



Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

November 21, 2007

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SUBJECT: Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee - Recommendations for Revisions to Fact Sheet: *Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program*

Following are recommendations for revision to the Fact Sheet mentioned in the Subject of this letter. The EMPIRE Committee suggests the same general revisions and additions for all of the Fact Sheets:

1. Define unfamiliar terms and acronyms before they are used in a sentence.
2. Bold the definitions so that they are easily referenced.
3. When doing several definitions together, bullet the definitions, rather than listing them in the sentence.
4. Include a key and/or glossary on each Fact Sheet for unfamiliar terms and acronyms.
5. Reference on each Fact Sheet that other Fact Sheets are available.
6. In general, increase font point size for easier reading.
7. Try to keep Fact Sheets at an eighth grade reading level.
8. Update all references to off-site locations to comply with current transition status.
9. Distribute Fact Sheets to libraries, city halls, Nuclear Testing Archive, Legislator offices, environmental groups, UNLV, and senior centers.

Specific suggestions for the above-mentioned Fact Sheet are:

Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program...at the Nevada Test Site

- Under Overview:
 - Make two sentences out of the first paragraph and add the word "nationwide," to read, "*The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program ensures safe waste disposal operations at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). The NTS is one of the nation's approved sites for the disposal of low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste resulting from cleanup of the nationwide nuclear weapons complex.*"
 - Move the last sentence from the fourth paragraph to become the last sentence of the second paragraph, which reads, "*In addition, waste containers must be labeled and shipped according to U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.*"
- Cross-reference the *Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program* brochure within this Fact Sheet.

- Under Waste Acceptance Process:
 - The first sentence should read, “*The Nevada Test Site waste acceptance process begins when a generator submits its waste acceptance documentation, which consists of the following essential information:*”
 - In the second bullet, the acronym “DOE” is to be added to the second sentence, so it would begin as “*A DOE Waste Certification Official...*”
 - Also within the second bullet, explain what “*an independent quality assurance organization*” means.
 - In the third bullet, the first sentence reads, “*A list of qualified personnel that certify low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste is also provided to Nevada Test Site Personnel.*” The Committee recommends adding who the “qualified personnel” are and how they are qualified, as well as how this information is provided to NTS personnel.
 - In the next paragraph, the Committee recommends that the term “waste stream” be defined.
 - In the last sentence of the next paragraph, change the word “*can*” to “*will.*”
 - In the next paragraph, specify the types of trailers used.

- In the final paragraph, under What this Means for the Complex...
 - Change the paragraph to read, “*The Nevada Site Office’s commitment to safe disposal operations ensures that sites across the U.S. Department of Energy complex ship low-level and mixed low-level waste following the stringent waste management guidelines that have been established. The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program provides the necessary framework for safe, successful waste shipments and disposal activities necessary to realize cleanup goals.*”

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comments on changes, revisions, and updates of the Fact Sheets, and will continue working to help improve Environmental Management’s efforts to communicate with the public.

Sincerely,



David Hermann, Chair
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs