In March 2021, the EM Nevada Program continued to operate in a posture of adjusted operations. Effective March 3, 2021, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the implementation of a new COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan, which prioritizes the use of telework and limits physical access to DOE sites and facilities to mission-essential employees whose duties are required to be performed on-site. The EM Nevada Program is in full compliance with the Workplace Safety Plan, and no significant adjustments are expected to the Program’s standing operational posture. The EM Nevada Program will continue to closely monitor data reported by the State of Nevada, the Southern Nevada Health District, and other public health agencies with employee health and safety remaining the top priority.

Limited Program travel continues to be considered and approved on a case-by-case basis, primarily for Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations and oversight, as local conditions permit. EM Nevada crews are currently performing field work. The Program continues to meet its commitments to stakeholders through virtual and/or in-person meetings (i.e., NSSAB, Low-Level Waste [LLW] Stakeholders Forum, State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP], etc.) In an abundance of caution, EM Nevada Program has opted to extend its transition of all Program-hosted public events to a virtual format through at least May 31, 2021.

**External Affairs**

- **NSSAB:**
  - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via virtual meeting – March 17, 2021

- **Events/Stakeholders Meetings:**
  - Waste Management Symposia via virtual meeting (NSSAB Chair attended) – March 8-12, 2021
    - Presented poster session, *Nevada Corrective Action Site Closure Process – DOE and Regulatory Perspectives*, by Navarro Environmental Specialist;
    - Co-presented session, *Overcoming Challenges During Site Transition Through Planning: Transition of Environmental Restoration Sites at Tonopah Test Range*, by DOE Office of Legacy Management and EM Nevada Program Transition Manager; and
    - Submitted a virtual demonstration of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) principles at work at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) (specifically through the use of a hydrogeology model), made available to teachers and students across the country through a STEM curriculum showcase.
- Participated in National Academy of Sciences review of EM Nevada Program’s program management practices via virtual meeting – March 15-16, 2021
- Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting (NSSAB leadership attended) – March 17, 2021
- Conducted Waste Coordination Leadership Group Meeting with EM HQ and NDEP via virtual meeting – March 24, 2021

- NNSS tours:
  - Per National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO), all site tours have been cancelled until further notice. [http://www.nnss.gov/pages/PublicAffairsOutreach/NNSStours.html](http://www.nnss.gov/pages/PublicAffairsOutreach/NNSStours.html)

- Publications:

- Planned activities for April 2021:
  - NSSAB Chair and Vice-Chair to participate in virtual EM Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) National Chairs Meeting with the Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and staff of the other seven (7) local advisory boards under the EM SSAB charter – April 20 – 21, 2021 (NV hosting the virtual platform)
  - Publish article and social media on EM Nevada Program’s Strategic Vision
  - Publish article and social media on EM Nevada Program’s use of remote technology to conduct waste visual verifications

---

**Waste Disposal and Transportation**


- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator #2: In August 2020, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In March 2021, RWAP received the requested clarifications from the generator regarding its correction action plan (CAP). RWAP accepted the CAP and closed the Finding after the generator showed objective evidence that it implemented the CAP. (please see September 2020, December 2020 – March 2021 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)

- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In February 2021, a mixed LLW (MLLW) verification was delayed and rescheduled for March 2021 – see bullet below. (please see February – March 2021 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
• Update from previous report – Oakland, CA generator: An in-person facility evaluation for waste stored in a San Antonio, TX facility resulted in no Findings. The update in last month’s NSSAB Monthly Report was reported in error. (please see March 2021 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)

• In March 2021, the RWAP conducted three (3) facility evaluations:
  o Oak Ridge, TN generator: A hybrid facility evaluation (included tabletop and in-person site visit) resulted in one Finding. The generator will have 30 days to respond after receiving the RWAP final report.
  o Oak Ridge, TN generator: The rescheduled MLLW verification resulted in no Findings – see bullet above.
  o Albuquerque, NM generator: The facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.

• In April 2021, the RWAP will conduct three (3) facility evaluations.

• In April 2021, approximately 76,038 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

**Underground Test Area (UGTA)**

**Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 101/102, Pahute Mesa**
In March 2021, the Pahute Mesa Transport Data Document underwent DOE review. Development of the Pahute Mesa Source Term Data Document began in March 2021.

**Industrial Sites**

**CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells**
CAU 577 comprises five Corrective Action Sites (CASs) located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. In March 2021, work on the vegetative cover (in accordance with the final Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan) continued, including the application of irrigation.

**Post-Closure Monitoring**

**Groundwater 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 performed in accordance with closure requirements. The annual inspections were completed in December 2020; maintenance and repairs identified during the annual inspections will continue throughout the calendar year.

**RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites**
The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Quarterly inspections were conducted in March 2021.