



Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

December 7, 2011

Ms. Kelly Snyder, DDFO
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
P. O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
Liaison Position

Dear Ms. Snyder,

The Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) appreciates the opportunity to provide input to the Department of Energy (DOE) on environmental management at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Our liaison Board members represent local government, student, and other relevant entities. The information they provide relative to their representative entities' position on environmental management is an integral part of the Board's decision-making process.

While Nye and Clark County are represented on the Board, the NSSAB believes it would be beneficial to have additional liaison representation from counties receiving Emergency Preparedness Working Group funding from the DOE (Esmeralda, Lincoln, Elko, and White Pine, Nevada and Inyo, California). The Board recommends DOE consider creating liaison positions for these entities.

Native American tribes have previously expressed an interest in participating as a liaison on the Board. However, funding issues for travel have been prohibitive and the existing liaison position is unfilled. The NSSAB encourages the DOE to explore funding options for a potential Native American tribal liaison.

Recent Board discussions have focused on ways to create the most beneficial communication practices to aid the Board in providing informed recommendations. At the September 14, 2011 meeting it was agreed liaisons would provide a short briefing at each Board meeting to relay their representative entity's current activity relative to environmental management and the NSSAB. To provide clarification of this liaison responsibility, the Board requests a change to the NSSAB Standard Operating Procedures Section V.B (Liaison Commitments) to include a short verbal report at each Full Board meeting and, if the liaison is unable to attend, a written report will be submitted to the NSSAB Administrator via email at least two days prior to the meeting date.

Members

Kathleen Bienenstein, Chair
Matthew Clapp
Daniel Coss
Thomas Fisher, PhD
Arthur Goldsmith
Donna Hruska
Robert Johnson
John M. McGrail, P.E.
Barry LiMarzi
Gregory Minden
Michael Moore
Michael Voegelé, PhD
James Weeks
Walter Wegst, PhD, Vice-Chair

Liaisons

Nye County
Clark County
State of Nevada Division of
Environmental Protection
U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office
U.S. National Park Service

Administration

Denise Rupp, Administrator
*Navarro Research
& Engineering, Inc.*
Kelly Snyder, DDFO
U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office

Furthermore, the NSSAB recommends the following:

- DOE send annual letters at the beginning of the fiscal year to all organizations with unfilled/non-participating liaison positions to determine status
- DOE send a letter to the U.S. National Park Service to determine if there is continued interest in holding a liaison position and commitment to liaison responsibilities

In addition to these immediate action recommendations, the NSSAB will conduct at the end of each fiscal year an annual review of the liaison entities to determine status and relevance to the NSSAB/ Environmental Management mission and provide recommendation on any changes to DOE for consideration.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide meaningful input to the DOE, and look forward to your response .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KATHLEEN BIENENSTEIN', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathleen Bienenstein
Chair

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS
C. Alexander, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS
K. Snyder, PSG, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas, NV
C. Lockwood, PSG, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas, NV
D. Rupp, N-I, Las Vegas, NV
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
NNSA/NSO Read File