



**REVISED - DRAFT AGENDA  
FULL BOARD MEETING  
Amargosa Valley Community Center  
821 Amargosa Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020  
November 6, 2007 - 6:00 p.m.**

**No Call-In Number Available**

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| I.   | Chair's Opening Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agenda Approval</li><li>• Member Resignation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Jan Spinato</i></li></ul></li><li>• Environmental Management and CAB Overview</li></ul>  | Dave Hermann, Chair   |
| II.  | Public Comment   |   |
| III. | Presentation: <i>UGTA Committee Reports</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>NTS Well Recommendations</i></li></ul>  | Genne Nelson  |
| IV.  | Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Budget</li><li>• EMPIRE<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Approval of June 2007 and September 2007 Recommendation Letters</li></ul></li><li>• Membership<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Update on Membership Recruitment</li></ul></li><li>• Outreach</li><li>• Transportation/Waste</li><li>• UGTA</li></ul>  | Jack Ramsey<br>Walt Wegst<br><br>Jack Ramsey<br>Hal Sullivan<br>Ted Oom<br>Bob Gatliff  |
| V.   | Other CAB Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of September 12, 2007 Minutes</li><li>• Update on Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Meeting – Paducah, KY<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review and Approve SSAB Chairs' Recommendation Letters</li></ul></li><li>• Update and approve new Ground Rules</li><li>• CAB Member Certificates</li><li>• FY 2008 Full Board and Committee Rosters</li><li>• January Board Meeting location, and Committee meetings</li><li>• DOE Update</li></ul> | Dave Hermann, Chair<br>Dave Hermann, Chair<br><br>Rosemary Rehfeldt<br>Rosemary Rehfeldt<br>Rosemary Rehfeldt<br>Rosemary Rehfeldt<br>Kelly Snyder, DOE |
| VI.  | October and November State of Nevada Notification <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closure Report for CAU 224, submittal 10/31/07</li></ul>   | Rosemary Rehfeldt   |
| VII. | Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment   | Rosemary Rehfeldt   |

**Rehfeldt, Rosemary**

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**From:** Jan Spinato [jcs423@embarqmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 11, 2007 4:32 PM  
**To:** NTSCAB@nv.doe.gov  
**Subject:** CAB Board Membership

To The CAB Board:

Due to changes in my personal life, I find that I will have to resign from the CAB Board.

I certainly enjoyed my time on the CAB Board, and am sad to be leaving. If my situation changes in the future I will again apply for membership. Good luck to everyone, and know that I will miss you all.

Jan Spinato



**Community Advisory Board (CAB)  
for  
Nevada Test Site Programs**

**U.S. Department of Energy  
Underground Test Area (UGTA)  
CAB WELL SITE  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Presented At:  
CAB Full Board Meeting  
Amargosa Valley, NV  
November 6, 2007**



## **What's the Issue?**

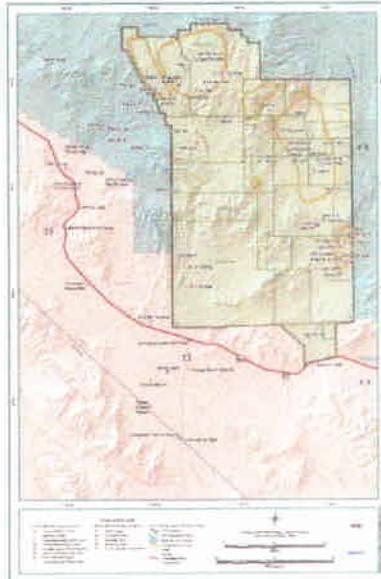
Historic nuclear testing (1951-1992) contaminated groundwater at the Nevada Test Site

- 828 underground nuclear tests
- Depths ranged from ~90' to 4,800'
- ~One-third occurred near or below the water table, which resulted in groundwater contamination

*CAB Concern:*

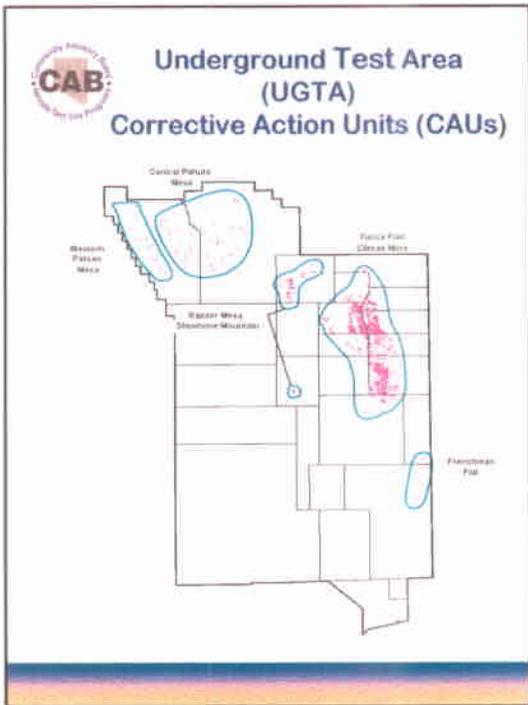
*Potential for off-site migration of contaminated groundwater. . . . is there a strategy in place to adequately protect down gradient communities?*

## **Monitoring Network**



## **Key FFACO Requirements**

1. Identify where radiological risks may exist in groundwater
2. Predict the movement of potentially contaminated groundwater
3. Define the extent of potential migration



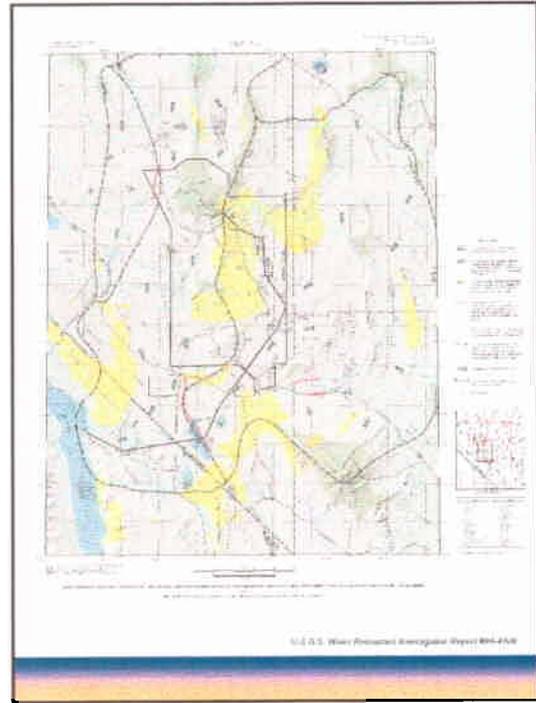
**CAB** CAB Response to Peer Review

Letter to DOE supporting findings and emphasizing remaining key concerns

- The site must demonstrate an early commitment to monitoring
- More data is needed to reduce uncertainties in northwest Pahute Mesa
- It is imperative to understand groundwater flow paths
- Site should consider siting sentinel wells in transition zone flow paths
- Predictions must be validated by field data

**CAB** Primary Question

✓ Will the UGTA strategy reveal the location of contaminants before they show up in someone's private well?





## Narrowing the Focus

- ✓ Size of underground tests
- ✓ Highest groundwater gradient at the NTS
- ✓ Closest private property
- ✓ Potential fast paths for contaminant migration
- ✓ Peer review noted the need for more data



## Explanation for CAB's Focus on Pahute Mesa

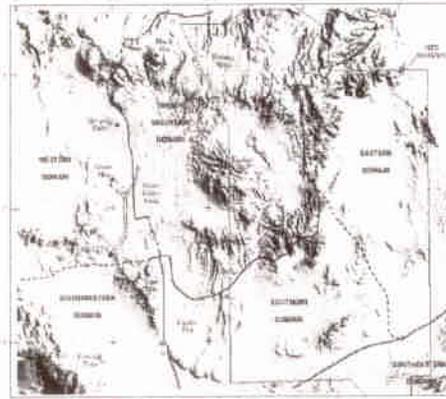


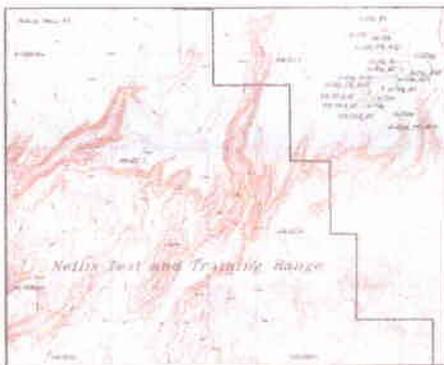
Figure 1. Pahute Mesa topography and groundwater gradient contours. Contour interval is 100 feet. Contour lines are labeled with elevation in feet. Contour lines are labeled with elevation in feet. Contour lines are labeled with elevation in feet.

U.S. G.S. Professional Paper #1610

## CAB's Well Recommendations

### Considerations:

- Improve understanding of groundwater flow
- Nevada Test Site topography



## Explanation for CAB's Well Recommendations

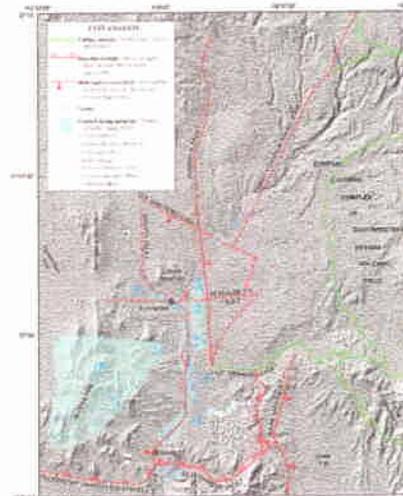
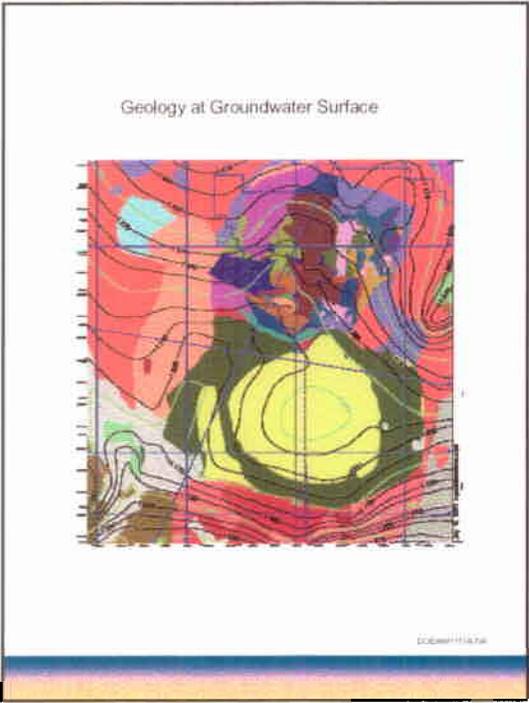
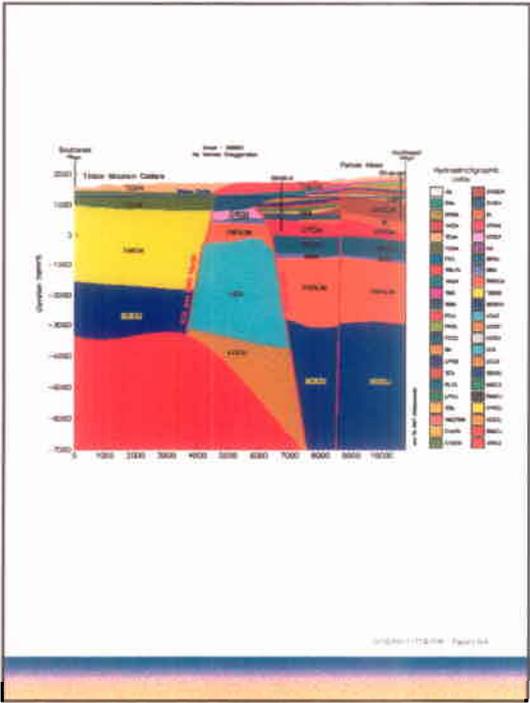
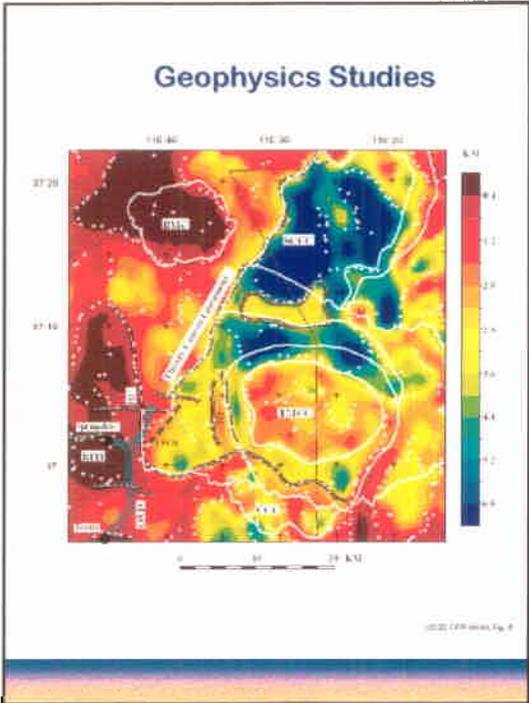
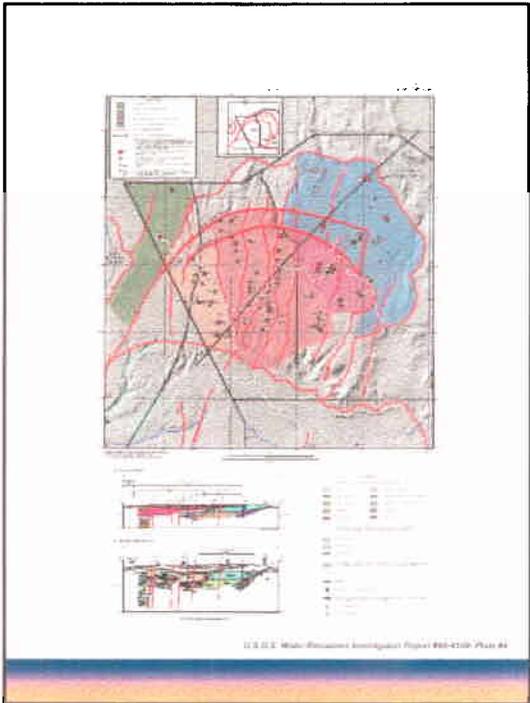


Figure 1. Well recommendations showing sampling locations. Contour interval is 100 feet.

U.S. G.S. Water Resources Investigation Report W-1A10







## Review of Well Site Recommendations

Figure 12. Photograph of Area around UGTA CAB Well Site Recommendation Number 3



## Path Forward

- August 2007: Presentation to the UGTA Technical Working Group
- The UGTA project is funded to drill additional wells during 2009-2010; two seats on the TWG are available for CAB members during planning
- The CAB UGTA Committee will consider additional well-site recommendations
- Continued review and input to the stages of the UGTA program as it proceeds toward ultimate installation of long-term monitoring wells

**Thanks to  
residents of  
Amargosa,  
Beatty and  
Pahrump who  
provided  
comments and  
suggestions to  
the CAB**



# Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

October 4, 2007

DRAFT

## Members

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

Paul Adras  
Robert Gatliff, Chair  
*Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee*

Robert Johnson  
Vernell McNeal  
Genne Nelson  
Theodore Oom, Chair  
*Transportation/Waste Committee*

Charles Phillips  
Jackson Ramsey, Ph.D., Chair  
*Budget Committee*  
*Membership Committee*

Jan Spinato  
Stacy Standley  
Harold Sullivan  
Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen  
James Weeks  
Walter Wegst, Chair  
*EMPIRE Committee*

## Liaisons

David EK  
*U.S. National Park Service*  
Tiffany Lantow  
*Defense Threat Reduction Agency*

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*

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee - Recommendations for Revisions to Fact Sheets: *Low-Level Waste* and *Transuranic Waste*

Following are recommendations for revision to the Fact Sheets mentioned in the Subject of this letter. The EMPIRE Committee 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 suggestion for the above-mentioned Fact Sheets are:

### Low-Level Waste...at the Nevada Test Site

- Change the tense throughout the Fact Sheet from a passive to an active voice
- Identify Areas 3 and 5
- Need more descriptive captions
- Implement a glossary box
- Change "How Do We Ensure Safe Disposal?" to "How does DOE Ensure Safe Disposal Requirements?" and add a lead-in, to state that the DOE and NDEP make scheduled and unscheduled visual inspections at waste generator sites.

### Transuranic Waste...at the Nevada Test Site

- Add Glossary
- Update amounts and add specific date for completion
- Move "Waste Characterization" to the front page and "Waste Handling and Storage" to the second page.
- Add "permanently" managed.
- Reference to the glove box should be in past tense

**Transuranic Waste...at the Nevada Test Site (continued)**

- Under “Waste Characterization,” change second sentence to read, “*is required,*” instead of “*must be accomplished.*”
- Next to the last sentence should read, “*Responsibility of Transuranic waste shipments transfers to the WIPP personnel once...*”

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comments 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



# Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

October 4, 2007

DRAFT

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee - Recommendations for Revisions to Fact Sheets: *Mixed Low-Level Waste*, and *Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program*

Following are recommendations for revision to the Fact Sheets mentioned in the Subject of this letter. The EMPIRE Committee 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.
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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 suggestion for the above-mentioned Fact Sheets are:

### Mixed Low-Level Waste...at the Nevada Test Site

- Under Mixed Low-Level Waste Composition:
  - Take the first sentence of the second paragraph and move up to become the second sentence of the first paragraph, which reads, "*hazardous wastes are materials that are toxic, corrosive, reactive, ignitable, or are specifically identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as "hazardous."* "
  - Change the last sentence in the first paragraph to read, "*Because of its hazardous non-radioactive component, mixed low-level waste is managed separately from low-level waste.*"
- Under Disposal at the Nevada Test Site:
  - On the second page, first paragraph, take "*and*" out of the last sentence and add "*and e-ray,*" to read, "*Compliance is ensured through extensive document review and x-ray verification of a minimum of five percent of all mixed low-level waste disposed.*"

### Mixed Low-Level Waste...at the Nevada Test Site (continued)

- The Committee asks if the two Fact Sheets - *Mixed Low-Level Waste...at the Nevada Test Site* and *Mixed Low-Level Waste...Acceptance Guidelines at the Nevada Test Site* can be combined into one Fact Sheet.
- Under Summary:
  - Write the first sentence in present tense and add the word “remediation,; to read, “*Mixed low-level waste is managed at the Nevada Test Site in support of environmental management remediation and other activities.*”

### Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program...at the Nevada Test Site

- Under Overview:
  - Make two sentences out of the first paragraph and add the word “nationwide,” to read, “*The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program ensures safe waste disposal operations at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). The NTS is one of the nation’s approved sites for the disposal of low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste resulting from cleanup of the nationwide nuclear weapons complex.*”
  - Move the last sentence from the fourth paragraph to become the last sentence of the second paragraph, which reads, “*In addition, waste containers must be labeled and shipped according to U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.*”
- Cross-reference the *Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program* brochure within this Fact Sheet.
- Under Waste Acceptance Process:
  - The first sentence should read, “*The Nevada Test Site waste acceptance process begins when a generator submits its waste acceptance documentation, which consists of the following essential information.*”
  - In the second bullet, the acronym “DOE” is to be added to the second sentence, so it would begin as “*A DOE Waste Certification Official...*”
  - Also within the second bullet, explain what “*an independent quality assurance organization*” means.
  - In the third bullet, the first sentence reads, “*A list of qualified personnel that certify low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste is also provided to Nevada Test Site Personnel.*” The Committee recommends adding who the “qualified personnel” are and how they are qualified, as well as how this information is provided to NTS personnel.
  - In the next paragraph, the Committee recommends that the term “waste stream” be defined.
  - In the last sentence of the next paragraph, change the word “*can*” to “*will.*”
  - In the next paragraph, specify the types of trailers used.
- In the final paragraph, under What this Means for the Complex...
  - Change the paragraph to read, “*The Nevada Site Office’s commitment to safe disposal operations ensures that sites across the U.S. Department of Energy complex ship low-level and mixed low-level waste following the stringent waste management guidelines that have been established. The Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program provides the necessary framework for safe, successful waste shipments and disposal activities necessary to realize cleanup goals.*”

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comments 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

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB)  
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
FY 2008 Recruitment**

**MARKETING PLAN**

**Tasks due by 12/1/07:**

1. Gather Information on advertising venues

*Print Media – Ads and Press Releases:*

- ◆ Las Vegas Review-Journal / Las Vegas Sun
- ◆ Coyote Press – CSN
- ◆ Desert Valley Times – Mesquite
- ◆ El Tiempo Libre
- ◆ Ely Times
- ◆ Henderson Home News
- ◆ Las Vegas Sentinel Voice
- ◆ Lincoln County Record
- ◆ Pahrump Valley Times
- ◆ UNLV Rebel Yell

*Print Media – Press Releases Only:*

- ◆ Nellis AFB Bulls Eye
- ◆ Boulder City News
- ◆ Jewish Reporter
- ◆ Las Vegas Asian Journal
- ◆ Laughlin Nevada Times
- ◆ Moapa Valley Progress
- ◆ Nevada Senior World

*Radio Stations – for Press Releases / PSA's:*

- ◆ All Las Vegas / Southern Nevada radio stations
- ◆ White Pine/Southern Lander & Eureka Counties, and Ely radio stations
- ◆ Fallon-Fernley radio stations (includes Pahrump)
- ◆ Tonopah radio station

*Television Stations – for Press Releases:*

- ◆ All Southern Nevada television stations

*Mailing / Electronic Mailing:*

- ◆ Letters to County Commissioners
- ◆ Letters to Tribal Counseis
- ◆ Letter to League of Women Voters
- ◆ Letter to Latin Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ E-mail post card
- ◆ E-mail **recruitment** announcement
- ◆ CAB website announcement
- ◆ Press Releases

2. Update the CAB Membership Interview Protocol and Questions and discuss with DOE and Membership Committee (J. Ramsey offered to complete draft questions)
3. Update / revise all outgoing recruitment letters
4. Set potential dates for ads
5. Call advertisers and get availability and quotes for ads
6. Choose a date for Press Releases
7. Create a spreadsheet for ads: Advertiser / Cost / Dates, etc.
8. Contact Navarro Research & Engineering for advertising checks
  - a. Create Requisition Letters for each specific advertiser
  - b. Fill out Check Requests for each specific advertiser

**Tasks due by 12/31/07:**

9. Receive and number the incoming applications (receipt deadline is 12/31/07)

**Tasks due by 1/9/08:**

10. Distribute completed applications to the committee on January 9, 2008

**Tasks due by 1/17/08:**

11. Set up interviews with applicants

**Tasks due by 1/24/08:**

12. Conduct interviews – January 23-24, 2008

**Tasks due by 2/8/08:**

13. Discuss and select candidates for membership and present to the Board for approval via e-mail

**Tasks due by 2/15/08:**

14. Upon Board approval, submit formal recommendations to DOE NSO EM
15. Send acceptance / denial letters out
16. Upon DOE NSO EM approval, final Board recommendations will be sent to DOE Headquarters (anticipated approval from DOE HQ is 2-3 months after recommendation packet is submitted)



## **DRAFT FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**September 12, 2007**

**CAB Members Present:** David Hermann, Chair; Walter Wegst, Vice Chair; Paul Adras, Bob Gatliff, Robert Johnson, Vernell McNeal, Genne Nelson, Ted Oom, Charles Phillips, Jack Ramsey, Stacy Standley, Hal Sullivan, Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, James Weeks

**CAB Members Not Present:** Jan Spinato

**Public Present:** Ginger Swartz, David Wagoner

**Liaisons Present:** David Swanson, Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Office

**Liaisons Not Present:** David Ek, U.S. National Park Service; Tiffany Lantow, Defense Reduction Threat Agency; Steve Mellington, National Nuclear Security Administration; Tim Murphy, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

**Technical Support Staff:** Helen Neill, Ph.D., UNLV, Department of Environmental Studies; Jennifer Ward, UNLV graduate student

**U.S. Department of Energy:** Joni Norton, TRU Federal Sub-Project Director, Kelly Snyder, DDFO

**NSTec:** Pat Arnold, John Schmit

**CAB Facilitator:** Carla Sanda, Consensus by Design

**CAB Administrator:** Rosemary Rehfeldt, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

### **Agenda**

- Chair's Opening Remarks
  - Introduction of Jennifer Ward, UNLV graduate student under Dr. Helen Neill.
- Approval of Agenda
- Member Resignation: Bill Aldrich
- Public Comment
- Briefing: "*Transuranic (TRU) Update*" Joni Norton, DOE
- Committee Updates, Work Plan Approvals, and Election of Committee Officers
  - ♦ Transportation/Waste Ted Oom
    - *Approval of FY 2008 Work Plan*
    - *Approval of GTCC LLW Disposal recommendation*
  - ♦ EMPIRE Bob Gatliff
    - *Approval of FY 2008 Work Plan*
  - ♦ UGTA Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen
    - *Approval of FY 2008 Work Plan*
    - *Approval of Well Recommendation Reports:*
      - *Technical Summation*
      - *Stakeholder Summation*
  - ♦ Membership Jackson Ramsey
    - *Approval of FY 2008 Work Plan*
  - ♦ Budget Jackson Ramsey
    - *Approval of FY 2008 Work Plan*

- Other CAB Business
  - ◆ Approval of July 11, 2007 Minutes Dave Hermann, Chair
  - ◆ Elect CAB Chair and Vice Chair Carla Sanda
  - ◆ Meeting Schedules and Locations Dave Hermann, Chair
    - *Review bi-monthly meeting schedule*
  - Set date for the next Full Board meeting Carla Sanda
  - DOE Updates Kelly Snyder, DOE
    - *EM organizational changes*
    - *MLLW generator update*
    - *Call-in capability*
    - *Intergovernmental meeting*
    - *Staff changes*
    - *Clark County Liaison*
  - Meeting Attendance Carla Sanda
    - *Revised attendance requirements*
  - Setting up information booths Vernell McNeal
  - Inviting City/County officials to meetings Vernell McNeal
  
- August and September State of Nevada Notification Carla Sanda
  - CAU 117 – Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
  - CAU 118 – Area 27 Super Kukla Facility
  - CAU 484 Surface Debris, Waste Sites, and Burn Area
  
- Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment Carla Sanda

### Approval of Agenda

Engelbrecht von Tiesenhhausen asked to add two items to the meeting agenda: an Outreach Proposal, and recommendation for a representative for the Underground Test Area (UGTA) Technical Work Group (TWG) meetings. Robert Johnson requested approval of the PowerPoint maps to be added to the presentation for the Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Meeting in Paducah, KY. Ted Oom moved, seconded by Stacy Standley, to approve the meeting agenda with additions. Motion passed unanimously.

### Public Comment

No comment.

### Briefing: “Transuranic (TRU) Update”

Ms. Joni Norton, Federal Sub-Project Director, U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office Environmental Management (EM) gave a presentation on EM's TRU Waste Sub-Project Update. Ms. Norton explained the program's Legacy TRU Waste background, the sub-project's status, regulatory impacts, and the disposal paths for remaining drums, spheres, and oversize boxes. Ms. Norton also explained the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building (VERB) modifications, and decontamination and decommissioning of the VERB and TRU Pad Cover building.

### Transportation/Waste Committee

The FY 2008 Work Plan was reviewed. The Board nominated Ted Oom to remain as Chair, and Robert Johnson serve as Vice Chair. Robert Johnson moved, seconded by Hal Sullivan, to approve the FY 2008 Work Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The FY 2008 Committee members are: Ted Oom, Chair; Robert Johnson, Vice Chair; Dave Hermann; Helen Neill; Hal Sullivan; David Swanson; Walter Wegst.

The Board discussed the Greater Than Class C (GTCC) Low-Level Waste Disposal issue, and was concerned about the 140 million Curies given in the Notice of Intent (NOI). Kelly Snyder agreed to inquire as to how that number was arrived at. It was noted that the State of Nevada made formal comments at the Public Scoping Meeting held on September 4, 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Helen Neill prepared comments for the Board to review, and the Board agreed to draft a comment letter on the Notice of Intent and fax it to DOE Headquarters before the comment period deadline of September 20, 2007. Rosemary Rehfeldt and Helen Neill will draft the comment letter. Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen moved, seconded by Ted Oom, to approve the comments as written. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee**

Due to the Chairs absence, Bob Gatliff served as spokesperson for the Committee. The FY 2008 Work Plan was reviewed. The Board nominated Walter Wegst to serve as Chair and Vernell McNeal serve as Vice Chair. Stacy Standley moved, seconded by Robert Johnson, to approve the FY 2008 Work Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The FY 2008 Committee members are: Walter Wegst, Chair; Vernell McNeal, Vice Chair; Paul Adras; Robert Gatliff; Stacy Standley.

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

The FY 2008 Work Plan was reviewed. Charley Phillips reminded the Board that terms were up in November 2007 for Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, Genne Nelson, and himself, and that it was critical for other members to join the UGTA Committee. The Board nominated Robert Gatliff to serve as FY 2008 Chair and James Weeks serve as Vice Chair. Genne Nelson moved, seconded by Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, to approve the FY 2008 Work Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The FY 2008 Committee members are: Robert Gatliff, Chair; James Weeks, Vice Chair; Dave Hermann; Robert Johnson; Helen Neill; Genne Nelson (until 11/07); Charley Phillips (until 11/07); Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen (until 11/07); Jennifer Ward; Walter Wegst.

The Board discussed its review of the Committee's well recommendation reports, both the Technical Summation and Stakeholder Summation. Walter Wegst stated that there was a problem with the Stakeholder Summation Well Table spreadsheets. Rosemary Rehfeldt will work with Genne Nelson and correct the spreadsheet problem. Also, a minor typographical error needs correction. Rosemary Rehfeldt and Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen will draft the recommendation letter to be presented with the reports. Genne Nelson moved, seconded by Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, to approve the Well Recommendation Technical Summation and Stakeholder Summation, with corrections and changes. Motion passed unanimously. It was agreed to initially print 50 copies of each report.

#### **Membership Committee**

The FY 2008 Work Plan was reviewed. Everyone was satisfied with the new member recruitment process. The process includes:

- advertising for the CAB positions
- soliciting the CAB members for suggestions on new members
- accepting applications
- Committee review of applications
- setting up and conducting interviews
- making recommendations to the Full Board
- Full Board recommendations are forwarded to DOE for final approval
- new members will be identified in 2008

There are three members going off the Committee, and the Committee needs approximately six members to handle recruitment. James Weeks moved, seconded by Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, to approve the FY 2008 Work Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The FY 2008 Committee members are: Jackson Ramsey, Chair; Robert Gatliff, Vice Chair; Dave Hermann, Vernell McNeal, Stacy Standley, and Walter Wegst.

## **Budget Committee**

The FY 2008 Work Plan was reviewed. Jackson Ramsey moved, seconded by Stacy Standley, to approve the FY 2008 Work Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The FY 2008 Committee members are: Jackson Ramsey, Chair; Robert Gatliff, Vice Chair; Robert Johnson, Hal Sullivan, James Weeks.

## **Other CAB Business**

- **Approval of July 11, 2007 Minutes**

Robert Johnson moved, seconded by Genne Nelson, to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Elect FY 2008 CAB Chair and Vice Chair**

The Board nominated Dave Hermann to serve at Chair, and Walter Wegst to serve as Vice Chair. Jackson Ramsey moved, seconded by Vernell McNeal, to approve appointed Chair and Vice Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Meeting Schedules and Locations**

All Board members agreed that the bi-monthly Full Board meeting schedule works well for everyone. Therefore, the Full Board will strive to meet the second Wednesday of every odd month in FY 2008.

- **Set a date for the next Full Board meeting**

Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 5:00 PM was tentatively decided upon for the next Full Board meeting. It was agreed that the meeting will be held in a rural location. The Board recommended Beatty first, followed by Amargosa Valley, and Pahump. The topic will be the UGTA Committee's Well Recommendation reports.

- **DOE Updates**

Kelly Snyder told the CAB about EM organizational changes, and gave a brief update on mixed low-level waste generators.

Meeting call-in options were proposed at the July Board meeting and Ms. Snyder informed the CAB that we will continue to use the current call-in system. Another system would be cost-prohibitive and basically operates the same way. Safeguards have been put in place so that callers are now connected promptly for Board and Committee meetings.

Ms. Snyder also mentioned the DOE's 2007 Intergovernmental Meeting in Snowbird, Utah, October 16-18, 2007, and asked if anyone on the CAB would be interested in attending. A copy of the meeting's Agenda was placed in the Board meeting packets, and the Board members were asked to respond by September 14<sup>th</sup> if they were interested in attending.

As of October 1, 2007, Carla Sanda will no longer be the CAB facilitator. After seven years of dedicated service to the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs, Carla is not renewing her contract with the DOE Nevada Site Office. Beginning in FY 2008, Rosemary Rehfeldt will serve as CAB Facilitator and Administrator.

- **Outreach Proposal:**

Genne Nelson created an Outreach Proposal in support of the UGTA program, stating that numerous studies have been carried out by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) in the communities around the NTS. The proposal talks about the CAB providing information to the rural school communities of Tonopah, Oasis Valley, Ash Meadows, Beatty, Amargosa

Valley, and Pahrump. These small schools are on a low budget, with limited opportunities for special educational events.

Ms. Nelson believes that working with outlying schools would improve the image of the DOE in the affected communities surrounding the NTS.

Walt Wegst thought it was a great idea and should not be limited to UGTA subjects. Ms. Snyder mentioned that DOE NSO EM has an outreach program in place aimed at elementary school-aged children. However, this proposal can create an expansion of the current program. Charley Phillips said that Oak Ridge has an outreach kit that the Board may want to look at as a starting point.

Walt Wegst suggested forming an ad hoc committee to develop and clarify what the outreach purpose is and present it to the Board. He suggested the Board vote to approve this approach. Walt Wegst, Hal Sullivan, Helen Neill, Jennifer Ward, Paul Adras, and Genne Nelson agreed to participate. Hal Sullivan will lead the committee. Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen moved, seconded by Walter Wegst, to approve the ad hoc outreach committee. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Sullivan will draft a proposal letter and put before the Outreach Committee for review, then present to the Full Board at the next meeting.

- **UGTA Committee – Technical Working Group (TWG) Representative:**  
James Weeks motioned that the UGTA Committee should have the authority to select two people to attend the TWG meetings on a meeting by meeting basis, with current and alumni CAB members as eligible representatives. The motion was seconded by Bob Gatliff and passed unanimously. .
- **Appointing a Liaison from Clark County:**  
The Board discussed the need for a Clark County liaison and it was decided to pursue this position. Ms. Snyder explained the procedure as follows: the CAB asks DOE NSO via a letter for a Clark County Liaison to participate on the Board. DOE NSO can put a request in for a particular individual, however Clark County chooses who they will appoint. James Weeks moved, seconded by Genne Nelson, to add a Clark County Liaison to the CAB Board with a recommendation for Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen to serve as Liaison. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Meeting Attendance:**  
In response to discussion at the Board meeting on July 11, 2007, the CAB requested a change to the attendance requirements stated in the Standard Operating Procedures. The revised requirements read as:
  - Members must attend at least 50% of all Full Board meetings. Any member who fails to attend two (2) Full Board meetings without an excused absence, or does not attend a minimum of 50% of the regularly-scheduled meetings in a calendar year (regardless of excused or unexcused status), shall be removed from the Board. An absence is excused if notice is provided to the CAB administrative support personnel prior to the scheduled meeting. This notice of absence must be provided each month that an excused absence is needed. If a call-in number is provided, a member may call in to attend the meeting. However, attendance in person is strongly encouraged.

Robert Johnson moved, seconded by Hal Sullivan, to approve the revised attendance requirements. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Maps and graphics for Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Paducah Presentation:**  
Robert Johnson presented maps in PowerPoint slides that he had prepared for the SSAB presentation. These maps show the Nevada Test Site with the nuclear test shot locations, as well as the shot locations enlarged to portray yield. A map of the NTS with other DOE sites superimposed within the NTS boundary was also included, to give a perspective as to the size of the NTS. The Board agreed to include some of these maps within the SSAB presentation.
- **Setting Up Information Booths / Inviting City/County Officials to Meetings:**  
Vernell McNeal suggested setting up CAB information booths at various locations, for instance during downtown's "First Friday" monthly art exhibit. Mr. McNeal also suggested creating T-shirts for CAB members, and passing out CAB pamphlets to gather community knowledge of the CAB. Additionally, with new politicians in office, it may be a good time to invite the local politicians to CAB meetings.

Walt Wegst said it was a good idea but was concerned about logistics; how can this be accomplished and where. Charley Phillips said that, from past experience, sending a formal letter was not effective in getting local politicians to attend meetings. Genne Nelson suggested trying to attend specific functions rather than place a booth on the street. Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen said that he would get a list of Clark County function to Rosemary Rehfeldt, to be distributed to CAB members.

The Board also suggested that finding locations may be something for the new Outreach Committee to work on. Dave Swanson suggested that more meetings take place in Nye County. Walt Wegst asked if the CAB can pass out DOE brochures. Kelly Snyder said she would find out and get back to the CAB. The support staff can produce a poster, revise CAB brochures, and send letters to commissioners. The Board members would work booths as well as decide and schedule who will work booths at various events.

The Board agreed that this task would be the responsibility of the Outreach Committee. The Committee would then present their ideas to the Full Board.

- **August and September State of Nevada Notification:**  
A Notification for Closed in Place Corrective Actions, dated September 4, 2007, was included in the Board meeting packets. The DOE will submit a Streamline Approach for Environmental Restoration Plan (SAFER) and two Closure Reports (CRs) to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for the following Corrective Action Units (CAUs):
  - CAU 117      Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
  - CAU 118      Area 27 Super Kukla Facility
  - CAU 484      Surface Debris, Waste Sites, and Burn Area (TTR)

The approximate submittal date is September 30, 2007. Comments regarding these decision documents are to be submitted to Tim Murphy (NDEP) within 30 days of the document's release. If needed, Rosemary Rehfeldt will provide the Board with additional information on the Closed in Place Corrective Actions.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.**

September 27, 2007

Assistant Secretary James A. Rispoli  
EM-1/DOE-HQ Forrestal Building  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Rispoli,

### **Recommendation for EM SSAB Participation in the EM Budget Process**

The Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) would like to express our gratitude for your active participation at our recent Chairs' meeting. The EM SSAB recommended that it have the opportunity for input to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management budget planning process for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008. We appreciate your acceptance of our recommendation and the opportunity to participate last spring. The EM SSAB was asked to provide comments on changes to guidance for the sites working with the EM SSAB for input on the FY 09 budget; with lessons learned from participating in the review and input process for the FY 08 budget, we wish to provide the following comments and recommendations.

In order to advise the DOE EM, the EM SSAB needs sufficient budget planning information by project breakdown structure (PBS) at the target level and over-target level and decrement level for the current planning year and for four out years. The DOE may inform the EM SSAB of the uncertainty with out year planning and the inability for DOE to make commitments for those years, but at the same time, we expect to see the Five Year Plan numbers adjusted to reflect validated Project Baselines and the "cradle to grave" costs of each project.

For the EM SSAB to be able to provide useful review and advice, we need access to a detailed, validated Baseline for each site together with a critical-path schedule at a level showing the status of major projects within each PBS. Without a comprehensive understanding of the whole picture, we cannot be expected to address potential trade-offs in light of limited budgets.

The EM SSAB expects that DOE EM will request budgets that are compliant with existing regulatory agreements and commitments. The validated Baselines should reflect these commitments. The DOE EM briefings to the EM SSAB and the public should include validated baselines and the additional markups required to meet consent orders.

The EM SSAB realizes that environmental cleanup projects require long-term planning and funding which must be managed by each site and the EM budget process. It would be illuminating to see calculations showing the potential cost of deferring work to future years. The EM SSAB believes that those numbers could be compelling enough to propel the DOE EM and

Congress to fund, in the near-term, and comprehensively, more work now in support of risk reduction to protect human health and the environment.

Lastly, the EM SSAB believes that the breadth of representation on our Boards, our institutional knowledge and recommendations are of benefit to our individual sites and to the DOE complex as a whole. The EM SSAB looks forward to providing continued advice to and support of DOE's environmental cleanup activities at each site.

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**Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board**

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**Bill Flanery, Co-Chair  
Idaho National Laboratory  
Site EM Citizens' Advisory  
Board**

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**Richard L. Buxton, Co-  
Chair, Idaho National  
Laboratory Site EM  
Citizens' Advisory Board**

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**David Hermann, Chair  
Nevada Test Site Advisory  
Board**

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**J.D. Campbell, Chair  
Northern New Mexico  
Citizens' Advisory Board**

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**Lance Mezga, Chair  
Oak Ridge Site Specific  
Advisory Board**

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**Allen Burnett, Chair  
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion  
Plant Advisory Board**

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**Karen Patterson, Chair  
Savannah River Site  
Citizens' Advisory Board**

September 27, 2007

Assistant Secretary James A. Rispoli  
EM-1/DOE-HQ Forrestal Building  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Rispoli,

**Recommendation for Long Term Stewardship Incorporation Into New EM Projects and Legacy Waste Decisions**

The Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) would like to express our gratitude for your active participation at our recent Chairs' meeting.

The EM SSAB Chairs recommend that project management for all current and new EM projects consider complete life-cycle analysis that includes long-term stewardship (LTS), final disposition, clean-up methods and costs to meet end-state goals. This "cradle to grave" approach could serve as a model for other federal and private industry projects.

In accordance with DOE policy, the EM SSAB strongly recommends that LTS be included in each proposed remedy for legacy waste, to consider the human and environmental risks and cost if the remedy includes leaving any contamination in place.

Currently opportunities exist to include LTS in the planning for management of future waste to be generated. These opportunities did not exist when much of the legacy waste was generated. Our experience with issues of legacy waste leads us to make a recommendation for DOE EM to take a more pro-active and protective approach within the context of long-term environmental management. LTS elements should be incorporated into cleanup decisions as they are being developed – not after the fact.

We believe that the breadth of representation on our Boards, our knowledge and our recommendations can be of benefit to individual sites and to the DOE EM complex as a whole. The EM SSAB looks forward to continuing to provide advice to DOE EM in support of environmental cleanup activities at individual sites.

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Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

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Bill Flanery, Co-Chair  
Idaho National Laboratory  
Site EM Citizens' Advisory  
Board

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Richard L. Buxton, Co-  
Chair, Idaho National  
Laboratory Site EM  
Citizens' Advisory Board

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David Hermann, Chair  
Nevada Test Site Advisory  
Board

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Oak Ridge Site Specific  
Advisory Board

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Allen Burnett, Chair  
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion  
Plant Advisory Board

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Karen Patterson, Chair  
Savannah River Site  
Citizens' Advisory Board

DRAFT



**COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**



**for NEVADA TEST SITE PROGRAMS**

## **GROUND RULES**

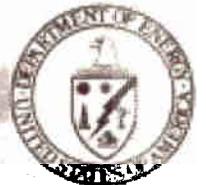
- 1. RESPECT One Another**
- 2. Have a POSITIVE ATTITUDE**
- 3. LISTEN with an Open Mind**
- 4. Be ON TIME**
- 5. PREPARE in Advance**
- 6. SUPPORT Meeting Objectives**
- 7. STICK TO the AGENDA**
- 8. STAY on TOPIC**
- 9. RESPECT Time LIMITS**
- 10. SPEAK Only When Recognized**
- 11. BUILD Consensus**
- 12. AVOID Side Conversations**
- 13. SPEAK UP!!!**



# **Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs**

## ***New Meeting Ground Rules DRAFT***

1. **Meetings start on time**
2. **Respect each speaker and the facilitator**
3. **Everyone participates...no one dominates**
4. **Speak only when recognized**
5. **Respect time limits**
6. **Avoid side conversations**
7. **Follow agenda and stay on topic**
8. **Focus on Environmental Management only**
9. **Prepare in advance**
10. **Build consensus**
11. **Turn off all electronics**



# CAB MEETING ATTENDANCE (January 2007 through December 2007)

NAME	1/10/07 Full Board	2/07 No Meeting	3/14/07 Meeting Can- celled	4/07 Full Board	5/9/07 Full Board	6/007 No Meetin g	7/11/07 Full Board	8/07 No Meeting	9/12/07 Full Board	10/07 No Meeting	11/14/07 Full Board	12/07 No Meeting
Adras	√			√					√			
Aldrich	√			√					Resigned			
Gatliff	√			√	√		√		√			
Herrmann	√			√	√		√		√			
Hopkins									Removed			
Johnson	√						√		√			
McNeal	√			√	√		√		√			
Lawrence	√			No longer a member – met 6-year obligation								
Nelson				√			√		√			
Oom	√			√	√		√		√			
Pawliuk	√								Resigned			
Peterson	√			No longer a member – met 6-year obligation								
Phillips	√						√		√			
Ramsey	√			√			√		√			
Rosin	√								Resigned			
Spinato	√				√						Resigned	
Standley	√			√			√		√			
Sullivan					√				√			
von Tiesenhausen	√				√				√			
Weeks	√			√	√		√		√			
Wegst	√			√	√				√			

KEY: √ - Present

Red Filled-in Square – Absent

**Environmental Management's Monthly Report to the CAB  
November 2007**

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

**Completed Activities (October)**

- The Nevada Site Office (NSO) conducted two (2) surveillances. The facilities surveyed were National Security Technologies LLC (NSTec) and Princeton.
- The NSO conducted one Assist visit at Argonne National Laboratory.
- Received 101,512.38 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW in 154 shipments for disposal at the Nevada Test Site (NTS), as of October 21, 2007.
- LLW Operations has worked 341,183 hours since last lost-time accident (September 2003).

**Expectations (November)**

- Expect to receive 87,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW for disposal.
- Expect to conduct two (2) unannounced Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program Facility Inspections of the generator sites.

**Mixed Low-Level Waste (MLLW):**

**Completed Activities (October)**

- Received 0 ft<sup>3</sup> in 0 shipments for disposal at the NTS, as of October 21, 2007.
- Conducted waste verification at PeCos in Richland, WA and the NTS
- On August 27, 2007, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) issued an Order to Cease Mixed Low-Level Waste (MLLW) acceptance from Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation (TN), Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Ohio) and M&EC Permafix (TN). This is a result of NDEP's concerns that some MLLW generators that ship to the Nevada Test Site (NTS) are not demonstrating enough rigor and vigilance in implementing their waste certification programs.

On October 15, 2007, the NDEP reviewed PermaFix' Objective evidence provided by the NSO associated with the corrective action requests generated from the HQ/EM and NSO Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program audits. As a result of the evidence, the NDEP lifted the Cease Order against Permafix allowing PermaFix to re-start its MLLW disposal program at the NTS.

The Cease order is still in effect for Foster-Wheeler and Portsmouth's MLLW programs.

**MLLW Expectations (November)**

- Expect 7,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of MLLW for disposal
- Planned facility evaluations are included in the LLW portion of this report.

**Transuranic Waste (TRU)**

**Completed Activities (October)**

- Modifications to the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building (VERB) for the oversized box size-reduction and segregation continued. Demolition to remove ducting and other materials from the building was completed to prepare for new modifications. The installation of an administrative support trailer to house the project personnel in Area 5 was also completed.
- A new technology to vent the remaining 12 oversized boxes was selected.
- Final characterization data for the remaining TRU drums that do not require repackaging in the VERB was submitted to the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) for review and

approval. Pending approval by the CBFO the remaining drums will be ready for shipment off-site to the Central Characterization Facility that is yet to be designated.

#### Expectations (November)

- Modification activities on the VERB for oversized box size-reduction and waste segregation will continue.
- Assessments will be conducted on the technology to be used to vent the 12 remaining oversized boxes to ensure worker safety issues have been adequately addressed prior to the start of operations.
- Radioactive sources that were found in waste drums during repackaging in the glovebox have been kept in holding containers. These sources require special packaging, shipment and disposal through the Off-Site Source Recovery Program based out of Los Alamos, New Mexico. Packaging and preparation for off-site shipment is tentatively scheduled for the end of November.

#### Industrial Sites

##### Accomplishments (October)

- Began corrective action fieldwork for Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 151: Septic Systems and Discharge Area
- Began corrective action fieldwork for CAU 190: Contaminated Waste Sites
- Began corrective action investigation field work for CAU 234: Mud Pits, Cellars, and Mud Spills
- Continued Decontamination & Decommissioning (D&D) fieldwork for CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
- Continued investigation fieldwork for CAU 565: Stored Samples
- Completed corrective action fieldwork for CAU 543: Liquid Disposal Sites
- Received Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) approval for the Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) for CAU 117: Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
- Received NDEP approval for the Closure Report for CAU 118: Area 27 Super Kukla Facility
- Received NDEP approval for the Closure Report for CAU 484: Surface Debris, Waste Sites, and Burn Area (Tonopah Test Range)
- Submitted Record of Technical Change (ROTC) for CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility, SAFER Plan.
- Submitted Final CAP for CAU 166: Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials, to NDEP for approval
- Submitted Final Closure Report for CAU 224: Decon Pad and Septic Systems, to NDEP for approval

##### Planned (November)

- Complete investigation fieldwork for CAU 565: Stored Samples
- Continue D&D fieldwork for CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
- Continue corrective action fieldwork for CAU 127: Areas 25 and 26 Storage Tanks
- Continue corrective action fieldwork for CAU 151: Septic Systems and Discharge Area
- Continue corrective action fieldwork for CAU 190: Contaminated Waste Sites
- Continue corrective action investigation field work for CAU 234: Mud Pits, Cellars, and Mud Spills
- Continue corrective action investigation fieldwork for CAU 545: Dumps, Waste Disposal Sites, and Buried Radioactive Materials

- Receive NDEP approval for the ROTC for CAU 116: Area 25 Test Cell C Facility, SAFER Plan.
- Receive NDEP approval for the Final CAP for CAU 166: Storage Yards and Contaminated Materials
- Receive NDEP approval for the Final Closure Report for CAU 224: Decon Pad and Septic Systems

### Underground Test Area (UGTA)

#### Completed (October)

##### **Frenchman Flat**

- Continued Phase II Transport Model Draft report development.

##### **Pahute Mesa**

- Continued Phase I Transport Model Draft Report development.

##### **Yucca Flat**

- Initiated Phase I Source Term Analysis and Evaluation.

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

- Initiated Phase I Transport Parameter Draft Data document development.
- Initiated Phase I Hydrology Draft Data document development.
- Initiated Phase I Model Approach and Strategy Analysis and Evaluation.

#### Expectations (November)

##### **Frenchman Flat**

- Pump and sample groundwater at the Bilby and Dalhart sites
- Continue Phase II Transport Model Draft report development.

##### **Pahute Mesa**

- Continue Phase I Transport Model Draft report development.

##### **Yucca Flat**

- Continued Phase I Flow Model Analysis and Evaluation.
- Continue Phase I Source Term Analysis and Evaluation.

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

- Continue Phase I Transport Parameter Draft Data document development.
- Continue Phase I Hydrology Draft Data document development.
- Continue Phase I Model Approach and Strategy Analysis and Evaluation.

### Soils

#### Completed Activities (October)

- Began work on Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Plan for low impact Soils Sites.
- Began work of Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) for selected Soils Sites.
- Initiated the preliminary assessments of remaining Soils Sites.

#### Expectations (November)

- Continue the development of the SAFER and CAIP documents for selected Soils Sites.
- Conduct preliminary Data Quality Objectives meetings in support of the SAFER and CAIP.
- Continue conducting preliminary assessments for remaining Soil sites.

### Public Involvement:

#### Completed Activities (October)

- Responded to an inquiry from a high school student requesting information on the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex at the Nevada Test Site

- The *Operation Clean Desert* kid's display was set up at the Atomic Testing Museum on October 26, 2007 in conjunction with the museum's Nevada Day free-admission activities. Copies of the *Operation Clean Desert* interactive computer game and activity book will be distributed to visitors.
- An EM News Flash titled *Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom Celebrate Nevada Day at the Atomic Testing Museum* was distributed to the EM mailing list.
- An EM News Flash titled *Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs to Present Well Recommendations to Rural Southern Nevada* was distributed to the EM mailing list.
- The *Operation Clean Desert* kid's display was set up at the Atomic Testing Museum on October 9, 2007 in conjunction with the museum's Educator Appreciation Day. Copies of the *Operation Clean Desert* interactive computer game and activity book were distributed to visitors.
- Operation Clean Desert information was provided to CHOLLA (an educational outreach organization for Southern Nevada teachers), the Clark County School District Hotline publication, and Nevada Home School Network.
- 227 *Operation Clean Desert* activity books and 102 *Operation Clean Desert* computer games were distributed during the month.

#### Expectations (November)

- The Community Advisory Board (CAB) for Nevada Test Site Programs will host a Full Board meeting on November 6, 2007 at 6 p.m. in the Amargosa Community Center located at 821 E. Amargosa Farm Road, Amargosa Valley, Nevada. The CAB will present their well recommendations to the community.

# Transuranic Radioactive Waste

safety ♦ performance ♦ cleanup ♦ closure



## Background

**T**ransuranic radioactive waste is one of several types of waste handled by the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site

Office at the Nevada Test Site. Transuranic waste contains man-made radioactive elements heavier than uranium, such as plutonium, hence the name “trans” or “beyond” uranium.

Most of the transuranic waste managed at the Nevada Test Site was generated as part of a nuclear weapons research and development program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory near Oakland, California. This legacy waste, which was shipped to the Nevada Test Site for temporary storage between 1974 and 1990, includes protective clothing and miscellaneous equipment contaminated with transuranic elements. Additionally, a small quantity of the transuranic waste stored at the Nevada Test Site was generated by environmental restoration activities on the Nevada Test Site and the Tonopah Test Range. The majority of this waste is considered mixed transuranic because of a hazardous waste component which requires it to be managed in accordance with the Federal Facility Compliance Act and Consent Order.

Between January 2004 and November 2005, 1,860 drums of this legacy waste was shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad, New Mexico for permanent disposal. The transuranic waste remaining at the Nevada Test Site, as of July 1, 2007, consists of 58 boxes, 2 spheres, and approximately 100 drums which did not meet WIPP’s disposal requirements.

## Waste Characterization and Repackaging

**I**n order for the remaining transuranic waste to meet requirements for permanent disposal, further characterization and repackaging of the waste is required. Some of the remaining transuranic waste at the Nevada Test Site contain items that are prohibited by the WIPP or by the Nevada Test Site Waste Acceptance Criteria. Such items need to be removed from their current containers, treated, and prepared for disposal at an appropriate facility. Additionally, the transuranic waste contained in boxes is considered oversized and cannot currently fit within approved WIPP transportation containers. All of the remaining



The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), located near Carlsbad, New Mexico, is the world’s first underground repository licensed to permanently dispose of transuranic waste. Disposal rooms at the WIPP are mined to depths of 2,150 feet below the surface and are surrounded by a 2,000 foot thick salt formation that has been stable for more than 200 million years.

## Definitions

**Hazardous Waste:** As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, waste that is harmful to human health or the environment. Substances such as ethyl alcohol, Freon, and various metals are considered hazardous waste.

**Radioactive Waste:** Materials with no future use that have been contaminated by a nuclear process, thereby containing unstable elements (such as hydrogen, plutonium, or uranium) which emit radiation.

**Transuranic Waste:** Waste contaminated with elements that have an atomic number greater than Uranium (92) and contains more than 100 nanocuries of alpha-emitting isotopes per gram, with half-lives greater than 20 years.

**Waste Characterization:** The process of identifying the components of hazardous or radioactive waste.

# Transuranic Radioactive Waste



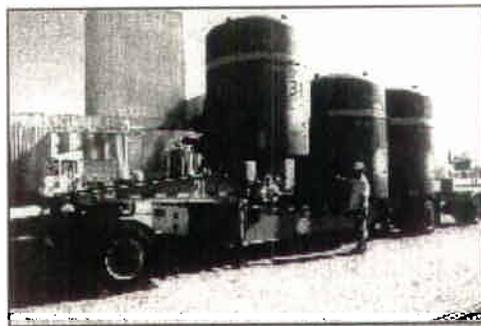
*The remaining drums and boxes of transuranic waste require size-reduction and/or additional characterization.*

## For more information, please contact:

U.S. Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Nevada Site Office  
Office of Public Affairs  
P.O. Box 98518  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518  
(702) 295-3521  
nevada@nv.doe.gov  
<http://www.nv.doe.gov>



*A TRUPACT-II container is loaded at the Nevada Test Site.*



*Each truck can transport up to three TRUPACT-II containers at one time.*

waste will either undergo size-reduction and/or additional characterization to determine the appropriate disposal path that meets all applicable laws and regulations. These activities will take place at the Nevada Test Site or at another facility in the U.S. Department of Energy complex.

## Waste Storage and Handling

The remaining containers of transuranic waste are stored on the TRU Pad, located at the Nevada Test Site Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. This 2.1-acre asphalt pad has a protective waterproof layer to prevent moisture from seeping into the soil as well as an eight-inch curb to prevent run-on and runoff.

Because most transuranic elements decay by emitting alpha particles, the least penetrating form of radiation, a sheet of paper or the outer layer of skin are adequate barriers. However, an alpha-emitting isotope can enter the body through inhalation, ingestion, or through a cut on the skin. Therefore, transuranic waste requires special handling, storage, and disposal.

To ensure the safety of Nevada Test Site personnel, the public, and the environment, Nevada Site Office waste management specialists regularly inspect waste packages to verify that labels are intact and legible and that the containers remain structurally sound. Access to the facility is also controlled. These precautions are part of a comprehensive health and safety program.

## Waste Transportation to WIPP

All transuranic waste destined for WIPP is shipped inside specially designed containers. These containers, known as *Transuranic Package Transporter Model II* (TRUPACT-II), can hold up to fourteen 55-gallon waste drums, two standard waste boxes, or one 10-drum overpack. Each truck can transport up to three TRUPACT-II containers at one time. All waste shipments must meet stringent U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and U.S. Department of Transportation requirements before transport. Decisions regarding routes are determined through negotiations with the states in which proposed routes are located. Responsibility for transuranic waste shipments from the Nevada Test Site to any off-site location lies with WIPP personnel.

For information on all Nevada Site Office Environmental Management activities visit:

<http://www.nv.doe.gov/envmgt>





## Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

October 23, 2007

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Walter Wegst, Ph.D., CAB Vice-Chair

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### Liaisons

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Tiffany Lantow

Defense Threat Reduction Agency

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

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 - Liaison  
Seat - Representing Clark County, Nevada

Dear Ms. Snyder:

We are beginning our Fiscal Year 2008 CAB recruitment effort and are writing to extend a proposal for Clark County to become a voice for the community in important environmental management issues. The CAB would like to recommend that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) consider an appointment of a Clark County representative to serve as a liaison member of the CAB.

Although the CAB recognizes that appointment of a liaison rests with Clark County, we would like to extend a recommendation for Mr. Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, with Clark County, to serve on the CAB as Clark County Liaison. Mr. von Tiesenhausen is a current CAB voting member, whose six-year term expires in November, 2007.

The opportunity to work with Clark County would be invaluable. We appreciate your consideration of this proposal for a Clark County Liaison, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

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



**Department of Energy**  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Nevada Site Office  
P.O. Box 98518  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518



**OCT 29 2007**

Eileen Navis  
Clark County Nevada  
500 S. Grand Central Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

**REQUEST FOR CLARK COUNTY LIAISON FOR THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD FOR NEVADA TEST SITE PROGRAMS**

The Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) is a federally chartered U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) advisory board made up of 15-20 volunteers from urban and rural communities near the Nevada Test Site. In addition to its members, liaison positions are in place to ensure adequate representation of governmental, tribal, and other relevant entities.

Enclosed is a letter from the CAB to the DOE requesting a liaison position be developed for a Clark County representative. As such, the DOE would like to extend the offer to Clark County to provide a representative to the CAB. The CAB has suggested that Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen be appointed as the Clark County Liaison. However, if Clark County chooses to provide a liaison to the Board, the County is responsible for determining its representative.

CAB members and liaisons meet bi-monthly to study and discuss environmental activities that take place at the Nevada Test Site and provide recommendations to the Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Program. The CAB is chartered to review and provide feedback on radioactive waste management/disposal and transportation activities, the effects of historic nuclear testing on the groundwater at the Nevada Test Site, and other environmental remediation activities. However, the Board does not address issues related to DOE's Yucca Mountain Project.

Currently, the following entities have CAB liaison representatives: DOE, State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Nye County, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the U.S. National Park Service. Liaisons do not have voting privileges but are invited to participate in all meetings and discussions. Meetings typically occur on the second Wednesday of every odd month in Clark or Nye County. As a liaison member, reimbursement for Board related activities is not available.

Additional information about the CAB can be found at [www.ntscab.com](http://www.ntscab.com). If you would like to discuss this offer or have questions, please contact me at (702) 295-2836 or via e-mail at [snyderk@nv.doe.gov](mailto:snyderk@nv.doe.gov).

Kelly K. Snyder  
Public Involvement Manager

PSG:3580.KS

Eileen Navis

-2-

OCT 29 2007

cc:

Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen, CAB, Las Vegas, NV  
CAB, Las Vegas, NV

Public Notification for  
Corrective Actions  
October 18, 2007  
Las Vegas, Nevada

During the next 30 days, the Department of Energy (DOE) will be submitting a Closure Report (CR) to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 224 at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). This document will recommend that engineering and/or administrative controls be used to close the sites although contamination remains.

When submitting this document to NDEP, copies will be supplied to the Community Advisory Board and the Las Vegas and Carson City Public Reading Rooms for review. Submit comments regarding this decision document to Tim Murphy (NDEP) within 30 days of the document's release. Contact addresses are listed below.

**CAU  
Number**  
224

**CAU  
Description**  
Decon Pad and Septic Systems

**Approximate  
Submittal Date**  
October 31, 2007

**Southern Nevada Public Reading Facility**  
**c/o Nuclear Testing Archive**  
**775 East Flamingo Road**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89119**

**Northern Nevada Public Reading Facility**  
**Nevada State Library and Archives**  
**100 N. Stewart Street**  
**Carson City, NV 89701-4285**

**[TMurphy@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:TMurphy@ndep.nv.gov)**