

CAB Monthly Update
September 2006

Industrial Sites:

Accomplishments (August)

- Continued characterization fieldwork at Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 166: Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials.
- Completed characterization fieldwork at CAU 542: Disposal Holes, and CAU 177: Mudpits and Cellars.
- Began CAU 551: Area 12 Muckpiles, Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report best management practice fieldwork.
- Began radiological and geophysical surveys for CAU 408: Bomblet Target Area (Tonopah Test Range).
- Continued radiological surveys at CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility.
- Completed radiological and geophysical surveys at CAU 484: Surface Debris, Waste Sites, and Burn Area (Tonopah Test Range).
- Continued low-level waste disposal for CAU 115: Area 25 Test Cell A Facility.
- Begin corrective action fieldwork at CAU 516: Septic Systems and Discharge Points.
- Continued corrective action fieldwork at CAU 168: Area 25 and 26: Contaminated Materials and Waste Dumps.
- Completed the corrective action fieldwork to allow for the completion of a Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report for CAU 274: Septic Systems.
- Submitted to Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) the final Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan for CAU 118: Area 27 Super Kukla Facility.
- Submitted to NDEP the final Corrective Action Investigation Plan for CAU 565: Stored Samples.
- Submitted to NDEP the final Post-Closure Investigation Reports for CAU 90: Area 2 Bitcutter Containment, and CAU 333: U-3auS Disposal Site.
- Submitted to NDEP the final Post-Closure Investigation and Monitoring Reports for CAU 110: Area 3 Waste Management Disposal; U-3ax/bl Crater, and CAU 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit.
- Submitted to and received from NDEP approval of the final Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for CAU 224: Decon Pond and Septic Systems, and CAU 300: Surface Release Sites.
- Received NDEP approval of the final SAFER Plan for CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility.

Expectations (September)

- Continue characterization fieldwork at CAU 166: Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials.
- Continue radiological and geophysical surveys at CAU 408: Bomblet Target Area (Tonopah Test Range).
- Continue radiological surveys at CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility.
- Continue corrective action fieldwork at CAU 168: Area 25 and 26 Contaminated Materials and Waste Dumps.
- Complete corrective action fieldwork at CAU 516: Septic Systems and Discharge Points.

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- Complete CAU 551: Area 12 Muckpiles Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report best management practice field work.
- Complete low-level waste disposal for CAU 115: Area 25 Test Cell A Facility.
- Submit to NDEP the final Closure Report for CAU 214: Bunkers and Storage Areas
- Submit to NDEP the final Post-Closure Monitoring and Inspection Report (2006) for CAU 329: Spill Sites.
- Submit to NDEP final Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report for CAU 274: Septic Systems.
- Receive NDEP approval of the SAFER Plan for CAU 118: Area 27 Super Kukla Facility.
- Receive NDEP approval of the Corrective Action Investigation Plan for CAU 565: Stored Samples.
- Receive NDEP approval of the final Post-Closure Investigation Reports for CAU 90: Area 2 Bitcutter Containment, and CAU 333: U-3auS Disposal Site.
- Receive NDEP approval of the final Post-Closure Investigation and Monitoring Reports for CAU 110: Area 3 Waste Management Disposal U-3ax/bl Crater, and CAU 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit.

Underground Test Area Project:

Accomplishments (August)

Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

- Completed recompletion activities at UGTA Well ER-16-1
- Installed pump and sampled U12s

Expectations (September):

Frenchman Flat

- Continue Phase II Transport Model analysis

Pahute Mesa

- Continue Phase I Transport Model analysis

Yucca Flat

- Continuing Transport Parameters Analysis and Evaluation

Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

- Complete sampling activities at HTH-2

Nevada Offsites Project

Accomplishments for (August):

- Completed comments on the Project Shoal Area monitoring and validation well report.
- Submitted the paper work to Headquarters for the transfer of the Offsites to the Office of Legacy Management.

Expectations (September):

- The Project Shoal Area monitoring and validation well report will be completed.

Soils Project

Accomplishments for August:

- Completed ground truths of geophysical anomalies at Clean Slate I, Clean Slate II, and Clean Slate III.
- Completed radiological surveys at Clean Slate I/II/III.

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- Continued discussions with the Air Force concerning alternative closures to address the Clean Slate sites.
- Began Preliminary Assessments for Danny Boy (CAU 371) and the Frenchman Flat Atmospheric Sites (CAU 106)

Expectations for September:

- Submit FFACO modification adding ten additional sites to the FFACO.
- Continue Preliminary Assessments for CAU 371 and CAU 106.
- Finalize Planning for FY 2007.

Low-Level Waste (LLW):

Accomplishments (August)

- Conducted three LLW Generator Facility evaluations (Perma-Fix, Pantex, and AMWTF in Idaho).
- As of August 27, 2006, the NTS received 1,087,922 cubic feet in 997 shipments.

Expectations (September)

- Will conduct two Facility Evaluation (Portsmouth and NFS).

Mixed Low-Level Waste (MLLW):

Accomplishments (August)

- Conduct on-site verification of Idaho National Laboratory MLLW at PEcoS treatment facility.

Expectations (September)

- A MLLW summit meeting with potential MLLW generators will be held the week of September 11, 2006. This meeting will determine how the DOE complex can utilize Pit 3.

Transuranic (TRU) Project:

Accomplishments (August)

- Operations completed decontamination activities on the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building glovebox.

Expectations (September):

- The glovebox is scheduled to be removed from the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building and disposed as low-level waste on-site.
- The Request for Task Proposals was issued to procure a contractor to segregate and repackage 58 oversize boxes and 2 spheres to allow for shipment and/or disposal. Proposals are due to the NSO on September 12, 2006 with contract award scheduled for September 29, 2006.



Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

April 12, 2006

Kathleen Peterson, CAB Chair
Marian Lawrence, CAB Vice-Chair

Kaye Allisen-Medlin
Pauline Esteves
Robert Gatliff
David Hermann, Chair
Budget Committee
Transportation/Waste Committee

Steve Hopkins
Genne Nelson
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Recruitment Committee
Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, Chair
UGTA Committee

Ex Officio Members

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*U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office*
Tiffany Lantow
Defense Threat Reduction Agency
Tim Murphy, Chief
*Bureau of Federal Facilities,
State of Nevada Division of
Environmental Protection*
Frank Tussing
*Nevada Alliance for Defense,
Energy, and Business*
Susan Moore
Nye County

Administrative Support Staff

Kay Planamento

Mr. Stephen A. Mellington
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy – Nevada Site Office
PO Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

RE: 2006 CAB Recruitment – Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site
Programs Proposed New Member Slate

Dear Mr. Mellington:

After several months of work, the CAB's Diversification Committee has completed its 2006 new member recruitment activities. At its recent Administrative meeting held on April 12, 2006, the CAB reached consensus on the proposed new member slate and recommends the following twelve candidates for full Board membership:

- Paul Adras, Las Vegas, NV
- Bill Aldrich, Pahrump, NV
- Robert Johnson, Beatty, NV
- Vernell McNeal, Las Vegas
- Ted Oom, Pahrump, NV
- Warren Pawliuk, Pahrump, NV
- Dr. David Rosin, Las Vegas, NV
- Jan Spinato, Henderson, NV
- Stacy Standley, Las Vegas, NV
- Harold Sullivan, Las Vegas, NV
- James Weeks, Beatty, NV
- Dr. Walter Wegst, Las Vegas, NV

Full member biographies will be provided as part of the 2006 membership packet that will be prepared. However, Kelly Snyder, CAB DDFO, participated fully in the recruitment process and can provide you with any additional details from the individual applications that were submitted and reviewed.

We are pleased with the percentage of applicants from rural Nevada and look forward to the opportunity to further engage stakeholders in the communities immediately surrounding the Nevada Test Site. Thank you for your ongoing support to the CAB. We will work closely with the CAB's support staff to provide all required information for submittal of the proposed membership packet to the U.S. Department of Energy-Headquarters for their review and subsequent appointment.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Peterson, Chairperson
Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

cc: Kelly Snyder, DOE/NSO
Carla Sanda, Consensus By Design
CAB Members



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April 12, 2006

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Mr. Stephen A. Mellington
Assistant Manager for
Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy – Nevada Site Office
P.O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

Re: Community Advisory Board (CAB) FY 2008 Budget Prioritization

Dear Mr. Mellington:

The CAB Budget Committee has completed its annual review and prioritization of the U.S. Department of Energy's Nevada Site Office (DOE/NSO) Environmental Management (EM) projects for the FY 2008 budget submittal. The committee presented its recommendations to the full Board at the April 12, 2006, CAB administrative meeting, where they were approved by the full Board.

Last year, the Board reviewed and prioritized five EM technical projects. With the information the Budget Committee received from the project managers, we combined the Mixed Low-Level Waste and the Low-Level Waste into one area for budget ranking. This resulted in four areas being considered. This year, the Committee has continued to place the Underground Test Area project into the number one slot. This ranking reflects our commitment to working with you to ensure that monies are available to continue drilling and monitoring efforts in support of groundwater issues at the Nevada Test Site. As you know, the CAB's UGTA Committee has recently made recommendations to you for the location of a network of three additional UGTA wells at the NTS. We will continue to focus on this issue and sincerely hope that funding will become available to support that recommendation.

Following is the Board's recommended FY 2008 budget ranking:

Ranking	Environmental Management Project
1	Underground Test Area (UGTA)
2	Industrial Sites
3	Soils
4	Mixed Low-Level Waste / Low-Level Waste

The CAB utilized three criteria to rank the projects: (1) Health & Safety Risks, (2) Regulatory Requirements, and (3) Completion Schedule. We then

Stephen A. Mellington
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considered any significant changes in a project area from last year, and applied that information to last year's rankings to arrive at our current recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the annual budget prioritization and for the assistance provided by the EM staff. Each project manager took the time to meet with Budget Committee members at the CAB office and provided detailed follow-up information. We sincerely appreciate this support and look forward to your response related to this year's budget submittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Peterson, Chairperson
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ, (EM-30.1) FORS
P. Golan, DOE/HQ, (EM-1)
K. Carlson, NNSA/NSO, Manager
F. DiSanza, DAMEM, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas
K. Snyder, PSG, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas
T. Murphy, NDEP
C. Sanda, Consensus By Design, LLC
CAB Members



Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

February 10, 2006

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Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy – Nevada Site Office
PO Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

RE: Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB)
Recommendation for Future Nevada Test Site Well Locations

Dear Mr. Mellington:

As you are aware, over the last four years the CAB's Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee has conducted an in-depth review and study of the UGTA project with the ultimate goal of providing a recommendation for future well locations at the Nevada Test Site. We have worked closely with programmatic technical staff, U.S. Geological Survey experts, and Nye County representatives; conferred with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection; and met with stakeholders to ensure that they were both aware of our work and could also participate in the process with their feedback and concerns.

Although our work is not completely finished at this point, we are submitting the attached recommendation which details proposed sites for two additional wells at the Nevada Test Site. We believe, however, that a network of at least three wells in the western Pahute Mesa region should be considered; therefore, we are continuing to evaluate the geophysical conditions and will provide you with specific coordinates for a third well in a follow-up recommendation. In addition, DOE has invited us to continue our work and provide additional recommendations for well locations that we believe may further enhance data collection or may provide opportunities to serve as early sentinel monitoring wells. Therefore, we will continue to work with your representatives and share our thoughts as we move through our investigative process.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with you to address stakeholder concerns related to groundwater. Both your federal and contractor technical staff members have met with us on numerous occasions to pore over maps and technical reports, share their scientific expertise, address our questions, and provide whatever resources we needed to accomplish our work.

Stephen A. Mellington
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This has been a tremendously valuable learning experience for all of us, and has provided an opportunity for a true partnership between the community and DOE. Thank you once again for this opportunity, and we look forward to our ongoing work with you on the UGTA project.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Peterson, Chairperson
Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

Enclosures:
CAB UGTA Well Location Recommendations

/mkp

cc: U.S. Senator John Ensign
U.S. Senator Harry Reid
U.S. Congresswoman Shelly Berkley
U.S. Congressman Jim Gibbons
U.S. Congressman Jon Porter
M. Nielson, DOE/HQ, (EM-30.1) FORS
F. DiSanza, WMD, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas
K. Snyder, TD, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas
T. Murphy, NDEP
C. Sanda, Consensus By Design, LLC
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CAB UGTA WELL LOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Established in 1994, the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) is a formal group of volunteer citizens organized to provide stakeholder feedback to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Program.

From 1951 to 1992, the United States government conducted 828 underground nuclear tests at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) at depths ranging from ~90 to 4,800 feet beneath the desert's surface. About one-third of those tests occurred near or below the water table, which resulted in some radioactive contamination of the groundwater at the NTS. Therefore, shortly after its formation, the CAB organized the Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee to focus on issues related to groundwater. Committee members kicked off their work with an intensive multi-year learning process. Members pored over lengthy technical documents, listened to numerous briefings by DOE scientists, conferred with expert hydrologists, geologists, academia, and regulators, and reviewed and provided feedback to an independent peer review of the project. Throughout the years, the CAB also scheduled regular public meetings to discuss its findings and invite feedback from stakeholders.

Because of the clearly defined recommendations of the CAB and related stakeholder concerns, in August 2002 Carl Gertz (DOE's Assistant Manager for Environmental Management at that time) invited the CAB to further research the issue and provide specific recommendations for a future well location.

As a result of its ensuing in-depth study, combined with feedback from potentially affected stakeholders and the Peer Review Report findings, the CAB is focusing its efforts on western Pahute Mesa. This region sits

relatively close to the NTS boundary and is directly upgradient of the residents of Oasis Valley, Beatty, and Amargosa Valley. Because the groundwater flows west and south from the NTS, contaminated groundwater could migrate beyond the NTS boundary in this region.

Ultimately the CAB concluded that, given the lack of data in the critical focus area, a network consisting of a minimum of three wells would provide a more comprehensive approach. Therefore, the CAB recommends that a series of at least three (3) wells be drilled to determine the depth to groundwater, provide a clearer understanding of groundwater geochemistry, identify rock units, and provide results from single well pump tests. The primary objectives for each of the wells are as follows:

1. Intersect a contaminant plume which can be tied to the source test
2. Sample geochemistry, measure elevation of the water, and test for potential contamination
3. Improve the understanding of the effect of the structure known as the Thirsty Canyon Lineament on groundwater flow

The CAB further believes that these three strategically placed wells will decrease computer model uncertainties in the region of concern and will likely improve overall understanding of contaminant transport.

RECOMMENDATIONS

CAB WELL #1

Objective

The objective of CAB Well #1 is to intersect a contaminant plume. Therefore, the CAB selected a site downgradient from the Benham Test and Well #ER-20-5#1, which intersected Benham contamination in 1996. It would be beneficial to detect radionuclides other than tritium so that contaminants may be linked to a specific historical test.

Background

The existing Well #ER-20-5#1 is located ~4,290 feet south/southwest of the Benham test, which was conducted in 1968. Since groundwater migration is controlled by a variety of subsurface factors, it is not possible to know precisely how much farther contamination may have traveled since that time. However, the distance could be in excess of 1,000 feet. To increase the chance of encountering radionuclides, the CAB recommends a more conservative distance for the well site. Furthermore, the potential for detecting a greater array of radionuclides may be increased by focusing on a location behind the leading edge of the plume. If contamination is found at this well site, the information may aid in determining rate of migration.

Plotting a straight line from Benham through ER-20-5#1 provides a general direction of migration, even though it may not be the primary direction of groundwater flow. This alignment does, however, parallel faults mapped at surface to the west of the Benham and Tybo shots, so the CAB believes that this is a reasonable direction to use for well site selection.

Specific Location / Rationale

Siting CAB Well #1 downgradient of ER-20-5#1 seems to be a reasonable approach to intercept contamination. Therefore, the CAB recommends that the well be drilled 800 ft. south of ER-20-5#1 along a line from Benham through well ER-20-5#1, and deep enough to penetrate the Calico Hills Confining Unit, at or near the following coordinates:

N 4, 118,950 / E546,310 / UTM

Recognizing the limitation of siting a well location solely from a topographic map, the CAB believes an arc of five degrees on either side of the reference line, and apexed on ER-20-5#1 should provide sufficient area to locate an acceptable drill site along the ridge. Since containment ponds already exist within this area, well site elevation may make reuse of these ponds possible; however, this cannot be determined from the topographic maps used by the CAB for siting. As long as the adjustment of the well location does not compromise the objective of the well, the CAB is fully supportive of any cost-saving measures, which can be implemented. In the event that no contamination is found at this site, this well would make an effective monitoring well for contamination and would still provide important data; e.g., some indication of rate of flow in the area of concern.

CAB WELL #2

Objective:

The objective of CAB Well #2 is to sample geochemistry and elevation of water and test for potential contamination. This well location is targeted to be downgradient of, and in an approximate line with, ER-20-5#1 and CAB Well #1 within the transition zone between the caldera and the Timber Mountain Bench (Tannenbaum Hills Area).

Background

This well site is problematic due to its proximity to the topographic edge of Pahute Mesa. To identify the initial location, a line was extended from Benham through ER-20-5#1 down to the bench area. The most favorable site to avoid intersecting the Timber Mountain bench is within the blue zone of the attached gravity inversion map (red zones are shallower, progressing to purple which are the deepest zones to bedrock); however, much of this area lies in cliffs and drainages. Two possible locations were identified where topography may allow access to the blue zone, labeled site B and site C. Site C is targeted at N4,116,850 and E545,785 and is the furthest south (7874' from Well ER-20-5#1), but it runs the highest risk that it might still be above the bench since it is close to the green zone. Well ER-EC-1 was drilled in the green zone, and lithology indicates it was above the bench. Site B is targeted at N4,117,345 and E545,910 which may be a better location (6,233' from well ER-20-5#1) according to the geophysics. However, it is located in the bottom of a wash, which may not be topographically accessible. On the other hand, Site A is within the purple zone at N4,118,110 and E546,100, which will definitely still be in the caldera (3,609' from well ER-20-5#1) — but may be north of the transition zone. However, this location could still provide valuable information about water level changes between CAB Well #1 to the north and ER-EC-6 to the south on the bench, which may provide some information on water flow direction. Furthermore, when considering the possible rate of groundwater migration, this location would be favorable for a sentinel well, since contamination could reach this area by 2020.

Specific Location / Rationale

In light of all considerations - particularly the sentinel well characteristics of this site, the CAB recommends that CAB Well #2 be drilled at site A, ~3,600 feet south of the ER-20-5 well cluster, in line with CAB Well #1, at the following coordinates:

N 4,118,110 m / E 546,100 m / UTM

In order to allow optimization of the drill site, the five-degree arc extending from either side of the reference line and apexed on ER-20-5#1 will also apply at this site. However, due to the greater distance from the apex well, the CAB recommends that preference be given to the eastern side of the reference line as this is more in line with the probable direction of groundwater flow, given the orientation of mapped faults and the surface cracks mapped in USGS Open File Report 01-272: *GIS Surface Effects Archive of Underground Nuclear Detonations Conducted at Yucca Flat and Pahute Mesa, Nevada Test Site, Nevada*, 2001, Dennis N Grasso.

CAB Well #2 should also be drilled to a target depth to intersect at least the Calico Hills Confining Unit, which underlies all tests in the Tybo and Benham fault-bounded block. An additional 1,000 - 2,000 feet of depth could provide valuable information for unit correlation if CAB Wells #1 and #2 were drilled to the underlying Bullfrog Confining Unit. However, the sampling integrity of the well and protection of the deeper aquifers (if contaminants are discovered in CAB Wells #1 or #2) could be placed at risk. The CAB believes that such a risk is unwarranted, considering the information gained, and that the first two CAB wells should not be advanced below the Calico Hills Confining Unit.

CAB WELL #3

Objective

The objective of CAB Well #3 is to improve the understanding of the effect of the Thirsty Canyon structure on groundwater flow along the west end of the Timber Mountain Bench.

Background

Early hydrologic work in the western Pahute Mesa area delineated a subsurface structure, but its effect on groundwater flow could not be determined. However, groundwater levels seemed to indicate that it could be a flow path from Pahute Mesa to Oasis Valley. Similarity of groundwater geochemistry suggests that the water beneath Pahute Mesa flows into the Oasis Valley area. During the drilling of the UGTA wells downgradient of Pahute Mesa, three pairs of wells [ER-EC-4 and 2A, ER-EC-6 and 8, and ER-EC-1 and PM-3] were drilled on either side of the structure. However, no attempt was made to actually intersect it. The CAB recognizes that it is extremely difficult to construct a well in a structure of this type. However, the CAB does not believe that the hydrologic character of this structure has been adequately identified and believes that more work should be done in this area.

Well site #3 was selected based on the inverse gravity map created for the Pahute Mesa area. In general, the CAB recommends targeting the blue spot on the gravity inversion map (within the green trough), which lies along the alignment of the Thirsty Canyon structure at the west end of the Timber Mountain Bench. If the bench forms a barrier to southward groundwater flow, this location could provide information related to the direction in which the diverted water could flow. The Thirsty Canyon structure is very deep; therefore, wherever possible, some geophysical method should be employed to refine the well location to increase the probability of intersecting the structure.

Although the scale of the map referenced for this target area is not very detailed, by making a rough approximation of the location of the blue spot, it appears that the target site is in the cliff-enshrouded East fork of the Thirsty Canyon. Topography makes drilling access problematic and potentially very expensive. There is one plateau located to the east that may provide an accessible drill site, but topography could be problematic for this site as well. The CAB Well #3 site is in an area with minimal subsurface information nearby. To ensure that a well is not sited too close to one of the existing ER-EC wells, the CAB plotted the location of the three closest: 1, 2A, and 4. Proposed CAB Well site #3, when shifted east to place it on the plateau, would be located ~9,000 feet west/

southwest of ER-EC-1, ~19,000 ft north/northeast of ER-EC-2A, and ~27,000 ft north-east of ER-EC-4, which is drilled on the west side of the Thirsty Canyon structure. To relocate the site north of Thirsty Canyon to avoid the topographic difficulties may place it upgradient of potential groundwater flow around the bench area. The CAB concluded that further study was needed to determine a practicable drill site for the objective of this well.

In June 2005, the DOE offered to include air photographs of the potential site for CAB Well #3 during a planned air reconnaissance flight in the area. The CAB reviewed copies of these photos in October 2005 and discovered that the terrain - even on the plateau - was too steep to afford reasonable access for a drilling operation. The preferred target area along the intersection of the bench and the Thirsty Canyon structure is located entirely in the extremely rugged east fork of Thirsty Canyon. In the lower reaches of the canyon where access is feasible, some wells have already been drilled.

Specific Location / Rationale

With these considerations in mind, it was originally recommended that CAB Well #3 be drilled at the west end of the Timber Mountain Bench, aligned with the Thirsty Canyon Lineament, on the plateau east of the topographic canyon, with the following specific coordinates:

N 4, 116, 950 m / E 539,220 m / UTM

This was an idealized target site. As explained in the discussion above, further study and refinement was needed to locate the exact position for this well. Considering the new topographic information provided, the CAB wishes to withdraw this proposed site and will reevaluate whether the Thirsty Canyon structure can be targeted upgradient of the original plan and still answer the questions which remain.

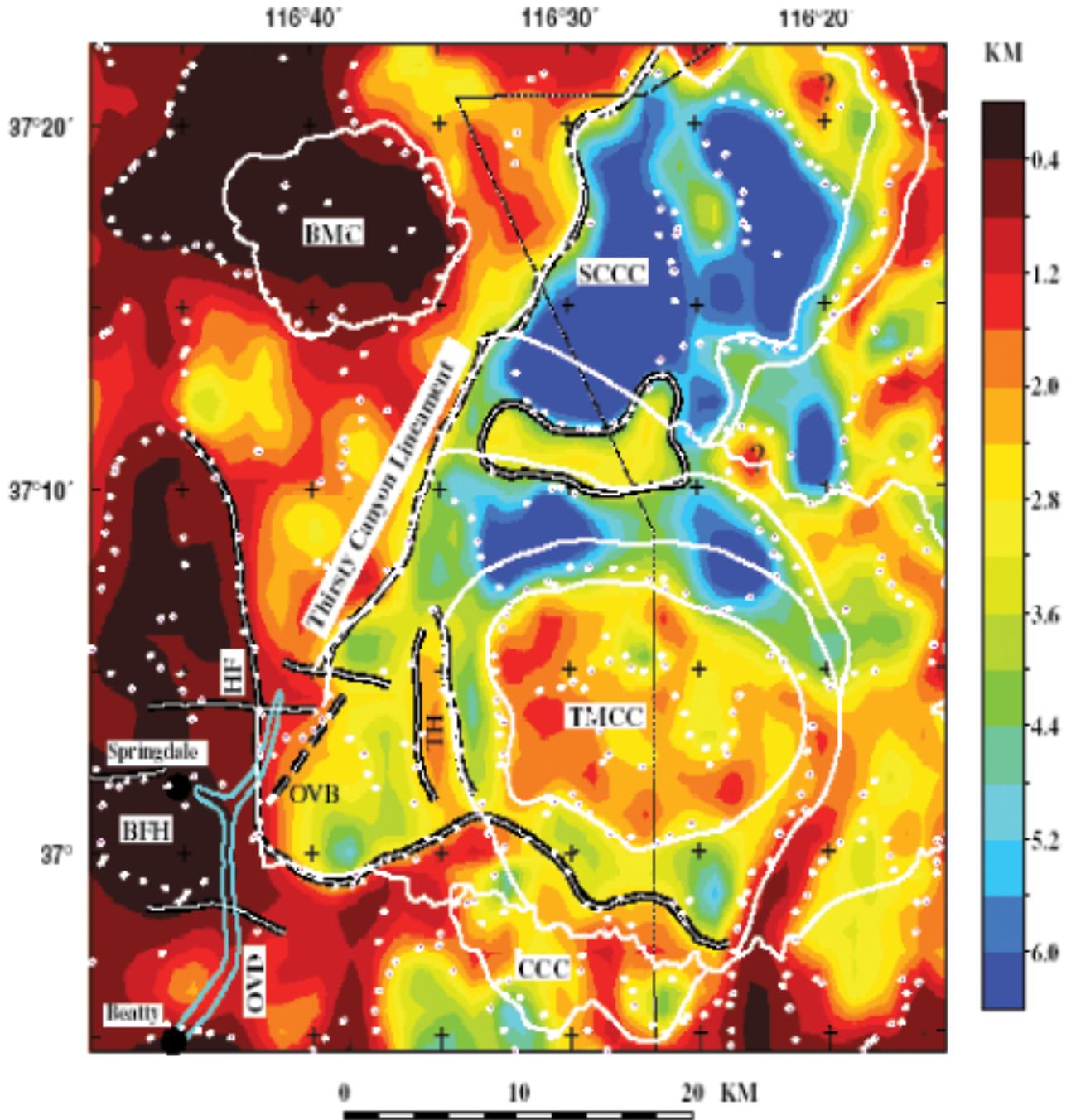
CONCLUSIONS

The process of siting a well for the UGTA Project has been an educational and enlightening experience. Technical experts working on the UGTA project have been extremely helpful in providing detailed programmatic information to the CAB for review and have patiently answered even the most simplistic questions. As an example, in November 2005, CAB members were invited to view graphical representations from the UGTA model with technical experts working on the program to address questions generated during the siting study. The CAB has also received briefings on EarthVision, a sophisticated computer mapping tool, and a wide array of maps generated by that program. The CAB would like to continue working with the UGTA technical working group to "fine tune" final site selection for the proposed wells. It is the CAB's desire to see wells sited where they will provide the best information possible but in a cost-effective manner. A great deal of study went into these recommendations and a complete report on the background, process and sources will be forthcoming as an appendix to this initial transmittal.

In a recent meeting to discuss the current proposed well sites, the CAB was encouraged to include other well sites it believes would be beneficial to the UGTA program. In light of this new request, the CAB will make additional recommendations to include “early warning” of potential contaminant migration upgradient of residential communities down stream of the NTS. However, since Well sites #1 and 2 are the highest priorities, there will be no change in those recommendations. Designating a specific location for CAB Well #3 should be deferred at this time to permit additional investigation of geophysical information and to better determine accessibility to the area of interest for purposes of drilling a cost-effective well. We appreciate the cooperative working relationship between the CAB and the UGTA program staff and we are looking forward to this new challenge of recommending additional well sites.

GRAVITY INVERSION MAP

USGS OFR 99-49, Fig. 8



Notification for
Closed in Place Corrective Actions
October 11, 2006
Las Vegas, Nevada

During the next 30 days, the Department of Energy (DOE) will be submitting a Corrective Action Decision Document Closure Report (CADD/CR) to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for the following Corrective Action Unit (CAU). These documents will recommend that engineering and/or administrative controls be used to close the sites although contamination remains.

When submitting these documents to NDEP, copies will be supplied to the Community Advisory Board and the Las Vegas and Carson City Public Reading Rooms for review. Submit comments regarding these decision documents to Tim Murphy (NDEP) within 30 days of the document's release.

**CAU
Number**
551

**CAU
Description**
Area 12 Muckpiles
(CADD/CR Rev. 1)

**Approximate
Submittal Date**
November 15, 2006