

**Environmental Management (EM)  
Nevada Program Activities  
Monthly Report to the  
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)  
December 2019**

**External Affairs**

- NSSAB:
  - Hosted an NSSAB Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NV – November 13, 2019
- Publications:
  - Ongoing social media campaign – 24 posts on Facebook, 23 original tweets on Twitter, and one video on YouTube
  - Published Groundwater Open House recap article in EM News Flash – November 1, 2019
- Ongoing exhibits:
  - *Operation Clean Desert* – Nevada Public Reading Room in Las Vegas, Goldfield Library, Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah, NV, and Pahrump Valley Museum in Pahrump, NV
  - EM kiosk – Located at National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
  - Hosted Low-level Waste Stakeholders Forum meeting in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB representative attended) – November 6, 2019
  - Hosted an intergovernmental meeting in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB Chair attended) – November 13, 2019
  - Participated in 2019 Intergovernmental Meeting in Nashville, TN – week of November 19, 2019
  - Hosted a meeting with William (Ike) White, Senior Advisor to EM to the Under Secretary for Science (EM-1), and other EM HQ staff with Nevada Intergovernmental Liaisons (including Nye County, Clark County, Lincoln County, and State Legislators) in Nashville, TN – November 20, 2019
  - Hosted Waste Coordination Leadership Group meeting/presentation with State of Nevada in Nashville, TN – November 20, 2019
- Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) Tours:
  - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) for Society of Economic Geology Club, University of Nevada, Reno – November 4, 2019
  - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Nevada Fish and Wildlife Refuge – November 7, 2019
  - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for American Society of Civil Engineers – November 14, 2019
  - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for San Diego State University – International Security and Conflict Resolution Undergraduate Students and Homeland Security Master Students – November 18, 2019
  - Hosted public tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC – November 19, 2019
  - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Argonne Decommissioning Workshop – November 21, 2019
- Planned activities for December 2019:
  - Participate in panel discussion on National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Legacy Remediation Programs at PermaFix Waste Management Forum – December 3, 2019
  - Publish 2019 Year in Review article via EM News Flash and/or EM Update

## **Waste Disposal and Transportation**

- Update from previous months' reports – Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), Oak Ridge, TN generator: The EM Nevada Program continues to coordinate with U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters and the NNSA on items related to the Y-12 waste event. The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) has scheduled a facility evaluation in late January 2020. (please see April – May, July – November 2019 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' report – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In April 2019, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. The generator submitted the corrective action plan that was reviewed and accepted by the RWAP. The EM Nevada Program anticipates closing the Finding in December 2019 (please see May and September - November 2019 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports - Los Alamos, NM generator: The facility evaluation resulted in two Findings. RWAP sent the report to the generator in October 2019. The generator has 30 days to respond after RWAP issues its report, although the generator requested a 90-day extension that RWAP evaluated and approved. The corrective action plan (CAP) is due early January 2020. (please see September – November 2019 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: The facility evaluation resulted in three Findings. The EM Nevada Program sent the report to the generator in October 2019. The generator submitted its CAP in November 2019 that RWAP reviewed and approved. The generator anticipates completing the corrective actions by late March 2020. (please see October – November 2019 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- In November 2019, RWAP conducted one facility evaluation:
  - Amarillo, TX generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
- Drilling equipment was mobilized to the Area 5 RWMC to begin drilling in December 2019 of a new Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) monitoring well required by the new mixed low-level waste (MLLW) permit. The NSSAB provided a recommendation regarding the location of the new monitoring well in May 2018, and the recommendation and EM Nevada Program response can be viewed at [http://www.nnss.gov/nssab/pages/Rec\\_FY18.htm](http://www.nnss.gov/nssab/pages/Rec_FY18.htm)
- In December 2019, RWAP will conduct three facility evaluations.
- In December 2019, approximately 82,694 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNS.

## **Underground Test Area (UGTA)**

For all UGTA Corrective Action Units (CAUs), the calendar year 2018 Annual Sampling Report was accepted by the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). The report can be accessed at <https://www.osti.gov/servlets/purl/1577125>

### ***CAU 97, Yucca Flat/Climax Mine***

In November 2019, the EM Nevada Program and NDEP negotiated the CAU regulatory boundaries and use restriction boundaries. The Closure Report is being drafted. Groundwater sampling will occur in December 2019.

### ***CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain***

A revision to the Closure Report will be submitted to NDEP in December 2019.

### ***CAUs 101/102, Central and Western Pahute Mesa***

Groundwater sampling for fiscal year 2020 was completed in November 2019.

## **Soils**

### ***CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion***

CAU 414 comprises one Corrective Action Site (CAS) on the Nevada Test and Training Range. In November 2019, revegetation activities continued at Clean Slates II and III. The final Closure Report is due to NDEP in December 2019.

## **Industrial Sites**

### ***CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells***

CAU 577 comprises five CASs located at the Area 5 RWMC. A draft Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan was submitted to NDEP in September 2019; comment resolution continued in November 2019.

## **Post-Closure Monitoring**

### ***Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites***

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance are performed in accordance with closure requirements. The annual inspections will continue through the calendar year

### ***RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites***

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance are performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. In November 2019, irrigation of the CAU 111 revegetation test plots continued and will continue in December 2019. The quarterly inspections of the RCRA sites will be conducted in December 2019.