UPDATE ON WILDLAND FIRE AT NEVADA NATIONAL SECURITY SITE

Las Vegas, Nevada—A wildland fire, apparently started by a downed power line late in the afternoon of April 16, 2018, appears to have burned itself out overnight. During the night, firefighters were aided by about an inch of snow on the fire location in Area 16 of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

Firefighters are walking the perimeter of the fire today to assure there are no hotspots. In addition, an NNSS helicopter flew over the area, in support of the firefighters, to also look for hotspots and map the size of the burn. The size of the burn area is estimated at just over 1,100 acres.

The fire was contained to an area with heavy grass; there is damage to a number of power poles, but no operational impacts. There are no facilities or structures where the fire was located and it did not affect any contaminated areas.

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The Nevada National Security Site and its related facilities help ensure the security of the United States and its allies by: supporting the stewardship of the nation’s nuclear deterrent; providing nuclear and radiological emergency response capabilities and training; contributing to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives; executing national-level experiments in support of the National Laboratories; working with national security customers and other federal agencies on important national security activities; and providing long-term environmental stewardship of the NNSS’s Cold War legacy.

The NNSS falls under the jurisdiction of the NNSA, a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Site’s operations are government-controlled and contractor-operated. They are overseen by DOE’s Nevada Field Office, headquartered in North Las Vegas.

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