



# Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

January 18, 2012

Mr. Scott Wade  
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management  
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office  
P. O. Box 98510  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)  
Recommendation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Budget Prioritizations

Dear Mr. Wade:

The NSSAB has completed its annual review and prioritization of the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office (DOE NSO) Environmental Management (EM) activities for the FY 2014 budget submittal.

As in previous years, the Board reviewed and prioritized four EM technical activities and continues to place the highest priority on the Underground Test Area (UGTA). This ranking reflects our commitment to working with EM to ensure budget dollars are available in support of groundwater issues at the Nevada National Security Site.

Following is the NSSAB's recommended FY 2014 budget ranking with supporting reasons. A variety of factors were considered including: health and safety risks, regulatory requirements and completion schedules. We also considered any significant changes in sub-project areas from last year and applied that information to arrive at our current recommendations.

1. UGTA
  - Validate flow models
  - Supplemented by additional data collection and drilling as appropriate
  - Highest potential impact on the public, particularly off site rural communities
2. Low-Level Waste
  - Provides a vital resource for the entire DOE Complex
  - Costs to re-start operations after temporary closure would exceed normal operating costs
  - Progress toward mixed low-level waste treatment facility
3. Soils
  - Continue momentum of Corrective Action Units closures
  - Funds are necessary to work toward agreement with the Air Force
  - Additional funds would allow for accelerated clean up

## Members

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Daniel Coss  
Thomas Fisher, PhD  
Arthur Goldsmith  
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Clark County  
State of Nevada Division of  
Environmental Protection  
U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Site Office  
U.S. National Park Service

## Administration

Denise Rupp, Administrator  
*Navarro-Intera*  
Kelly Snyder, DDFO  
U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Site Office

4. Industrial Sites

- Project should be complete except for Engine Maintenance Assembly and Disassembly facility scheduled for 2017
- Until 2017, programs are at minimum level for monitoring and inspection
- Commitments to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection cannot be met with any additional funding reductions

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the annual budget prioritization and for the assistance provided by the EM staff. The federal staff took the time to meet with the NSSAB and provided detailed information. We sincerely appreciate this support and look forward to your response regarding this year's budget submittal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KATHLEEN BIENENSTEIN'. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Kathleen L. Bienenstein,  
Chair

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
C. Alexander, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
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K. Snyder, PSG, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas, NV  
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D. Rupp, NI, Las Vegas, NV  
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