

Environmental Management's (EM) Monthly Report to the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board October 2011

Low-Level Waste

Activities (September)

- During FY 2011, the cumulative Low-Level Waste (LLW) volume received was 1,710,000 ft³ in 2,449 shipments, and the cumulative Mixed LLW volume received for FY 2011 was 56,254 ft³ in 968 shipments.
- LLW Operations has worked 158,813 hours since its last lost-time accident (September 23, 2009).
- A shipment from Batelle Energy Alliance (Idaho) was received at the Nevada National Security Site that contained several wooden boxes, with more than one box leaking absorbent material. No leakage of radioactive material was detected. The generator has suspended all further waste shipments until a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) has been submitted, approved and implemented.
- During offloading of 17 waste shipments from Los Alamos National Laboratory (New Mexico), it was discovered that the first two trailers off-loaded had trailer beds contaminated in excess of Department of Energy release limits. No radioactive contamination was found on any packages and no containers were found to be leaking. As a result, the remaining 15 shipments were not off-loaded and are being addressed. The generator has suspended all further waste shipments until a CAP has been submitted, approved and implemented.

Planned Activities (October)

- The site expects to receive approximately 12,000 ft³ of LLW and MLLW for disposal during the month.
- The Nevada National Security Site is forecasted to receive 1,126,000 ft³ of LLW and 89,000 ft³ of MLLW in FY 2012.
- The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program will conduct one impromptu facility evaluation and one audit.

Underground Test Area

Activities (September)

- **Frenchman Flat**
 - Completed draft drilling criteria document for the two proposed model evaluation wells
 - Completed construction of the ER-11-2 access road, drill pad and sumps State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) (funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [ARRA])
- **Pahute Mesa**
 - Completed well development and testing of Well ER-20-4
 - Completed analysis of well development and testing of Wells ER-20-7, ER-20-8#2 and ER-EC-11
 - Mobilization in preparation of the well development and testing of the well ER-EC-12 is underway
- **Yucca Flat**
 - Continued supplemental analyses of flow and transport modeling
 - Preemptive review of the preliminary flow and transport model document was completed and the recommendations are being evaluated

- **Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain**
 - Continued flow and transport model analysis and evaluation
 - Briefed NDEP on flow and transport status
 - Began “hot well sampling” of U-12n Vent Hole #2

Planned Activities (October)

- **Frenchman Flat**
 - Complete review and finalize drilling criteria document for the two proposed model evaluation wells
- **Pahute Mesa**
 - Conduct well development and testing of Well ER-EC-12
 - Continue development of hydrostratigraphic framework model and analysis of field data
 - Begin access road and drill pad construction at the ER-20-11 site (ARRA funded)
- **Yucca Flat**
 - Continue supplemental analyses of flow and transport modeling
- **Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain**
 - Continue flow and transport modeling analysis and evaluation
 - Complete “hot well” sampling at the U-12n Vent Hole #2 site

Industrial Sites

Activities (September)

- Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 91, Area 3 U-3fi Injection Well
 - Performed post-closure inspection
- CAU 92, Area 6 Decon Pond Facility
 - Performed post-closure inspection
- CAU 110, Area 3 Waste Management Division (WMD) U-3ax/bl Crater
 - Performed post-closure inspection
- CAU 112, Area 23 Hazardous Waste Trenches
 - Performed post-closure inspection
- CAU 116, Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
 - Submitted Final Closure Report (CR) to State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
 - Completed closure activities and waste disposal
- CAU 561, Waste Disposal Areas
 - Completed field closure activities
 - Submitted Final Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report (CADD/CR) to NDEP
- CAU 547, Miscellaneous Contaminated Waste Sites
 - Submitted Final CADD/Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to NDEP
 - Continued closure activities

Planned Activities (October)

- CAU 116, Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CR

- CAU 547, Miscellaneous Contaminated Waste Sites
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CADD/CAP
 - Continue closure activities
- CAU 548, Areas 9, 10, 18, 19, and 20 Housekeeping Sites
 - Perform Phase II closure activities
- CAU 561, Waste Disposal Areas
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CADD/CR
- CAU 562, Waste Systems
 - Begin closure activities
- CAU 566, EMAD Compound
 - Perform wall repair

Soils:

Activities (September)

- Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 104, Area 7 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites
 - Received NDEP approval of the Final Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP)
- CAU 106, Areas 5, 11 Frenchman Flat Atmospheric Sites
 - Submitted the Final Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report (CADD/CR) to State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
- CAU 365, Baneberry Contamination Area
 - Completed field closure activities
 - Submitted the Final CADD/CR to NDEP (funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [ARRA])
- CAU 366, Area 11 Plutonium Valley Dispersion Sites
 - Submitted the Final CAIP to NDEP (funded by ARRA)
- CAU 375, Area 30 Buggy Unit Craters
 - Received NDEP approval of the Final CADD/CR (funded by ARRA)
- CAU 574, Neptune
 - Received NDEP approval of the Final Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan (funded by ARRA)

Planned Activities (October)

- CAU 104, Area 7 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites
 - Initiate field investigation activities
- CAU 106, Areas 5, 11 Frenchman Flat Atmospheric Sites
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CADD/CR (funded by ARRA)
- CAU 365, Baneberry Contamination Area
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CADD/CR (funded by ARRA)
- CAU 366, Area 11 Plutonium Valley Dispersion Sites
 - Anticipate NDEP approval of the Final CAIP (funded by ARRA)
 - Initiate field investigation activities
- CAU 465, Hydronuclear
 - Submit Final Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan to NDEP (funded by ARRA)
- CAU 574, Neptune
 - Pick up thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs)

Public Involvement:

Activities (September)

- Continued exhibit of the *Operation Clean Desert* display in the Las Vegas, Nevada Public Reading Room
- Continued exhibit of *Groundwater at the Nevada National Security Site* poster at the Amargosa Valley Library, Goldfield Library, and Central Nevada Museum
- Published three Environmental Management (EM) News Flash articles: *NNSS Groundwater Scientists Gear Up to Test Frenchman Flat Model*, *Nevada Site Office Welcomes Public to Participate in EIS Hearings*, and *NNSS Wraps Up RA Work with a List of Major Achievements*
- Conducted Draft Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) Open House/Public Hearings in Las Vegas (NV), St. George (UT), Pahrump (NV), Tonopah (NV) and Carson City (NV) and a Consolidated Group of Tribal Organizations specific session in Las Vegas.
- Supported Nevada Site-Specific Advisory Board meeting

Planned Activities (October)

- Continue exhibit of *Operation Clean Desert* display in the Las Vegas, Nevada Public Reading Room
- Continue exhibit of *Groundwater at the Nevada National Security Site* poster at the Amargosa Valley Library, Goldfield Library, and Central Nevada Museum
- Publish two EM News Flash articles
- Submit one article for Headquarters EM Update
- Support Nevada Site-Specific Advisory Board meeting