



Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

Members

David Hermann, CAB Chair
Walter Wegst, Ph.D., CAB Vice-Chair
Chair, EMPIRE Committee

Paul Adras
Robert Gatliff, Chair
Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee
Robert Johnson
Vernell McNeal
Theodore Oom, Chair
Transportation/Waste Committee
Jackson Ramsey, Ph.D., Chair
Budget Committee
Membership Committee
Stacy Standley
Harold Sullivan
James Weeks

Liaisons

David EK
U.S. National Park Service
Stephen Mellington
U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office
Tim Murphy, Chief
Bureau of Federal Facilities,
State of Nevada Division of
Environmental Protection
David Swanson
Nye County Nuclear Waste
Repository Office

Administration

Rosemary Rehfeldt
Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.
Kelly Snyder
U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office

February 13, 2008

Ms. Kelly Snyder, DDFO
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
P.O. Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) -
Recommendations for Revisions to fact sheet: Soils Project...an approach to cleanup

Following are recommendations for revisions to the fact sheet mentioned in the subject of this letter. The CAB suggests the same general revisions and additions for all of the fact sheets:

1. Define unfamiliar terms and acronyms before they are used in a sentence.
2. Bold the definitions so that they are easily referenced.
3. When doing several definitions together, bullet the definitions, rather than listing them in the sentence.
4. Include a key and/or glossary on each fact sheet for unfamiliar terms and acronyms.
5. Reference on each fact sheet that other fact sheets are available.
6. In general, increase font point size for easier reading.
7. Try to keep fact sheets at an eighth grade reading level.
8. Update all references to off-site locations to comply with current transition status.
9. Distribute fact sheets to libraries, city halls, Nuclear Testing Archive, Legislator offices, environmental groups, UNLV, and senior centers.

Specific suggestions for the above-mentioned fact sheet are:

Soils Project...an approach to cleanup

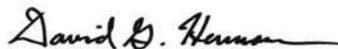
- The first sentence in the first paragraph states that, “*The Nevada Test Site (NTS) and the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) played important roles in the advancement of the nation’s nuclear testing program.*” The CAB agrees that more information should be included in the fact sheet about the NTTR and the U.S. Department of Defense’s (DOD’s) role in the clean up decision process.
- In the second sentence of the first paragraph, TTR needs to be spelled out, so the sentence will read, “*The NTS is located 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, and the NTTR (including the Tonopah Test Range [TTR]) surround the east, north, and west boundaries of the NTS, in south-central Nevada.*”

Ms. Kelly Snyder
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
February 13, 2008
Page 2

- The third sentence in the first paragraph needs restructuring, so that it is clear that the Atomic Energy Commission was the predecessor agency to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), but that the DOE was also involved in testing, along with the DoD. The revised sentence should read, *“From 1951 through 1992, the sites were used by the U.S. Department of Energy (formerly the Atomic Energy Commission) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct atmospheric and underground nuclear weapons tests, and chemical explosion tests of plutonium-bearing materials.”*
- The next section of the fact sheet, entitled “Background,” is to be placed at the beginning of the fact sheet, before “History.” The only change to this paragraph is in the last sentence, which will read, *“These soils contain many types of contaminants including radioactive materials, oils, solvents, gasoline, and heavy metals, particularly lead; as well as contaminated instruments and test structures used during testing activities.”*
- The title, “History,” should be removed, keeping the verbiage in that section to follow the “Background” section of the fact sheet.
- It was decided by the committee that a “definition section” should be included within the fact sheet, which would define many of the terms used in the fact sheet verbiage.
- The next section is entitled, “Restoration Efforts,” and also has several changes. In the first sentence of this section, the term “closure in place” should be placed and defined in the definition section. Additionally, a sentence should be inserted after the first sentence which will read, *“These sites are designated as Corrective Action Sites.”*
- In the next section, entitled “Path Forward,” the last sentence used the term “land-use scenarios.” This term should be placed and defined in the definition section. The next paragraph in this section uses the term “land withdrawal.” This term should also be placed and defined in the definition section. The very last sentence in this section, which reads, *“For more information, contact the NSO using the information provided below,”* will be taken out.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on changes, revisions, and updates of the fact sheets, and will continue working to help improve Environmental Management’s efforts to communicate with the public.

Sincerely,



David Hermann, Chair
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs

Cc: C. Lockwood, NNSA/NSO
R. Rehfeldt, NREI, CAB Facilitator
M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS
D. Frost, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS
CAB Members and Liaisons