



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

June 21, 2017

Mr. Robert Boehlecke
Operations Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, EM Nevada Program
P. O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
Recommendation for Internal Peer Review Process
Improvement — Work Plan Item #6

Dear Mr. Boehlecke:

The NSSAB was asked to provide recommendations, from a community perspective, to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on ways to enhance the Underground Test Area (UGTA) internal peer review process.

At the January 18th Full Board meeting, Bill Wilborn, UGTA Technical Activity Lead, provided a briefing on the internal peer review process in support of this work plan item. Three NSSAB subcommittees were formed to observe the internal peer review process for Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain, Yucca Flat/Climax Mine (YF/CM), and the Pahute Mesa corrective action units.

From March to May 2017, Vice-Chair Frank Bonesteel and Members William Sears and Cecilia Flores Snyder observed the YF/SM Internal Peer Review for the Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP). At the June 21st Full Board meeting, this NSSAB subcommittee provided oral updates to the Board on their observations of the YF/CM Internal Peer Review.

Based on these updates and Board discussion, the NSSAB recommends that DOE conduct at least one face-to-face or WebEx meeting during the internal peer review process to improve efficiency, primarily due to the fact that much of communication is nonverbal. The NSSAB also recommends that there is flexibility in the length of the meetings to provide sufficient time for discussion.

The NSSAB appreciates the opportunity to observe the YF/CM Internal Peer Review for the CADD/CAP and to provide these recommendations and extends a special thanks to the UGTA Science Advisors and the YF/CM Internal Peer Review committee.

Sincerely,

Steven Rosenbaum, Chair

Members

Amina Anderson
Michael Anderson
Arcadio Bolanos
Frank Bonesteel (Vice-Chair)
Michael D'Alessio
Karen Eastman
Pennie Edmond
Raymond Elgin
Charles Fullen
Richard Gardner
Donald Neill
Autumn Pietras
Edward Rosemark
Steve Rosenbaum (Chair)
William Sears
Cecilia Flores Snyder
Richard Stephans
Jack Sypolt
Richard Twiddy
Dina Williamson-Erdag

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
White Pine County Commission

Administration

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

Recommendation on Internal Peer Review Process Improvement—

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cc: D. A. Borak, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)
M. R. Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2)
B. K. Ulmer, Navarro
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
C. E. Hampton, EM/NFO
K. K. Snyder, EM/NFO
W. R. Wilborn, EM/NFO
NFO Read File