

**Environmental Management (EM)  
Nevada Program Activities  
Monthly Report to the NSSAB  
April 2017**

**Waste Disposal and Transportation**

- The Transportation Report for fiscal year 2017 First Quarter is available online at <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/programs/RWM/Reports.html>
- Update from previous months' reports – the EM Nevada Program is in the process of applying for a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-permit modification that would allow for the construction of a new mixed low-level waste (MLLW) cell at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). The EM Nevada Program received technical review comments from the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and is developing a formal response. If the permit modification is approved, construction is planned to begin in 2017 and operational by late winter or early spring 2018. (please see December 2016 – March 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports – Erwin, TN, generator: The generator's program has been suspended based on multiple Findings issued stemming from concerns first identified in March 2016. The generator will brief the EM Nevada Program, Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP), and NDEP in early May 2017 in Las Vegas, NV. After the briefing, the EM Nevada Program, RWAP, and NDEP will evaluate the generator's Corrective Action Plan (CAP). An RWAP audit is tentatively scheduled in mid-May 2017 to verify the CAP. The generator is unable to ship LLW to the NNSS until all Findings are closed by RWAP. (please see July - March 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous months' reports – Portsmouth, OH, generator (second generator): The facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. The generator's contract transition is complete. RWAP has reviewed the CAP and is scheduled to conduct surveillances of the generator, along with a sister generator in Paducah, KY, later this fiscal year. These are new generators that have not shipped LLW/MLLW to the NNSS, and there is a hold in place on shipping waste until the Finding is resolved. (please see July – March 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- In March 2017, RWAP conducted the following facility evaluations:
  - Paducah, KY generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
  - NNSS, NV generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
  - NNSS, NV generator: The Federal LLW Activity Lead conducted an assessment of the Quality Assurance Program. The assessment resulted in no Findings.
- In April 2017, RWAP will conduct two facility evaluations.

- In April 2017, approximately 108,979 cubic feet of LLW and MLLW is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

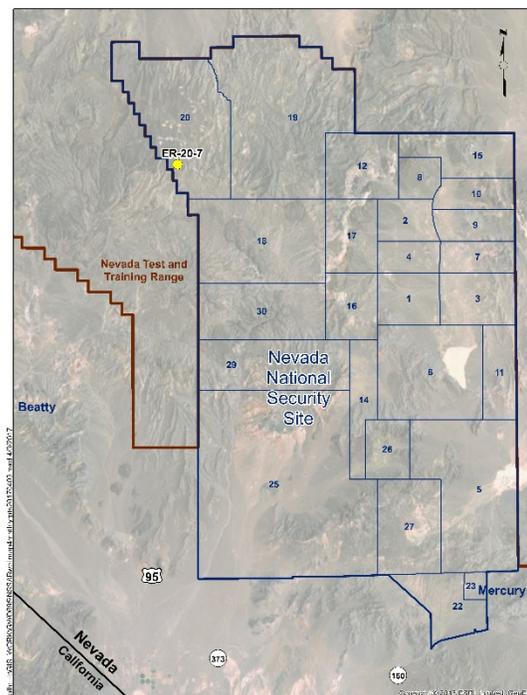
## **Underground Test Area (UGTA)**

### ***Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 98, Frenchman Flat***

In March 2017, Frenchman Flat annual sampling was conducted.

### ***CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa***

In March 2017, ER-20-7 pumping and sampling was attempted and will potentially be conducted in April 2017. Alternatively, demobilization will occur if sampling cannot be conducted due to a problem with the pump.



## **Soils and Industrial Sites**

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

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include Corrective Action Sites (CASs) where post-closure inspections and maintenance are performed in accordance with closure requirements. Required repairs and maintenance identified in the annual inspections will be performed throughout fiscal year 2017.

### ***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. The quarterly and semi-annual inspections were performed in March 2017.

### ***CAU 413, Clean Slate II Plutonium Dispersion***

CAU 413 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. Preparation of the Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD) continued in March 2017 and will continue in April 2017. The CADD is due to NDEP in June 2017.

### ***CAU 568, Area 3 Plutonium Dispersion Sites***

CAU 568 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Preparation of the Closure Report continued in March 2017 and will continue in April 2017. The Closure Report is due to NDEP in June 2017.

### ***CAU 573, Alpha Contaminated Sites***

CAU 573 comprises two CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Preparation of the Closure Report continued in March 2017 and will be submitted to NDEP in April 2017. The Closure Report is due to NDEP in April 2017.

### ***CAU 575, Area 15 Miscellaneous Sites***

CAU 575 comprises four CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In March 2017, development of the Closure Report continued and will continue in April 2017.

### ***CAU 576, Miscellaneous Radiological Sites and Debris***

CAU 576 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Field investigation activities began in March 2017 and will continue in April 2017.

## **External Affairs:**

- **NSSAB:**
  - Two NSSAB members attended the 2017 Waste Management Symposia in Phoenix, AZ – March 6 – 9, 2017
  - NSSAB members observed the groundwater internal peer review process for Yucca Flat and Rainier Mesa
  - In support of a work plan item, two NSSAB members observed a Panacea pump during a field trip to BESST, Inc. in San Rafael, CA– March 13-14, 2017
  - NSSAB hosted an educational session on *Roles and Responsibilities of the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection at the NNSS* in Las Vegas, Nevada – March 15, 2017
  - The EM Nevada Program conducted an intergovernmental meeting with NSSAB liaisons in Las Vegas, Nevada – March 15, 2017
  - NSSAB hosted a Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada – March 15, 2017
- **Publications:**
  - Ongoing social media campaign – 25 original posts on Facebook, 20 original tweets on Twitter, uploaded 9 photos onto Flickr and uploaded 2 videos onto YouTube
  - Published *Progress Made at the NNSS Yucca Flat/Climax Mine Groundwater Characterization Area* article via the EM Nevada Program electronic mailing list (~5,200 people) and on NNSS.gov and social media
- **Ongoing exhibits:**
  - *Operation Clean Desert* –Nevada Public Reading Room in Las Vegas, Amargosa Valley Library, Goldfield Library, Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah, Nevada, and Pahrump Valley Museum in Pahrump, Nevada
  - Environmental Management kiosks – located at National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room and UNLV Lied Library in Las Vegas, Nevada
- **Outreach:**
  - Supported Environmental Management HQ social media campaign for Groundwater Awareness Week – March 5-10, 2017

- Hosted *Operation Clean Desert* learning materials and groundwater demonstration booth at Decker Elementary School Academy Night – March 15, 2017
- Hosted *Operation Clean Desert* learning materials and groundwater demonstration classroom visit and booth at Staton Elementary School STEAM Fair – March 17, 2017
- Delivered 1,619 *Operation Clean Desert* Activity Books and 24 *Operation Clean Desert* Teacher’s Guides to: Ralph Cadwallader Middle School, Decker Elementary School, Staton Elementary School, National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room, Rancho High School, Ed W. Clark High School, Southeast Career Technical Academy, Sister Robert Joseph Bailey Elementary School, Jack L. Schofield Middle School and Jack & Terry Mannion Middle School
- Planned activities for April 2017:
  - NSSAB members continue to observe the groundwater internal peer review process for Yucca Flat and Rainier Mesa
  - NSSAB to host an educational session on *ER-20-12: A Case Study of Corrective Action Investigation in a Challenging Environment* in Las Vegas, Nevada – April 19, 2017
  - The EM Nevada Program to conduct an intergovernmental meeting with NSSAB liaisons in Las Vegas, Nevada – April 19, 2017
  - The EM Nevada Program to conduct a meeting with NDEP and NSSAB leadership in Las Vegas, Nevada – April 19, 2017
  - NSSAB to host a Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada – April 19, 2017
  - Publish “Behind the Scenes” article on Navarro GIS group
  - Publish “Behind the Scenes” article on Navarro Analytical Services group
  - Publish NSSAB diversity article
  - Publish Clean Slate II activity fact sheet
  - Deliver *Operation Clean Desert* learning materials to: Amargosa Valley Elementary/Middle School (100 activity books, two teacher’s guides),
  - Provide 500 *Operation Clean Desert* activity books for Earth Day event at Discovery Park in Pahrump, NV – April 22, 2017
  - Host NDEP tour of NNSS – April 26, 2017