



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

September 10, 2014

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U.S. Department of Energy,

Nevada Field Office

Mr. Robert F. Boehlecke
Environmental Management Operations Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Field Office
P. O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program
(RWAP) Facility Evaluation Improvement Opportunities
(Work Plan Item #7)

Dear Mr. Boehlecke,

The Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) was asked to provide a recommendation, from a community perspective, to the U.S. Department of Energy on ways to improve the RWAP Facility Evaluation process.

In support of this work plan, Donna Hruska, NSSAB Vice Chair, observed a Facility Evaluation at Oak Ridge in June 2014, and Janice Keiserman, NSSAB Member, observed a Facility Evaluation at Argonne National Laboratory in July 2014. The NSSAB wants to acknowledge the RWAP auditors who were very professional, thorough, and organized while performing their duties during both Facility Evaluations. After updates by Ms. Hruska and Ms. Keiserman and Board discussion and deliberation at the NSSAB's July 16th Full Board meeting, the NSSAB recommends the following improvements to the RWAP Facility Evaluation process:

- Assess the integrity of containers bound for the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS)
- Increase unannounced visits to generators
- Review the process for assessing shipping and routing information from the transportation company to ensure that it provides robustness and confidence in NNSS waste transportation information

In addition, the NSSAB acknowledges that the NNSS transportation paperwork was very specific in the instructions for the drivers and thorough in the information and maps relating to the acceptable transportation routes to the NNSS.

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The NSSAB appreciates the opportunity to observe these Facility Evaluations and to provide this recommendation and extends a special thanks to the Federal staff, Jhon Carilli and Kevin Cabbie, who were in attendance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KATHLEEN BIENENSTEIN". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "K" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kathleen L. Bienenstein, Chair

cc: D. A. Borak, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)
M. R. Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)
J. T. Carilli, NFO
K. J. Cabbie, NFO
C. G. Lockwood, NFO
J. N. Romo, NFO
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