



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Field Office
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FEB 13 2014

Kathleen Bienenstein, Chair
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
232 Energy Way
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

**RESPONSE TO NEVADA SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD (NSSAB)
RECOMMENDATION REGARDING EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW FOR YUCCA FLAT
(WORK PLAN ITEM #2)**

The Nevada Field Office (NFO) received the NSSAB's recommendation regarding what types of representation should be on the Yucca Flat External Peer Review panel and how the set of questions prepared for the panel to answer during the review could be enhanced.

Based on the NSSAB's input, planning is underway to provide for a Nye County technical stakeholder representative to be included as a panel member on the External Peer Review for Yucca Flat.

In the NSSAB's recommendation letter, it states, "*Additionally, the NSSAB recommends that an intermediary, who has site clearance, between the State of Nevada and the DOE be included on the panel.*" We discussed at the NSSAB meeting that this would be a sensitive topic to address due to the classified nature of the information required for review and presentation. NFO agrees with the NSSAB that an independent review of classified information may add value to the overall Independent External Peer Review for Yucca Flat. We will pursue the feasibility of implementing this NSSAB recommendation.

Additionally, the questions for the panel to answer will include, "whether the conceptual models used in the different flow and transport models are sufficiently consistent to provide representative integrated model results?" This question is not worded exactly the same as the NSSAB's recommendation, as some liberty was taken in the wording but the context of the question remains.


The NFO appreciates the NSSAB's input and recommendations on this work plan item and finds it very beneficial.

Kathleen Bienenstein, Chair

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Please direct comments and questions to Kelly S. Snyder at (702) 295-2836.



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