



U.S. Department of Energy
Environmental Management
Nevada Program
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Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
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RESPONSE TO THE NEVADA SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD (NSSAB)
RECOMMENDATION FOR PROPOSED YUCCA FLAT/CLIMAX MINE (YF/CM) LONG-
TERM MONITORING NETWORK (WORK PLAN ITEM #5)

Reference: Ltr Bonesteel to Myers, dtd 11/21/2019

I would like to thank the NSSAB for its recommendations on the Proposed YF/CM Long-Term Monitoring Network work plan item in the above-mentioned letter. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program appreciates the time that the NSSAB spent in review and subsequent support of the proposed network.

Below are responses to NSSAB recommendations for enhancements to the proposed YF/CM long-term monitoring network:

NSSAB Recommendation: Record the institutional knowledge from subject matter experts (SME) for future generations.

DOE Response: DOE documents institutional knowledge from Underground Test Area (UGTA) SMEs in several ways including: preservation of field and analytical records for future reference; development of detailed electronic data packages to cite technical data; publication of technical and scientific reports; cataloging of correspondence and supporting information documenting decisions throughout the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) process; and presenting relevant summary information in documentation produced throughout the FFACO corrective action process. DOE will continue to produce and preserve these records to document institutional knowledge for future generations.

NSSAB Recommendation: Develop a planning framework that includes a technology review to document current SME knowledge.

DOE Response: The FFACO includes evaluation of “technological advances in groundwater remediation during the life cycle of the UGTA Activity” (FFACO, 1996 as amended). As such, UGTA SMEs maintain awareness of technological innovations in groundwater remediation that may be applicable to the UGTA Activity. Additionally, as the YF/CM Corrective Action Unit reaches closure, the closure report will include a framework for periodic evaluations (as required by the FFACO) that allows for technological advancements to be considered.

The EM Nevada Program will consider the enhancements above as it moves forward in making decisions on the proposed YF/CM long-term monitoring network. Again, thank you for the NSSAB’s support and recommendations.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Kelly K. Snyder at (702) 724-0834.



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