

## **Environmental Management's Monthly Report to the CAB May 2009**

### **Low-Level Waste (LLW)**

#### **Completed Activities (April)**

- The Nevada Site Office (NSO) conducted a Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) Facility Audit of Y-12 in Oak Ridge, TN. The team identified one (1) Corrective Action Request (CAR) and twelve (12) observations. The CAR is due to inadequate verification/Quality Assessment of Y-12's shipment database software. The observations primarily consisted of deficiencies in the implementation of the NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) Revision 7. Neither the finding nor the observations were of significant impact to warrant termination of Y-12's NTSWAC certification. Y-12 will respond to the CAR and close the observations within the next 60 days.
- As of April 24, 2009, the cumulative LLW volume received for FY 2009 is 678,698 ft<sup>3</sup> in 725 shipments. The cumulative mixed LLW (MLLW) volume received for FY 2009 is 18,300 ft<sup>3</sup> in 24 shipments. LLW Operations has worked 451,020 hours since its last lost-time accident (September 2003).
- On April 14, the Nevada Attorney General sent Acting EM-1 a letter recommending Environmental Management work with the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to resume mixed low-level waste disposal at the Nevada Test Site. On April 17, EM-10 sent a letter to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection announcing EM will resume its MLLW disposal operations within the next few weeks. The suspension of MLLW disposal was a result of the State of Nevada Attorney General's 2008 letter questioning the use of the Nevada Test Site for waste disposal.
- The NSO updated its LLW forecasts. The NSO is expecting to receive 1,258,444 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW by the end of FY 2009.

#### **Planned Activities (May)**

- Expect to receive over 115,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW and MLLW for disposal during the month.
- The LLW Sub-Project plans to conduct one (1) RWAP Audit of the Idaho facility and (1) impromptu Facility Surveillance.

### **Transuranic Waste (TRU)**

In April, DOE made 5 shipments to the Idaho National Laboratory TRU Waste Consolidation Facility. As a result of these shipments, 99.7% of the 1,650 legacy drums and 58 legacy oversized boxes have been shipped to either the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) or the Consolidation Site. Only two containers remain at the Nevada Test Site. One of the two containers could not be assayed by any DOE WIPP certified non-destructive assay machines and one container was held due to the finding of a prohibited item in the waste during the final data verification process. The Nevada Site Office (NSO) has reported this information to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). Over the next thirty days, NSO and NDEP will negotiate a new Site Treatment Plan milestone for the remaining waste.

### **Underground Test Area (UGTA)**

#### **Completed Activities (April)**

##### **Frenchman Flat**

- Recommendations made by the risk evaluation team were reviewed for further risk evaluation work. Comments were forwarded to the team lead.
- Comment responses from the DOE review for the Phase II Transport Model continued.

- Decision trees for long-term monitoring were developed.

#### **Pahute Mesa**

- The draft drilling criteria document was issued for DOE review.
- Revisions to field instructions for groundwater sampling and drill cuttings logs were finalized.
- Preparations continued for the start of well drilling. Mobilization is planned for May 18.
- Completed construction of access road, drill pad and sumps at the ER-20-8 site.
- Continued acquisition of subcontracts for new well drilling and related services.
- Continued addressing permit, National Environmental Policy Act and Environmental Baseline Survey issues for new well sites on the Nevada Test and Training Range.
- NSO contactors submitted the draft drilling criteria document to DOE for review.
- The Fluid Management and Waste Management plans were reviewed by NDEP and comments were forwarded to DOE.
- There was no work performed at the ER-20-7 site during the month of April.

#### **Yucca Flat**

- Phase I flow and transport modeling continued.

#### **Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain**

- Phase I flow and transport modeling continued.

#### **ER-EC Wells (Air Force Land)**

- A Baseline Environmental Survey was initiated for well location ER-EC-11
- Completed pumping and groundwater sampling of the ER-EC-1 and ER-EC-6 wells. All data indicated background levels.
- Awarded purchase orders for downhole hardware for zone isolation in the ER-EC-6 well.

#### Planned Activities (May)

##### **Frenchman Flat**

- Continue the FY 2009 fracture analysis task and other geologic databases.
- Recommendations for further efforts to support human health and environmental risk will be finalized.
- Monitoring objectives and decision trees will be reviewed by pre-emptive review committee.

##### **Pahute Mesa**

- The Phase II Well Drilling Criteria Report will undergo review by the technical review team and will be finalized prior to the start of drilling.
- Complete conductor hole construction at the ER-20-7 and ER-20-8 well sites.
- Complete subcontractor training and begin mobilization of contractor and subcontractor equipment to the ER-20-7 site.
- Complete acquisition of subcontracts for new well drilling and related services.
- The Drilling Criteria document will be finalized.
- The Fluid Management Plan and Waste Management Plan will be finalized.
- Drilling will commence at location ER-20-7.

##### **Yucca Flat**

- Continue the Phase I flow and transport modeling.

##### **Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain**

- Continue the Phase I flow and transport modeling.

##### **ER-EC Wells (Air Force Land)**

- Complete change out of the existing pump and associated tubing in ER-EC-6.
- Installing tubing with isolation packers for discrete water level measurements from separate zones in ER-EC-6.

#### **Industrial Sites**

##### Accomplishments (April)

- Corrective Action Units (CAU)s 5, 113, 115, 118, 127, 137, 140, 143, 145, 151, 165, 168, 204, 254, 261, 262, 309, 322, 339, 357, 383, 476, 477, 478, 482, 528, 529, 542, 543, 545, 551, 552, 554 & 559
  - Received approval for the Final Post-Closure Inspection Letter Report from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). The letter report covers above-listed CAUs, which include contaminated waste sites, decontamination and decommissioning sites, inactive tanks, disposal wells, bunkers, drains and sumps, septic tanks and lagoons, inactive ponds and tunnel muckpiles, and spill sites.
- CAU 114, Area 25 EMAD Facility
  - Began closure field work
- CAU 117, Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
  - Completed demobilization
- CAU 130, Storage Tanks
  - Received Final Closure Report (CR) approval from NDEP
- CAU 166, Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials
  - Continued closure field work
- CAU 168, Area 25 and 26 Contaminated Materials and Waste Dumps
  - Submitted Final Letter Report to NDEP to document waste disposal activities and received approval
- CAU 560, Septic Systems
  - Conducted Decision I Sampling
- CAU 562, Waste Systems
  - Submitted Final Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) to NDEP

Planned (May)

- CAU 116, Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
  - Begin closure field work
- CAU 134, Aboveground Storage Tanks
  - Submit Final CR to NDEP
- CAU 166, Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials
  - Complete closure field work
- CAU 557, Spills and Tank Sites
  - Submit Final Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD)/CR to NDEP
- CAU 562, Waste Systems
  - Receive approval for the Final CAIP from NDEP

**Soils**

Completed Activities (April)

- CAU 107, Low Impact Soil Sites
  - Submitted Final Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan, Revision 1, to NDEP
- CAU 371, Johnnie Boy Crater and Pin Stripe
  - Received approval for the Final CAIP from NDEP
  - Initiated field characterization activities
- CAU 372, Cabriole/Palanquin Unit Craters
  - Submitted Draft CAIP to NDEP

Planned Activities (May)

- CAU 107, Low Impact Soil Sites

- Receive Final SAFER Plan, Revision 1, approval from NDEP
- CAU 370, T-4 Atmospheric Test Site
  - Submit Final CADD/CR to NDEP
- CAU 371, Johnnie Boy crater and Pin Stripe
  - Continue field investigation activities
- CAU 372, Cabriole/Palanquin Unit Craters
  - Receive Draft CAIP comments from NDEP

## **Public Involvement**

### **Completed Activities (April)**

- Operation Clean Desert display and computer game exhibited at the Party for the Planet at the Mandalay Bay Shark Reef Aquarium on April 18, 2009. During this six hour event, 114 game CDs and 136 activity books were distributed. Party for the Planet is a free annual Earth Day event hosted in connection with Association of Zoos & Aquariums. This is a celebration of the environment and what we can do to make our world a little better. The event was marketed and promoted to Las Vegas Valley residents by Shark Reef Aquarium and Mandalay Bay using various media outlets.
- Environmental Management contractor staff participated in the Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day on April 23, 2009 by hosting a "Donning Protective Equipment" hands-on activity. The three, 20-minute sessions provided children of NSO federal and contractor employees, ages 8-10, an opportunity to put on protective clothing used by site workers. During this event, 44 Operation Clean Desert activity books and computer game CDs were distributed.
- Participated in Community Advisory Board (CAB) for Nevada Test Site Programs committee meetings.

### **Planned Activities (May)**

- The Operation Clean Desert display will be exhibited at Rosemary Clarke Middle School in Pahrump, May 20-21, 2009. Over the course of the two days, approximately 420 students will be briefed on the history of the Nevada Test Site and environmental cleanup activities taking place. The Groundwater at the NTS and Waste Management Timeline posters will also be displayed for students.
- Participate in the CAB Full Board meeting on May 6, 2009 in Pahrump, NV.

## **Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Grant:**

- Nevada Site Office funds the EPWG grant based on \$.50 per cubic foot of low-level/mixed low-level waste disposed at the Nevada Test Site
- EPWG currently consists of six Nevada counties: Clark, Elko, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine
- EPWG addresses grant administration issues and any cross-cutting emergency related questions that incorporate grant funding or are required to attain operations level emergency response capability
- Priorities for grant funding include consideration for the needs of a county and the resource base available in that county
- State of Nevada Division of Emergency Management is responsible for overall administration of the grant to include providing funding to the counties in accordance with approved grant application and oversight of funding use, among other fiscal accounting and funds management requirement

## Department of Energy Low Level Waste Grant Assistance Scope by County

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Clark</u>	<u>Elko</u>	<u>Esmeralda</u>	<u>Lincoln</u>	<u>Nye</u>	<u>White Pine</u>	<u>Total</u>
2000	\$50,500.00	\$50,500.00	\$50,500.00	\$50,500.00	\$50,500.00	\$50,500.00	\$303,000.00
2001	\$10,000.00*	\$37,305.00	\$66,600.00	\$52,014.00	\$92,595.00	\$81,486.00	\$330,000.00
2002**	\$25,000.00	\$199,866.40	\$202,480.00	\$214,101.00	\$203,785.00	\$200,043.40	\$1,045,275.80
2003	\$100,000.00	\$178,061.00	\$190,095.00	\$178,036.00	\$175,906.00	\$177,902.00	\$1,000,000.00
2004	\$100,000.00	\$367,800.00	\$393,754.00	\$389,700.00	\$375,631.00	\$373,115.00	\$2,000,000.00
2005	\$100,000.00	\$400,674.00	\$451,268.00	\$450,000.00	\$448,058.00	\$450,000.00	\$2,300,000.00
2006	\$50,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$91,250.00	\$91,250.00	\$91,250.00	\$91,250.00	\$500,000.00
2007	\$28,261.00	\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$91,000.00	\$95,739.00	\$500,000.00
2008	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$587,373.00
<u>2009</u>	<u>\$91,700.00</u>	<u>\$95,000.00</u>	<u>\$121,666.00</u>	<u>\$145,481.00</u>	<u>\$81,937.00</u>	<u>\$98,216.00</u>	<u>\$634,000.00</u>
Total to Date	\$545,461.00	\$1,509,206.40	\$1,662,613.00	\$1,666,082.00	\$1,610,662.00	\$1,618,251.40	\$9,199,648.80

\* In 2001 Clark County Transferred \$15,000 to Lincoln County for an emergency generator for the hospital in Caliente.

\*\* The numbers in this table do not include the \$50,000 provided to Inyo County California in FY02 and \$51,054 in FY03.

\*\*\* Actual volumes received for FY2008 Communication from NSTec Oct 20, 2008. 1,174,746 ft3