September 22, 2021

Frank Bonesteel, Chair
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
100 N. City Parkway, Suite #1750
Las Vegas, NV 89106

RESPONSE TO THE NEVADA SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD (NSSAB)
RECOMMENDATION FOR INTERACTIVE PUBLIC INFORMATION WEBSITE (WORK
PLAN ITEM #5)

Reference: Ltr Bonesteel to Boehlecke, dtd 8/12/21

I would like to sincerely thank the NSSAB for its review of the U.S. Department of Energy
(DOE) supported website maintained at https://nnssremediation.dri.edu/ under the scope of
NSSAB Work Plan Item #5, as referenced in the above-mentioned letter. The DOE
Environmental Management (EM) Nevada Program appreciates the time that the NSSAB
dedicated to reviewing and discussing recommendations on potential future options for the
maintenance, improvement, or enhancement of this website.

Below are the NSSAB recommendations on Work Plan Item #5, followed by a summary
response from the EM Nevada Program:

NSSAB Recommendation 1: Produce a higher-level history document that is more like an after-
action report of limited page count but highlighting EM history at the Nevada National Security
Site (NNNSS), including the original charter, consent order, requirements and results, as well as
lessons learned.

NSSAB Recommendation 2: Discontinue the current NNSS remediation site website as it is not
highly utilized and move information to the nnss.gov website or a physical document, provided
that all information is intact.

NSSAB Recommendation 3: Review the current documentation posted on the NNSS
remediation site website and make information more public-friendly.

NSSAB Recommendation 4: Consider the nnss.gov website as a possible venue to accomplish
the following recommendations provided under the scope of work plan item #7 – Public Access
of EM History in Nevada:

- A) Engage in an oral history project to document the human history of the EM mission in
  Nevada, including interviews of former and current employees and members of interested
  communities.
• B) Create a visual history showing signage, pictures, and visual comparisons of before and after the EM remediation work.

NSSAB Recommendation 5: Consider improving the public appearance and functionality of the NNSS remediation sites website by adding links in the cascade to scientific and/or newspaper articles related to the topic.

DOE Response: On behalf of the EM Nevada Program, I would like to note our appreciation for the depth and detail in which the NSSAB considered recommendations on future options for the existing website. Our goal in bringing this item to the Board’s attention was to seek creative, outside the box solutions informed from a stakeholder perspective. In its recommendations, the NSSAB has added a great deal of value to EM Nevada’s consideration of the path forward.

With regard to Recommendations 2, 3, and 5, we recognize that the Board has offered a great deal of latitude for EM Nevada to identify and evaluate potential options, ranging from discontinuing the website and reallocating associated resources to enhancing and relaunching the website in a similar format as it exists now. EM Nevada and its Environmental Program Services contractor, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc., are currently in the process of performing a cost-benefit, feasibility, and cyber-security analysis of potential platform options that will help to inform upcoming decision points. We will endeavor to keep the Board apprised of progress as more information becomes available.

With regard to Recommendations 1 and 4, we find that the NSSAB’s feedback adds value both within and outside the bounds of Work Plan Item #5. As mentioned during work plan discussion at the July 2021 Full Board meeting, there was a natural nexus between Work Plan Item #5 and Work Plan Item #7 (Public Access of EM History in Nevada). Should the decided-upon path forward for the website at https://nnssremediation.dri.edu/ preclude the incorporation of Recommendations 1 and 4 offered under Work Plan Item #5 (i.e., if were decided the website should be discontinued), EM Nevada will strive to incorporate these observations in the implementation of recommendations offered by the Board under Work Plan Item #7.

Again, please accept our thanks and we appreciate the time and effort the NSSAB dedicated to considering recommendations under Work Plan Item #5. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the NSSAB Office at (702) 523-0894.

Robert F. Boehlecke  
Program Manager  
EMO:509.RB

Digitally signed by ROBERT BOEHLECKE
Date: 2021.09.22 16:58:05 -07'00'
cc via email:
Michelle Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-4.32)
Kelly Snyder, DOE/HQ (EM-4.32)
Jesse Sleezer, Navarro
Barbara Ulmer, Navarro
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
Catherine Hampton, EM
Bill Wilborn, EM