The Nuclear Testing Archive

Nevada National Security Site

Introduction

Looking for historical information about the nuclear testing program? You can find records and information about the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) nuclear testing program at the Nuclear Testing Archive (NTA), located on East Flamingo Road in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Nuclear Testing Archives, foreground, is located on Flamingo Road in Las Vegas.

The public has access to over 375,000 historical documents, records, and data in relation to nuclear testing documents at the Nuclear Testing Archive.

The facility, located adjacent to the Desert Research Institute and the University of Nevada Las Vegas, houses more than 375,000 documents in a 9,000-square-foot space equipped with special features for preserving the documents.

The Public Reading Facility, part of the NTA, can access the NTA's collection of more than 40,000 documents relating to human radiation experiments by the Atomic Energy Commission and more than 335,000 documents involving the U.S. nuclear testing program. The reading facility provides a large screen television to enable the viewing of unclassified nuclear testing films, as well as high-speed internet access to OpenNet, the DOE's bibliographic database containing declassified documents.

Background

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), enacted in 1966, allows individuals or organizations access to government records. Its main purpose is to "ensure an informed citizenry, vital to the functioning of a democratic society, needed to check against corruption and to hold the governors accountable to the governed." Since 1966, millions of FOIA requests have been filled in an effort to keep the public informed.

The National Nuclear Security Administration/ Nevada Site Office of the DOE established the Nuclear Testing Archive on July 17, 1981. Formerly the Coordination and Information Center, the NTA collects, consolidates, and preserves in perpetuity, historical documents, records, and data. The NTA's vast collections include:

- Documentation on the detection and measurement of radioactive fallout and related factors resulting from nuclear testing activities at the Nevada Test Site (now known as the Nevada National Security Site – NNSS), TRINITY test, Pacific Proving Grounds, and other continental test locations
- Information on the health effects of radiation
- Various related scientific and technical studies and reports

The bibliographic information for the collection at NTA can be accessed on the internet through OpenNet. OpenNet is DOE's bibliographic database containing declassified and publicly available documents. It is an automated searchable database which enables the interested stakeholder to identify documents of interest, determine their location within the DOE complex, and obtain ordering information.

The Nuclear Testing Archive is located at 755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada. The facility is open to visitors from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. For more information, contact

Phone: 702-794-5106
FAX: 702-794-5107
Email: cic@nv.doe.gov

OpenNet

The U.S. Department of Energy maintains an electronic public reading facility through its OpenNet Database, located at http://www.osti.gov/opennet. OpenNet is a bibliographic database containing declassified and publicly available documents. It is an automated searchable database which enables the user to identify documents of interest, determine their location within the Energy Department's complex, and obtain ordering information.

Nevada National Security Site

For more information, contact:
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Field Office
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518
phone: 702-295-3521
fax: 702-295-0154
email: nevada@nnsa.doe.gov
http://www.nv.energy.gov

DOE/NV - 1019
February 2015

National Nuclear Security Administration