



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

August 14, 2019

Ms. Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program
P.O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Additional National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Communication

Dear Ms. Snyder,

Recently, the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) discussed NEPA and the Board's awareness of NEPA actions. The Board is satisfied with the Nevada-controlled NEPA actions (those NEPA actions that the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) is responsible for conducting). However, we are concerned that the Board may not be made aware of all NEPA actions at other DOE locations that could impact the NNSS. Additionally, the information provided is often too technical or complex to fully understand or be of benefit to stakeholders. Lastly, when the NSSAB is made aware of NEPA actions, both locally and at other DOE locations, we are often not able to provide comments within the established public comment deadline. The reason being all recommendations must be discussed and voted on during Full Board meetings and the NSSAB typically meets bi-monthly.

Therefore, the NSSAB recommends DOE do the following:

- Notify the NSSAB on any NEPA actions that may have a potential impact to the NNSS. This should include both Nevada -derived actions and actions at other DOE locations.
- Provide a briefing explaining the NEPA actions during a NSSAB Full Board meeting prior to the public comment period closing. For NEPA actions that do not have a public comment period, a presentation should be provided in a timely manner for informational purposes.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. Timely notification and presentations will provide an opportunity for the NSSAB to be educated on these activities and the ability to provide comments on actions that could have a significant impact in the state of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Frank Bonesteel, Chair

Members

Amina Anderson
Frank Bonesteel (Chair)
William DeWitt
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Pennie Edmond
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Liaisons

Clark County
Consolidated Group of Tribes
and Organizations
Esmeralda County Commission
Lincoln 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

Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated
Federal Officer (DDFO)
*U.S. Department of Energy,
EM Nevada Program*
Barbara Ulmer, Administrator
*Navarro, Contractor for the U.S.
Department of Energy,
EM Nevada Program*

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cc: David Borak, DOE/HQ (EM-4.32)
Michelle Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-4.32)
Barbara Ulmer, Navarro
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
Robert Boehlecke, EM
Catherine Hampton, EM
Bill Wilborn, EM