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DEC 3 2008

Dave Hermann, Chairperson
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs
232 Energy Way
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RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) FOR NEVADA TEST SITE (NTS) PROGRAMS RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO THE PHASE II CORRECTIVE ACTION INVESTIGATION PLAN (CAIP) FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION UNITS 101 AND 102: CENTRAL AND WESTERN PAHUTE MESA (PM)

Thank you for taking the time to provide recommendations regarding the document listed above. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Nevada Site Office (NSO) has reviewed the recommendations and our specific responses are below:

CAB Recommendation: Provide a section in the document that clearly states what the CAB's well has become in terms of the Underground Test Area (UGTA) Technical Working Group's numbering scheme.

DOE Response: The Pahute Mesa CAIP Phase II Rev.0 included the addition of Appendix D – Community Advisory Board Review and Recommendations. This appendix includes correspondence in the form of a cover letter of dated September 19, 2007, (Community Advisory Board (CAB) to Steve Mellington (DOE/Nevada), and the associated CAB report: Technical Summation; “Recommendations for Proposed Well Locations in the Pahute Mesa Area at the Nevada Test Site.” In addition, the text and tables within the PM CAIP Phase II Rev.0 were revised to more clearly identify that the CAB-2 well and the currently proposed Well ER-20-7 were sited in very nearly the same location.

CAB Recommendation: Provide a map showing the NTS Pahute Mesa Thirsty Canyon Liniment, the Bench, faults, and major geologic features, with differentiations that show the CAB's original well proposals versus the final well sighting decisions. Perhaps use two different colors for differentiation.

DOE Response: A map (Figure 6-1) has been added to Section 6 to better illustrate the major structural features discussed in the text. In addition, Plate 2 has been revised to better show the projection of these structural features at the water table. The CAB-2 well has been shown on Plate 2 as it was directly pertinent to the text discussions. However due to the scale of Figure 6-1 this well was not shown. The inclusion of Appendix D – Community Advisory Board Review

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and Recommendations in the document provides direct descriptive text and maps of CAB recommended wells that can be referenced for comparison with proposed wells.

CAB Recommendation: Develop a Communication Plan that outlines the public outreach strategy for communicating the UGTA Pahute Mesa Phase II drilling program and the results of the data collection and analysis.

DOE Response: The DOE is currently developing a Communication Plan that will outline the strategy for informing rural communities about the groundwater modeling and monitoring programs at the Nevada Test Site. This plan will be developed during the next four months. This plan will include a DOE sponsored open house style meeting in rural Southern Nevada during 2009.

If you have further questions or would like to discuss the UGTA sub-project in more detail, please contact Kelly Snyder at (702) 295-2836.



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