



# Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

May 18, 2016

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) Assessment Improvement Opportunities (Work Plan #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 assessment process.

In support of this work plan, Jhon Carilli, Low-Level Waste Activity Lead, provided an extensive briefing on the RWAP assessment process at the March 16th NSSAB meeting. Also in March 2016, Cecilia Flores Snyder and Jack Sypolt, NSSAB members, observed a surveillance of a generator for the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

Ms. Snyder and Mr. Sypolt reported to the NSSAB that the RWAP process is a streamlined, mature process that seems to be effective in assessing a generator's compliance to the NNSS Waste Acceptance Criteria. The generator assessed also had solid processes in place, making the surveillance a very efficient process and evidence of this included:

- All documents and personnel were readily available.
- The auditors knew what to focus on.
- Experienced and knowledgeable personnel available for both the generator and the RWAP team.

After updates by Ms. Snyder and Mr. Sypolt and Board discussion at the NSSAB's May 18th Full Board meeting, the NSSAB recommends the following for the RWAP assessment process:

- Continue funding and support of the surveillance and auditing process and programs. It is important to have a pipeline of experienced auditors who can continue this process without interruption; it was great to see an auditor-in-training on the surveillance team.
- Include NSSAB members to observe/participate in future surveillances and audits of NNSS generators. The observation of the surveillance by NSSAB members is a great learning experience.

## Members

Michael Anderson  
Amina Anderson  
Michael D'Alessio  
Pennie Edmond  
**Donna Hruska, Chair**  
**Janice Keiserman, Vice Chair**  
Michael Moore  
Donald Neill  
Edward Rosemark  
Steve Rosenbaum  
William Sears  
Thomas Seley  
Cecilia Flores Snyder  
Jack Sypolt  
Francisca Vega

## Liaisons

Clark County  
Consolidated Group of Tribes  
and Organizations  
Esmeralda County Commission  
Nye County Commission  
Nye County Emergency  
Management  
Nye County Nuclear Waste  
Repository Project Office  
State of Nevada Division of  
Environmental Protection  
U.S. National Park Service

## Administration

Barbara Ulmer, Administrator  
*Navarro*  
Kelly Snyder, DDFO  
*U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Field Office*

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The NSSAB appreciates the opportunity to observe this surveillance and to provide this recommendation and extends a special thanks to the RWAP team members and all who helped the NSSAB participate in the surveillance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donna L. Hruska".

Donna L. Hruska, Chair

cc: D. A. Borak, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)  
E. B. Davison, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)  
A. C. Finelli, 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  
K. K. Snyder, NFO  
S. A. Wade, NFO