

## **Environmental Management's Monthly Report to the CAB January 2010**

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

#### **Activities (December)**

- As of December 31, 2009, the cumulative LLW volume received for FY 2010 is 321,875 ft<sup>3</sup> in 568 shipments. The cumulative mixed low-level waste (MLLW) volume received for FY 2010 is 12,870 ft<sup>3</sup> in 24 shipments. LLW Operations has worked 15,400 hours since its last lost-time accident (September 2009).
- During the month of December, the LLW Sub-Project conducted one (1) Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) impromptu survey of NSTec in Mercury, NV.
- During the week of December 7, 2009, the Waste Management staff participated in the PermaFix Users' Conference in Nashville Tennessee. Project staff presented the MLLW disposal requirements to the generators MLLW.
- On December 17, 2009, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) issued conditional approval for a new MLLW Disposal unit. It is currently scheduled to be operational in February 2011; however, the Waste Management Project is exploring its options to accelerate the new cell's construction to be operational by November 30, 2010 (the expected operational closure date for the existing MLLW Disposal Unit).
- On December 21, 2009, the Y-12 generator (TN) informed the Nevada Site Office that it inadvertently sent a PCB contaminated waste stream to the Nevada Test Site (NTS) for disposal. The generator is making arrangements to remove the container and ship it to a treatment/disposal facility in Northern Utah by January 15, 2010. A Corrective Action Request (CAR) was issued to the generator and the waste stream suspended. Y-12 is working with the Nevada Site Office to discuss what happened and determine how reoccurrence will be prevented.
- In December, a LLW transportation carrier from Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) used the 215 beltway in Las Vegas, Nevada to transport LLW to the Nevada Test Site. The Beltway is not approved for LLW shipments to the NTS. ANL instructed the carrier of the approved LLW shipping routes. The driver did not comply with ANL's instructions. RWAP issued a CAR for the incident. ANL will not use the carrier in the future for LLW/MLLW shipments to the NTS.

#### **Planned Activities (January)**

- Expect to receive approximately 140,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW and MLLW for disposal during the month. Of the 140,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW and MLLW expected 77,000 ft<sup>3</sup> is ARRA funded.
- The LLW Sub-Project plans to conduct one RWAP Impromptu Surveillance, waste verification visit at Paducah, and one assist visit at Sandia National Laboratory.

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

#### **Activities (December)**

- Frenchman Flat
  - Continued FY 2010 work on the peer review process.
- Pahute Mesa
  - Completed Well Development Testing and Sampling activities at ER-20-8 #2
- Yucca Flat
  - Continued FY 2010 transport modeling and model documentation.
- Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain
  - Continued FY 2010 flow and transport modeling efforts.

#### **Planned Activities (January)**

- Frenchman Flat
  - Continue model documentation and draft presentations for peer review.
- Pahute Mesa
  - Begin preparation of Environmental Baseline Survey well site ER-EC-15.
  - Begin construction of access road, drill pad and sumps for the ER-EC-12 well.
- Yucca Flat
  - Continue transport modeling and model documentation.
- Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain
  - Continue flow and transport, modeling efforts.

## **Industrial Sites**

### **Activities (December)**

- Corrective Action Units (CAUs) 5, 107, 113, 115, 118, 127, 137, 139, 140, 143, 145, 151, 165, 168, 204, 254, 261, 262, 271, 309, 322, 333, 357, 370, 383, 476, 477, 478, 482, 504, 527, 528, 529, 542, 543, 545, 546, 551, 552, 554, and 559
  - Performed annual post-closure inspections
- CAUs 90, 91, 92, 110, and 112
  - Performed quarterly and biannual post-closure inspections
- CAU 113, Area 25 R-MAD Facility (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded)
  - Continued demolition activities
- CAU 117, Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility (ARRA funded)
  - Began preparing the facility for demolition activities
- CAU 408, Bomblet Target Area at the Tonopah Test Range (ARRA funded)
  - Performed field remediation activities
- CAU 560, Septic Systems
  - Performed field remediation activities
- CAU 562, Waste Systems
  - Continued Decision II sampling activities

### **Planned Activities (January)**

- CAUs 90, 91, 92, 110, and 112
  - Submit Post-Closure Monitoring Report to Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
- CAU 113, Area 25 R-MAD Facility (ARRA funded)
  - Continue demolition activities
- CAU 114, Area 25 EMAD Facility
  - Begin site setup for field remediation activities
- CAU 117, Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility (ARRA funded)
  - Continue preparing the facility for demolition activities
- CAU 408, Bomblet Target Area at the Tonopah Test Range (ARRA funded)
  - Continue field remediation activities

## **Soils**

### **Activities (December)**

- CAU 367, Area 10 Sedan, Ess and Uncle Unit Craters (ARRA funded)
  - Submitted Final Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) to NDEP

- CAU 371, Johnnie Boy Crater and Pin Stripe
  - Conducted Corrective Action Alternative Meeting
- CAU 372, Area 20 Cabriolet/Palanquin Unit Craters
  - Continued field investigation activities
- CAU 374, Area 20 Schooner Unit Crater (ARRA funded)
  - Submitted Draft CAIP to NDEP for review
- CAU 375, Area 30 Buggy Unit Craters (ARRA funded)
  - Conducted Data Quality Objectives (DQO) Meeting

#### Planned Activities (January)

- CAU 106, Areas 5, 11 Frenchman Flat Atmospheric Sites (ARRA funded)
  - Conduct DQO Meeting
- CAU 367, Area 10 Sedan, Ess and Uncle Unit Craters (ARRA funded)
  - Continue preparing for field investigation
- CAU 372, Area 20 Cabriolet/Palanquin Unit Craters
  - Continue field investigation activities

#### **Public Involvement**

##### Activities (December)

- Environmental Management Public Involvement supported the Nevada Site Office (NSO) Waste Management Project at the Perma-Fix Low-Level and Mixed Waste Forum in Nashville December 7-9, 2009. During the three-day event, Public Involvement exhibited a display on the pending RCRA Part B Permit for the construction and operation of a new mixed waste disposal cell at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site.
- Support and attended the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs full board meeting.

##### Planned Activities (January)

- Environmental Management Public Involvement will exhibit Operation Clean Desert (OCD) at Bailey Middle School Science Night on Thursday, January 21, 2010. During this event, a copy of the OCD activity book and computer game will be distributed to each child in attendance. Each science and social studies teacher at the school will be provided the OCD science-based lesson plan or social studies objectives (as applicable), and worksheet with answer key for potential use in the classroom.
- Environmental Management Public Involvement will present a briefing on *Nevada Test Site Activities and Operation Clean Desert* at the Southern Nevada Math and Science Conference on January 23, 2010. Teachers in attendance will be provided a fact sheet booklet, regional and tour map of the Nevada Test Site, and OCD packet with brochure, activity book, computer game, science-based lesson plan, applicable social studies objectives, and worksheet.
- Environmental Management Public Involvement will participate in the bimonthly CHOLLA (Connecting Hands: Offering Lifelong Learning Adventures) meeting at the Wetlands Learning Lab on January 12, 2010.