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Donna L. Hruska, Chair
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
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RECOMMENDATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) PART B PERMITTED MIXED WASTE DISPOSAL UNIT (WORK PLAN ITEM #9)

The Nevada Field Office (NFO) greatly appreciates the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board's (NSSAB) support of continued management and disposal of mixed low-level waste (MLLW) at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

There have been some changes in the NFO's plans regarding constructing a new MLLW disposal cell since the NSSAB's Full Board meeting when this topic was discussed. Previously, the NFO planned to submit two applications related to MLLW to the State of Nevada. The first permit application was for renewing the soon-to-expire RCRA MLLW disposal cell and storage units. The second permit application was for constructing a new RCRA MLLW disposal cell. The NFO decided to only submit an application for the renewal permit and that action was completed on May 28, 2015. The State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection will post a public notice announcing the Department's request for a permit renewal, and they will accept public comments for 45 days. The previously planned permit application to construct a new RCRA MLLW disposal cell has been postponed until a later date. The NFO will continue to keep the NSSAB apprised of status changes on MLLW related activities.

Below are the Board's recommendations and the NFO's responses:

- **NSSAB Recommendation:** Research the feasibility of increasing the capacity of the proposed MLLW Cell 25 based on waste projections to realize potential cost savings over the life of the cell.

NFO Response: The Department of Energy (DOE) is continuously evaluating the MLLW cells capacity and the projected waste volumes that generators provide for planning purposes. In addition, budget constraints and approval processes also influence the size and design of disposal cells. Based upon all these considerations, if and/or when the NFO submits an application to the State of Nevada for constructing a new MLLW disposal cell, we will attempt to construct the optimum-sized mixed waste disposal cell.

- **NSSAB Recommendation:** Discuss MLLW transportation procedures with stakeholders as DOE moves forward with the proposed MLLW Cell 25.

NFO Response: Transportation procedures for MLLW do not differ from transportation of low-level waste. DOE has ongoing discussions with stakeholders related to waste transportation through a variety of channels, including the NSSAB. DOE commits to continuing this discuss with stakeholders and communities along transportation routes in Nevada.

- **NSSAB Recommendation:** Define LLW/MLLW in understandable terms for the public on printed materials at events, such as open houses.

NFO Response: The definition of LLW/MLLW has been outlined in existing laws and regulations. The NFO will continue to look for language to communicate these definitions in terms that are easily understandable to the public.

- **NSSAB Recommendation:** Consider designing a display box that includes typical mock MLLW items for viewing at public events.

NFO Response: The NFO has a container that shows example of typical waste that is accepted at the NNSS. The NFO will strive to incorporate it in more public events and locations.

Again, thank you for your time and dedication to improving Environmental Management activities at the NNSS. Should you have any further questions, please contact Kelly Snyder at (702) 295-2836.



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