

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

External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Observed a Low-Level Waste Visual Verification of Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) generator (two NSSAB members) – July 2, 2019
 - Hosted an NSSAB Full Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NV – July 17, 2019
 - Received an educational session on the Federal Advisory Committee Act for NSSAB in Las Vegas, NV – July 17, 2019
 - Observed a local meeting of the Northern New Mexico Site-Specific Advisory Board for lessons learned in Taos, NM (NSSAB Vice-Chair and Administrator) – July 24, 2019
- Publications:
 - Ongoing social media campaign – 17 posts on Facebook, 15 original tweets on Twitter, and one video to YouTube
 - Published article on completion of NNSS soils sites via EM Update newsletter
- 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
- Outreach
 - Participated in 2019 Clark County School District New Teacher Onboarding event in Las Vegas, NV – July 31-August 1, 2019
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Hosted/participated in Y-12 waste meeting/presentation with Nevada Governor Sisolak and staff – July 9, 2019
 - Conducted an intergovernmental meeting with intergovernmental liaisons and NSSAB leadership in Las Vegas, NV – July 17, 2019
 - Presented at the Community Environmental Monitoring Program (CEMP) Training in Las Vegas, NV (NSSAB members attended) – July 26, 2019
- NNSS Tours:
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) for Acquisition and Project Management staff – July 9, 2019
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Sandia weapons interns – July 16, 2019
 - Hosted public tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC – July 16, 2019
 - Hosted tour of NNSS that included Area 5 RWMC for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board staff – July 16, 2019

- Planned activities for August 2019:
 - Host tour of NNSS that includes Area 5 RWMC for Nevada Governor Sisolak and senior staff, Department of Energy Secretary Rick Perry and other U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) senior staff – August 1, 2019
 - Participate in Nye County Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting in Pahrump, NV – August 7, 2019
 - Host Low-Level Waste Stakeholders Forum in Pahrump, NV (NSSAB representative to attend) – August 7, 2019

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- On July 3, 2019, NNSS staff became aware of an incident involving non-compliant waste shipments disposed at the NNSS between 2013 and 2018 from the Y-12 facility in Tennessee. The incident was reported to the regulatory bodies in Tennessee and Nevada that same day. Notifications were made to Governor Sisolak and Senators Cortez Masto and Rosen’s offices. On July 11, 2019, the NNSS issued a Finding and suspended the generator from shipping any wastes to the NNSS. As a conservative measure, shipments from a sister generator in Texas were also suspended until it is determined there is no similar issues. As the full investigation progresses, the EM Nevada Program continues to coordinate with DOE Headquarters and the National Nuclear Security Administration on items related to the Y-12 waste event and will keep Nevada stakeholders informed as the issue evolves.
- In July 2019, RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
 - Erwin, TN generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
 - Idaho Falls, ID generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
 - Brookhaven, NY generator: The tabletop facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
- In August 2019, RWAP will conduct two facility evaluations.
- In August 2019, approximately 126,942 cubic feet of low-level waste (LLW), mixed LLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat

In July 2019, the final Model Evaluation Report was submitted to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). NDEP accepted the document as final and concurs that sufficient confidence exists in the Yucca Flat/Climax Mine models to support regulatory decisions.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

Preparation of the Closure Report continued in July 2019 and will continue in August 2019. The Closure Report is due to NDEP in August 2019.

CAUs 101/102, Pahute Mesa

Groundwater sampling for fiscal year 2019 began in October 2018 and will continue through the fiscal year. The calendar year 2018 Annual Sampling Report will be submitted to NDEP in August 2019. Documentation of the closure strategy path forward is planned for August 2019.

Soils

CAU 414, Clean Slate III Plutonium Dispersion

CAU 414 comprises one Corrective Action Site (CAS) on the Nevada Test and Training Range. As of July 31, 2019, 859 bags of contaminated soil and four cargo containers of contaminated metal debris have been filled. As of July 31, 2019, 348 shipments of 696 bags have been shipped and disposed at the Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site and Area 5 RWMC. The final Closure Report is due to NDEP in December 2019.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (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. Maintenance identified by the annual inspections in September 2018 will continue through the fiscal 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 July 2019, irrigation and monthly inspections of the CAU 111 revegetation test plots continued and will continue in August 2019.

CAU 98, Frenchman Flat

The final calendar year 2018 Annual Closure Monitoring Report was submitted and accepted by NDEP as final in July 2019.

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five CASs located at the Area 5 RWMC. Each CAS includes one LLW cell with buried waste received from a generator that should have been disposed as MLLW. This item was reported in the NSSAB monthly reports from November 2017 – May 2019 that culminated with a Settlement Agreement signed in May 2019. In July 2019, the EM Nevada Program held a corrective action alternatives (CAAs) meeting with NDEP. The CAAs are the various alternatives for closure of a CAU; one CAA will be selected as the path forward and presented in the Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD). The CADD/Corrective Action Plan is due to NDEP in September 2019.