nevada Program is waiting to receive the CAP from the waste generator. (please see May - June 2025 Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous report – Idaho Falls, ID generator #1: In July 2025, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in no Findings. (please see July 2025 Monthly Report for more information)
- Update from previous report – Idaho Falls, ID generator #2: In July 2025, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that is awaiting a final report. (please see July 2025 Monthly Report for more information)

- In the month of July 2025, RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
 - Aberdeen, MD generator: Awaiting a final report.
 - Erwin, TN generator: Awaiting a final report.
 - Idaho Falls, ID generator #3: Awaiting a final report.
- In the month of August 2025, RWAP plans to conduct one facility evaluation.
- In the month of July 2025, 53,072 cubic feet of low-level waste (LLW), mixed (MLLW), and classified waste was received for disposal at the NNSS. Data is considered preliminary until internal quality checks are completed.
- In the month of August 2025, approximately 61,298 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.
- Between October 1, 2024, and the week ending August 3, 2025, 663,861 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste has been received for disposal at the NNSS. Data is considered preliminary until internal quality checks are completed.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) – Groundwater



CAU 101/102, Pahute Mesa

In July 2025, drilling of well ER-20-13-2 on Pahute Mesa continued.

***Above and Right:
Drill rig for ER-20-13 wells on
Pahute Mesa. Crews were in the
process of changing the drill bit.
Photos taken during NSSAB site
visit by Kevin Knapp, Navarro.***



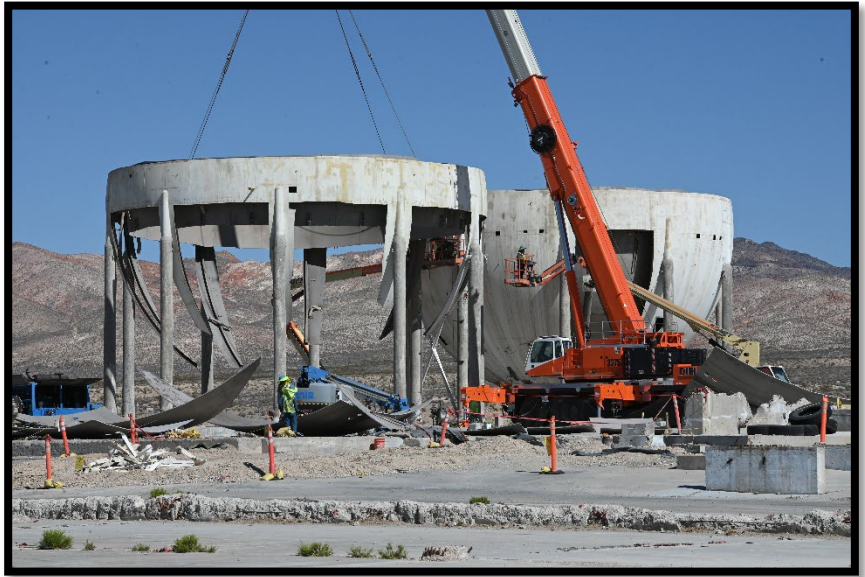
Industrial Sites

- ***Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 114, Area 25 Engine Maintenance, Assembly and Disassembly (EMAD) Facility***

CAU 114 comprises three CASs in Area 25 of the NNSS. The Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan was approved by NDEP in June 2021. Preparation of the facility for eventual demolition continued in July 2025.

- ***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. Demolition activities at the facility continued in July 2025.



Above: Demolition of Dewar at TCC (photo taken by Kevin Knapp, Navarro, on 7/29/25)

Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) – Signed in July 2025

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 to update the main body and appendices was approved by all but one signatory in 2024; in July 2025, the final signature was obtained, and the update is complete.

One key change to the FFACO 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. The changes further solidify the Department's commitment to long-term environmental protection and support the evolution of the EM Nevada Program mission.