Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
May 2018

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The Transportation Report for the first quarter fiscal year (FY) 2018 (October – December 2017) is available online: 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). The final quality report was submitted to NDEP in April 2018. NDEP personnel conducted an inspection in April 2018 and expects to issue approval for the replacement cell in the near future. (please see December 2016 – April 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)

- Update from previous months’ reports - In October 2017, NDEP issued a Notice of Alleged Violation to the Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) as a result of the NNSS accepting 93 containers of waste from a generator and disposing as LLW when the containers should have been disposed as MLLW. The DOE NNSA developed a written response for corrective actions that was submitted to NDEP in early January 2018. In March 2018, DOE NNSA met with NDEP to discuss the draft corrective action plan (CAP), and the final CAP was submitted to NDEP in April 2018. (please see November 2017 – April 2018 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)

- Update from previous month’s report – Livermore, CA generator: In March 2018, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) report was issued in April 2018, and the generator will have 30 days to respond to the Finding. (please see April 2018 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)

- In April 2018, RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
  - Las Vegas, NV generator: This facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
  - San Diego, CA generator: This tabletop facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
  - Paducah, KY generator: This facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.

- In May 2018, RWAP will conduct three facility evaluations.

- In May 2018, approximately 130,040 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.
Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat
A preemptive review of the model will be conducted in May 2018.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain
The External Peer Review (EPR) panel continued review of the Flow and Transport Model document in April 2018. In April 2018, the draft report from the EPR panel was provided to the UGTA team, and NDEP will receive the draft report in May 2018.

CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa
A site walk-down was performed at Well ER-20-2-1 in April 2018. Development of the Corrective Action Investigation Plan continued in April 2018 and will continue in May 2018.

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. Annual inspections were completed in December 2017; repairs and maintenance will be performed in fiscal year 2018.

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 April 2018, irrigation of the test plots for revegetation continued, as well as the planting of the second set of test plots and monthly inspections of the plots. Monitoring and irrigation will continue in May 2018.

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 continued in April 2018 and will continue in May 2018. There were no waste shipments to the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) in April 2018. Shipments are expected to be complete this summer. As of the end of April 2018, 111 shipments for a volume of approximately 54,000 cubic feet were shipped and disposed at the RWMC.
CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion
CAU 414 comprises one CAS on the Nevada Test and Training Range. The CADD/CAP was approved by NDEP in January 2018. Field work will consist of removal and disposal of contaminated soil above action levels at the Area 5 RWMC and will commence when field work at CAU 413 is complete. A briefing is scheduled to update the US Air Force regarding the Clean Slate III project in May 2018.

CAU 575, Area 15 Miscellaneous Sites
CAU 575 comprises four CASs related to historical nuclear testing. In April 2018, development of the Closure Report (CR) continued and will continue in May 2018. The CR due date to NDEP has been extended for stakeholder review with a new due date to be determined.

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 April 2018 and will continue in May 2018.

External Affairs:

- NSSAB:
  - NSSAB Membership Committee interviewed applicants for NSSAB membership – April 9, 2018
  - NSSAB Chair and Vice-Chair observed RWAP audit in Paducah, KY – April 23 - 27, 2018
- Publications:
  - Ongoing social media campaign – 38 original posts on Facebook, 36 original tweets on Twitter, no new videos on YouTube but nearly 2,000 views of previously posted videos and 14 photos on Flickr
  - Published *NNSS’ RWMC Employees Pack Food at Three Square* via EM News Flash (9,346 subscribers)
- Ongoing exhibits:
  - *Operation Clean Desert* – Nevada Public Reading Room in Las Vegas, Amargosa Valley Library, 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:
  - EM Nevada Program conducted a quarterly meeting with NDEP and NSSAB leadership in Las Vegas, NV - April 19, 2018
  - Presented EM Overview and Tribal Revegetation Project Overview at the Consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations (CGTO) meeting in Las Vegas, NV – April 24, 2018
  - Participated in a CGTO Tribal Revegetation Committee additional planting at Area 5 RWMC – April 26, 2018
- Outreach:
  - Provided 410 Operation Clean Desert activity books, six Operation Clean Desert teacher’s guides and six Operation Clean Desert CDs to Scott D Elementary School and Somerset Academy – North Las Vegas, NV
• Provided 50 Environmental Management Public Outreach, 50 What is Radiation? and 50 NNSS Groundwater Program fact sheets to the DOE Public Reading Room in Las Vegas, NV

• NNSS Tours:
  o Hosted tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Idaho National Laboratory staff and subcontractors – April 4, 2018
  o Hosted tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for staff of Nuclear & Energy Group – April 10, 2018
  o Hosted tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for members of the public – April 24, 2018
  o Hosted tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Nevada Division of Environmental Protection – April 25, 2018
  o Hosted tour of the NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for National Atomic Testing Museum Docents – April 26, 2018

• Planned activities for May 2018:
  o NSSAB leadership to attend EM SSAB National Chairs’ Meeting in Roswell, NM – May 2-3, 2018
  o Present an EM Overview presentation at the Devil’s Hole Workshop in Beatty, NV (NSSAB members to attend) – May 2-4, 2018
  o Host Operation Clean Desert and Groundwater “Ant Farm” demonstration booth at “May Science Be With You” event at Desert Research Institute – May 3, 2018
  o Host Low-level Waste Stakeholders Forum meeting in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB Chair to attend) – May 9, 2018 (two briefings: Update on disposal activities and HAZTRAK)
  o EM Nevada Program to conduct an intergovernmental meeting with NSSAB Liaisons and NSSAB leadership – May 16, 2018
  o NSSAB to host a Community Analysis Committee meeting for work plan item #7 in Las Vegas, NV – May 16, 2018
  o NSSAB to host an educational session in Las Vegas, NV – May 16, 2018
  o NSSAB to host a Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NV – May 16, 2018