

**Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
November 2017**

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fourth quarter (July – September 2017) waste volume report for fiscal year (FY) 2017 is available at <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/programs/RWM/Reports.html>
- Update from previous months' reports – In July 2017, the EM Nevada Program received a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-permit modification granted by the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) that allows for the construction of a new mixed low-level waste (MLLW) cell at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Construction started mid-September 2017 and is scheduled to continue through February 2018. Excavation of the cell is complete, and the installation of the leachate liner is scheduled to begin early November 2017. The replacement cell is projected to be operational by late winter or early spring 2018. (please see December 2016 – October 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information).



- Update from previous months' reports – Erwin, TN, generator: In October 2017, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) received and approved the generator's corrective actions to all observations and Findings. The EM Nevada Program lifted the generator's suspension and is requiring all previously approved profiles be resubmitted for review and approval by the NNSS Waste Acceptance Review Panel before shipments may resume to the NNSS. (please see July 2016 - October 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)

Also in October 2017, NDEP issued a Notice of Alleged Violation to DOE (National Nuclear Security Administration) as a result of the activities associated with the issue above. Specifically, the NNSS accepted 93 containers of waste from the generator and disposed of them in accordance with LLW disposal practices. It was determined after the disposal, that the waste actually contained a hazardous component (chromium). Chromium containing waste must be disposed in a RCRA-permitted disposal cell. DOE will meet with NDEP in November 2017 to identify what happened and discuss potential corrective actions. The generator completed their corrective actions to prevent recurrence.

- Update from previous months' report - Oak Ridge, TN generator (second generator): The facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. The generator submitted a draft corrective action plan (CAP) which RWAP provided comments. The final CAP is awaiting submittal by the generator. (please see August - October 2017 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information).
- In October 2017, RWAP conducted the following facility evaluations:
 - West Valley, NY generator: The facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. Once the RWAP report is submitted, the generator will have 30 days to respond to the Finding.
 - Portsmouth, OH generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings. NDEP observed this facility evaluation
- In November 2017, RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In November 2017, approximately 215,219 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

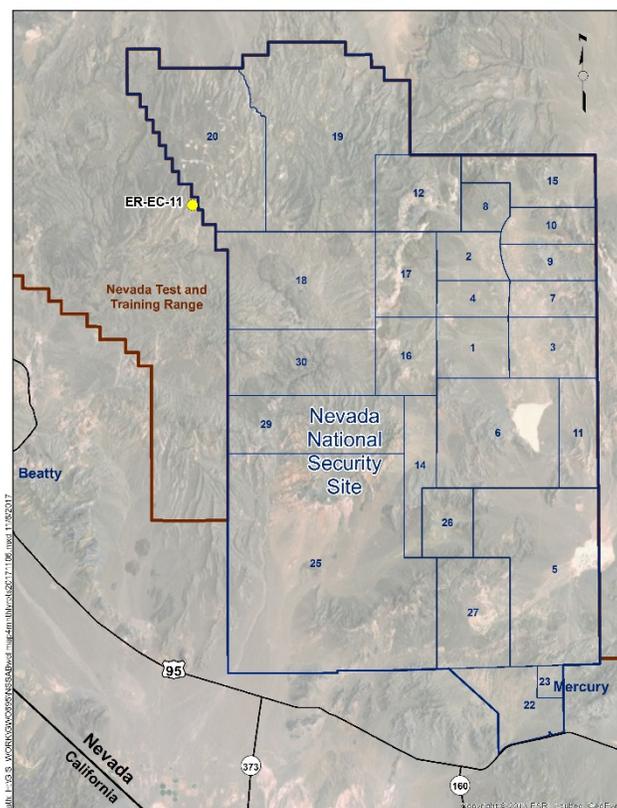
Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

The Flow and Transport Model document was in preemptive review in October 2017, and comments from NDEP are expected in November 2017.

CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa

Sampling at well ER-EC-11 was conducted in September 2017 and will continue in October 2017.



Post-Closure Monitoring

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 2018. Annual inspections were performed in October 2017 and will continue in November 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. Maintenance identified during the quarterly and semi-annual inspections in September 2017 were performed in October 2017 and will continue in November 2017.

Soils

CAU 413, Clean Slate II Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 413 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. The Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) was approved by NDEP in June 2017. Field work began in October 2017. Waste shipments are expected to begin in November 2017.

CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 414 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. Preparation of the CADD/CAP continued in October 2017. The CADD/CAP is due to NDEP in December 2017.

CAU 575, Area 15 Miscellaneous Sites

CAU 575 comprises four CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In October 2017, development of the Closure Report (CR) continued and will continue in November 2017. The CR is due to NDEP in May 2018.

CAU 576, Miscellaneous Radiological Sites and Debris

CAU 576 comprises six CASs related to historical nuclear testing. Development of the CADD and corrective action alternatives and cultural resource documentation continued in October 2017 and will continue in November 2017.

External Affairs:

- NSSAB:
 - NSSAB Chair, Vice-Chair, and an NSSAB Member attended the national EM SSAB National Chairs' Meeting in Hanford, Washington – October 16 – 19, 2017
 - NSSAB participated in annual work plan tour of the NNSS – October 25, 2017
 - EM Nevada Program conducted quarterly meeting with NDEP and NSSAB Leadership in Las Vegas, Nevada – October 30, 2017
- Publications:
 - Ongoing social media campaign – six original posts on Facebook, six original tweets on Twitter, one video posted to YouTube and 30 photos posted to Flickr

- Published *Science-Based Tour of NNSS Inspires Pahrump Valley High School Students* via nsss.gov; submitted for EM Update and STEM Rising newsletters
- 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
 - EM kiosks – located at National Atomic Testing Museum Public Reading Room and UNLV Lied Library in Las Vegas, Nevada
- Outreach:
 - Provided 200 fact sheets to the Public Reading Room at the Atomic Testing Museum
- Planned activities for November 2017:
 - NSSAB to host an educational session on *Emergency Management at the NNSS* in Las Vegas, Nevada – November 8, 2017
 - NSSAB to host a Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada – November 8, 2017
 - EM Nevada Program to conduct an intergovernmental meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada – November 8, 2017
 - Conduct LLW Stakeholders Forum in Las Vegas, Nevada (NSSAB Chair to attend) – November 9, 2017
 - Participate in EM HQs Intergovernmental meeting in San Antonio, TX – November 14-16, 2017
 - Participate in Connecting Hands: Offering Lifelong Learning Adventures (CHOLLA) education group meeting – November 15, 2017
 - Present at Nuclear Waste Management Forum in Nashville, TN – November 27-29, 2017
 - Publish *Rainier Mesa External Peer Review Panel* and *NSSAB work plan NNSS tour* articles
 - Publish UGTA Day in the Life video