



## Full Board Meeting November 12, 2008

### In this folder you will find:

- 1) 11/12/08 Draft Agenda (pink)
- 2) 09-10-08 Full Board Meeting Minutes – for your files (gold)
- 3) Attendance Spreadsheet (white)
- 4) Wildlife at the Nevada Test Site - Presentation (white)
- 5) CAB's Recommendation Letter – Environmental Management Videos (beige)
- 6) CAB's Recommendation Letter – Nevada Attorney General's Letter (lavender)
- 7) DOE's Monthly Report to the CAB (green)
- 8) Letter from DOE – Establishment of Office of Communications (lavender)
- 9) FFACO - Public Notifications of Corrective Actions (yellow)
- 10) Environmental Management Fact Sheet Booklets



## DRAFT AGENDA

### CAB FULL BOARD MEETING

Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium  
755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119

**November 12, 2008 - 5:00 p.m.**

No Call-In Number Available

1. **Open Meeting / Agenda Review** **Rosemary Rehfeldt**, Facilitator
2. **Chair's Opening Remarks:** **Dave Hermann**, Board Chair
  - Agenda Approval
3. **Public Comment** **Rosemary Rehfeldt**, Facilitator
4. **Presentation: *Nevada Test Site Wildlife Overview*** **Lori Plummer**, NNSA
5. **Committee Updates:** **Walt Wegst**, Committee Chair
  - **Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE)**
    - Committee's Recommendation Letter for Board Approval
  - **Outreach** **Hal Sullivan**, Committee Chair
  - **Transportation / Waste** **Ted Oom**, Committee Chair
    - Committee's Recommendation Letter for Board Approval
  - **Underground Test Area (UGTA)** **Bob Gatliff**, Committee Chair
6. **DOE Update:** **Kelly Snyder**, DOE DDFO
  - Budget – Continuing Resolution
  - CAB Monthly Report
7. **Other CAB Business:** **Dave Hermann**, Board Chair
  - Board Chair and Vice Chair Role Reversal
  - Letter from DOE EM – establishment of Office of Communications
  - EM Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting Review, Washington, DC
  - Upcoming EM Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting
    - Savannah River Site – March 16-17, 2009
  - Review of October 8, 2008 Nevada Test Site Tour
  - Environmental Management "Education Sessions"
  - January 2009 Full Board Meeting – location and suggested briefings
  - EM Fact Sheet Booklets
8. **October and November State of Nevada Notifications** **Kelly Snyder**, DOE DDFO
9. **Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment** **Rosemary Rehfeldt**, Facilitator



## FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 10, 2008

**Location:** Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium  
755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

**CAB Members Present:** David Hermann, Chair; Walter Wegst, Vice Chair; Kathy Bienenstein; Bob Gatliff; Robert Johnson; Bill Lindsey; John McGrail; Vernell McNeal; Ted Oom; Jackson Ramsey; Ted Schweitzer; Ron Salzano (via conference call); Herb Spiegel; Hal Sullivan; Jim Weeks

**CAB Members Not Present:** Joe Boylan; Lee Geiser, Stacy Standley

**Liaisons Present:** Janet Appenzeller-Wing, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); Bob Gamble, Nye County; Christine Andres, Representative for Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

**Technical Support Staff:** Jennifer Ward, Graduate Student, UNLV

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE):** Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO); Gary Pyles, DOE Sub-Project Director; Bill Wilborn, DOE Sub-Project Director

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

**Public Present:** Jenny Chapman, Desert Research Institute; Roger McRae, Pahrump, NV; Ernie Williams, Las Vegas, NV

### Agenda

- **Chair's Opening Remarks** Dave Hermann
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of resignation of Joe Boylan
- **Public Comment**
- **Update on letter from Nevada's Attorney General to DOE** Janet Appenzeller-Wing, DOE
- **Presentation: *Transuranic Waste (TRU) Update*** Gary Pyles, DOE
- **Presentation: *Underground Test Area (UGTA) Update*** Bill Wilborn, DOE
- **Committee Updates**
  - **Budget**
  - *FY 2009 Committee Work Plan for Board Approval*
  - **Environmental Management Public Involvement Review Effort (EMPIRE)** Walt Wegst
    - *FY 2009 Committee Work Plan for Board Approval*
  - **Outreach** Hal Sullivan
    - *FY 2009 Committee Work Plan for Board Approval*
    - *Committee Recommendation Letter for Board Approval*
  - **Transportation/Waste** Ted Oom
    - *FY 2009 Committee Work Plan for Board Approval*
    - *Committee Recommendation Letter for Board Approval*
  - **Underground Test Area (UGTA)** Bob Gatliff
    - *FY 2009 Committee Work Plan for Board Approval*
- **Voting and Committee Sign-Up – 15 Minute Break**

- **DOE Update** Kelly Snyder
  - ◆ Nevada Test Site Tour Update
  - ◆ CAB Survey Results
  
- **Other CAB Business**
  - ◆ Board Chair and Vice Chair Election Rosemary Rehfeldt
  - ◆ Committee Chair Election Rosemary Rehfeldt
  - ◆ EM Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting Update Dave Hermann
    - ◆ Top 3 Issues
    - ◆ Outreach: roundtable discussion – annual reports, recruitment, surveys
  - ◆ November 12, 2008 Full Board Meeting Dave Hermann
    - ◆ Location
    - ◆ Suggested Briefing Kelly Snyder
  - ◆ RadWaste Summit Update Ted Oom
  
- **August and September State of Nevada Notifications** Rosemary Rehfeldt
  
- **Meeting Wrap-Up / Assessment** Rosemary Rehfeldt

#### Approval of Agenda

Dave Hermann asked for a motion for approval of the meeting agenda. Ted Oom moved for approval, seconded by Vernell McNeal. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Public Comment

No comment.

**Update on letter from Nevada’s Attorney General to DOE:** Janet Appenzeller-Wing notified the Board that the State of Nevada has asked that no new mixed low-level waste (MLLW) streams be disposed at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) until federal land withdrawal issues are resolved with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Ms. Appenzeller-Wing clarified what the term “land withdrawal” means, and explained that the federal government withdraws public land for federal government uses. The NTS lands are withdrawn through the DOI. A meeting between the DOE, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), and the State of Nevada is currently being planned.

**Presentation: Transuranic Waste (TRU) Update:** Gary Pyles presented the Board with a TRU update presentation. The update included the following information:

- Legacy TRU Waste Background
- Drum Disposal Path
- Oversized Boxes Disposal Path
- Visual Examination and Repackaging (VERB) Building
- TRU Sub-Project Status
- Transportation
- VERB and TRU Pad Cover Building – Decontamination and Decommissioning
- Spheres Disposal Path

**Presentation: Underground Test Area (UGTA) Update:** Bill Wilborn presented the Board with an UGTA update presentation. The update included the following information:

- [Central and Western Pahute Mesa, Corrective Action Unit \(CAU\) 101/ 102 – Phase I Completion](#)
- Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) Preemptive Review Group
- Groups Major Priorities

- Criteria and Selection Prioritization
- Wells Prioritized
- Summary

Details of the above-stated presentations can be viewed on the CAB's web site at [www.ntscab.com](http://www.ntscab.com).

**Committee Updates:**

**Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee's fiscal year (FY) 2009 Committee Work Plan was submitted to the Board for approval. Robert Johnson moved for approval, seconded by Hal Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee:** The committee is in the process of reviewing all EM DVDs (videos). Each video will be reviewed and comments will be compiled to create recommendations for DOE to consider if the videos were to be updated. Once the video review is completed, the EMPIRE committee will begin reviewing the DOE Nevada Site Office (NSO) Environmental Management (EM) web site, followed by a review of the CAB's web site. It was suggested that the EMPIRE and Outreach committees blend together, and members of the EMPIRE committee, who are not already serving on the Outreach Committee, become members of the Outreach Committee. Additionally, it may be a good idea for Outreach Committee members to attend the last few EMPIRE Committee meetings and review the EM videos as well.

The EMPIRE Committee's FY 2009 Committee Work Plan was submitted to the Board for approval. Jim Weeks moved for approval, seconded by Kathy Bienenstein. Motion passed unanimously.

**Outreach Committee:** The Outreach Committee's FY 2009 Committee Work Plan was submitted to the Board for approval. Herb Spiegel moved for approval, seconded by Jim Weeks. Motion passed unanimously.

As explained at the July 9, 2008 Full Board meeting, a recommendation letter was developed regarding the use of Nevada Academic Standards being implemented when presenting and using DOE NSO Environmental Management's *Operation Clean Desert* children's display and related educational outreach materials. These standards give school principals and teachers a list of what must be taught during the school year. The committee's recommendation letter also recommends that, as an extension to *Operation Clean Desert*, the EM Public Involvement staff create and administer a poster contest, with awards given for best posters. The above-mentioned recommendation letter is included in the meeting packets for Board approval. The Board unanimously approved the Outreach Committee's recommendation letter.

**Transportation/Waste Committee:** The Transportation/Waste Committee's FY 2009 Committee Work Plan was submitted to the Board for approval. Hal Sullivan moved for approval, seconded by John McGrail. Motion passed unanimously.

Ted Oom, Committee Chair, was present at the Transportation/Waste committee meeting on August 20, 2008 via conference call. Therefore, Robert Johnson, Committee Vice Chair, chaired that meeting and gave the update on the transportation study being conducted by NSO's Waste Management team. Dr. Ruth Weiner with Sandia National Laboratories gave a presentation to the committee on the use of RADTRAN modeling software to be used in the study. RADTRAN is a nationally accepted standard computer program that calculates the risk of radiation exposure to individuals and populations along the travel route of radioactive waste shipments. This program incorporates such factors as exposures to people during truck rest stops and during truck refueling, and repeated exposures to people who live or work close to transportation routes. The program can also be used to calculate exposure to the driver of the truck. In addition to these exposure pathways, the program can be used to calculate exposures resulting from various accident scenarios.

Dr. Weiner will be assisting Lee Stevens, Transportation Specialist with Navarro Research and Engineering, and the DOE Nevada Site Office (NSO), in conducting the transportation study requested by the CAB. The objective of the study is to determine the radiological risk for the routes used by the NTS generators to ship low-level waste (LLW) and mixed low-level waste (MLLW) to the Nevada Test Site (NTS). Once the risk is determined, the routes can be compared with the study that was completed in 1996.

The NSO is determining what the shipment data will look like based upon historical data from shipments received, and working on how this data will be normalized. The study will focus on the transportation along the NV-160 route.

After the presentation the committee formulated its parameters for the transportation study, which were incorporated into its recommendation letter to DOE. To clarify the information in the letter, Mr. Johnson explained that the CAB is recommending that two studies be conducted, and requests that both studies use current adjusted population statistics to ensure the recent population increase in southern Nevada is accounted for when using the exposure factors stated by Dr. Weiner. The first study should use the 1996 low-level waste transportation study's parameters for comparison. The second study should utilize the information that came from the Desert Research Institute's (DRI) PIC array study and analyze the following scenarios: 1) accident rates; 2) alternate routes; 3) vehicle density rates. This recommendation letter is included in the Board's meeting packets for approval. John McGrail moved for approval of this letter, seconded by Kathy Bienenstein. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Bob Gatliff informed the Board that CAB members (this did not include liaisons or technical staff) were given the opportunity to review and comment on the UGTA's *Phase II Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) for Central and Western Pahute Mesa, Nevada Test Site*. This opportunity was provided to CAB members due to the fact that the CAB, particularly the UGTA Committee, was instrumental, and fully participated, with the Technical Working Group in portions of the well selection process. The Board's request for early release, to CAB members only, of the above-mentioned document was included in a letter to DOE. Due to a tight deadline, the letter was not included in the meeting packets, but was unanimously approved by the CAB members via e-mail, prior to this Board meeting.

The UGTA Committee's FY 2009 Committee Work Plan was submitted to the Board for approval. A discussion ensued on the subject of whether or not to hold public meetings in rural communities. Other than CAB members, public attendance has been low at previous rural meetings. The Board tabled the discussion until the UGTA Committee has had a chance to discuss the issue further at their next committee meeting. The Board decided to keep this item in the committee's Work Plan. Hal Sullivan moved for approval of the Work Plan, seconded by Vernell McNeal. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **DOE Update:**

- **Nevada Test Site Tour:** Kelly Snyder reminded the Board that the NTS Tour is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8, 2008. The tour participants will meet at the Nevada Support Facility at 7:00 a.m. on the morning of the tour to receive visitor's badges and board the tour bus. Ms. Snyder also mentioned that lunch is available for \$8.50. Rosemary Rehfeldt informed the Board that another detailed reminder e-mail is forthcoming.

**CAB Survey Results:** Kelly Snyder presented the results from an anonymous survey which was given to the CAB members. Ms. Snyder explained that the survey results will be used to enhance the support that is provided to the CAB from the DOE, CAB support staff, and the CAB's technical staff. Details of this survey can be viewed on the CAB's web site at [www.ntscab.com](http://www.ntscab.com).

#### **Other CAB Business**

- **Voting and Committee Sign-Up:** Committee sign-up sheets were available at the meeting for members and liaisons to enter their name for the committee(s) they are interested in participating on in FY 2009. Voting ballots were turned in to Rosemary Rehfeldt and the results of the FY 2009 Board elections are as follows:
  - Board Chair – David Hermann
  - Board Vice Chair – Walter Wegst
  - Budget Committee Chair – Jackson Ramsey
  - EMPIRE Committee Chair – Walter Wegst

- Membership Committee Chair – Jackson Ramsey
- Outreach Committee Chair – Hal Sullivan
- Transportation/Waste Committee Chair – Ted Oom
- UGTA Committee Chair – Bob Gatliff

The Board decided that each committee can decide whether or not the committee wishes to have a Vice Chair and to hold that election at their next committee meeting.

▪ **Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Meeting in Washington, D.C.:**

- Dave Hermann reminded the Board that the next EM SSAB Chairs meeting is scheduled for September 16-17, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Dave Hermann and Walt Wegst will be attending the meeting, along with Rosemary Rehfeldt and Kelly Snyder. The Board was asked to identify its “Top Three Issues” and “One Accomplishment” for FY 2008 to present to EM Assistant Secretary Rispoli at the SSAB Chairs meeting. The issues will be presented as follows:
  - Issue #1: Transportation of radioactive waste to the Nevada Test Site
  - Issue #2: Underground Test Area FY 2009 drilling program – potential for drilling a CAB-recommended well
  - Issue #3: Continuing negotiation between DOE and DoD for closure of NSO EM Soils Project cleanup activities of plutonium-contaminated soils on the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR)

The one major accomplishment that the Board decided to present will be as follows:

- CAB’s primary well location recommendation was selected by DOE’s Technical Working Group as one of the sites to be drilled in FY 2009
  - First time the CAB/public was given the opportunity to site a well and participate in closed internal meetings
  - Cooperative approach to well siting created a mutually beneficial relationship between DOE and the public

The Board Chair and Vice Chair were also asked to create an outline and provide information for a roundtable discussion of the entire SSAB. The discussion would include the topics of annual reports, recruitment, and surveys, which each SSAB reporting the experiences and results of their Board on these issues.

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2008. The Board decided to hold the meeting in Las Vegas and have the DOE and the CAB Office check on several meeting room possibilities. After Board notification and approval, a final meeting room confirmation will be e-mailed to the Board.

- The Board was asked if they would like to have a presentation at their next meeting. Kelly Snyder suggested several possibilities and the Board will determine what topics they would like at a later date.

▪ **RadWaste Summit in Las Vegas, Nevada – September 2-5, 2008:**

Ted Oom commented that the Summit was beneficial and a worthwhile event for CAB members to attend. The information provided sparked questions on the topics of compact waste disposal sites, Nuclear Regulatory Commission documents, Performance Assessments and depleted uranium disposal. Kelly Snyder agreed to respond to these questions via e-mail to Ted Oom.

▪ **August and September State of Nevada Notifications:**

Notifications for Corrective Actions, dated August 6, 2008 and August 27, 2008, were included in the Board meeting packets. The DOE will submit, to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), final Corrective Action Decision Documents (CADDs), CADD/Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), CADD/Closure Reports (CRs), Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Work Plans, proposing closure-in-place; or a Post Closure Inspection Report (PCIR) for the following Corrective Action Units (CAUs):

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 107	Low Impact Soil Sites	September 30, 2008

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 Corrective Action report.

Additionally, a list of all documents submitted to the Public Reading Room within the last 30 days is included in this Notification. These include CADDs, CAPs, CRs, SAFER Plans, PCIR's and CAIPs. They are as follows:

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Document</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 134	Aboveground Storage Tanks	SAFER Plan	July 2, 2008
CAU 130	Storage Tanks	SAFER Plan	July 31, 2008
CAU 400	Bomblet Pit and Five Points Landfill (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 404	Roller Coaster Lagoons and Trench (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 407	Roller Coaster RadSafe Area (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 423	Area 3 Underground Discharge Point, Bldg. 0360	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 424	Area 3 Landfill Complexes (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 426	Cactus Spring Waste Trenches (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 427	Area 3 Septic Waste Systems 2, 6 (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 453	Area 9 UXO Landfill (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008
CAU 487	Thunderwell Site (TTR)	PCIR	July 31, 2008

Requests for documents can be made to Rosemary Rehfeldt at the CAB Office.

With all CAB business concluded, Dave Hermann put forth a request for motion to adjourn. Ted Oom moved, seconded by Vernell McNeal, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.**

## CAB MEETING ATTENDANCE

### Bi-Monthly Full Board Meetings

January 2008 through December 2008

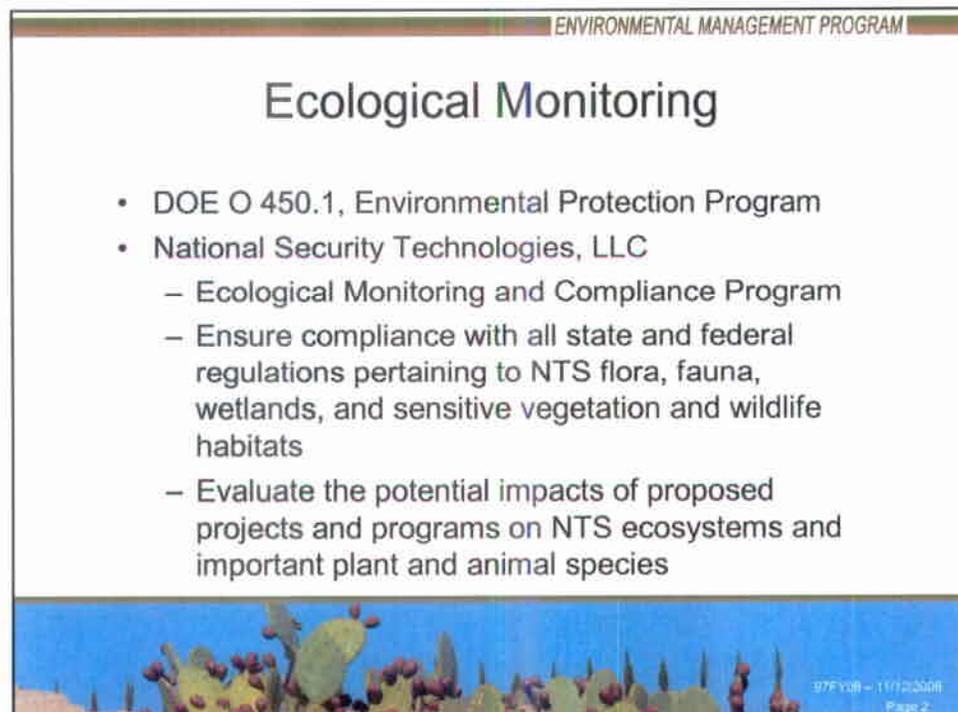
Name	1/10/08	3/11/08	5/14/08	7/9/08	9/10/08	11/12/08	Maximum Terms Limit
Paul Adras	U	U	RM	RM	RM	RM	Removed
Kathleen Bienenstein	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	√	√		May 21, 2014
Joe Boylan	N/A	N/A	N/A	U	RS	RS	Resigned
Bob Gatliff	√	√	√	√	√		August 10, 2010
Lee Geiser	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	E	U		May 21, 2014
Bob Hoving	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	RS	RS	RS	Resigned
David Hermann	√	√	√	√	√		August 10, 2010
Robert Johnson	√	√	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
Bill Lindsey	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	√	√		May 21, 2014
John McGrail	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	√	√		May 21, 2014
Vernell McNeal	√	E	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
Ted Oom	√	√	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
Jack Ramsey	E	√	E	√	√		August 10, 2010
Ron Salzano	N/A	N/A	√N/A	U	√		May 21, 2014
Ted Schweitzer	N/A	√N/A	√N/A	√	√		May 21, 2014
Herb Spiegel	N/A	√N/A	N/A	√	√		May 21, 2014
Stacy Standley	√	E	√	√	E		June 1, 2012
Hal Sullivan	E	√	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
Jim Weeks	E	E	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
Walt Wegst	√	√	√	√	√		June 1, 2012
<b>Key:</b>							
√ = Present							
Blue Cell = Absent → E = Excused U = Unexcused							
N/A = Attendance Requirements Not Applicable - New Recruit							
RM = Removed							
RS = Resigned							

The slide features a background image of a desert landscape with saguaro cacti and a blue sky. A central white box contains the title, a logo, and the presenter's information. The logo is circular with the text "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT" and "NEVADA TEST SITE" around a central image of a desert scene. At the bottom of the slide, there is a line of text identifying the organization.

**Nevada Test Site (NTS)  
Wildlife Overview**

**Lori Plummer**  
Program Manager  
Environmental Protection Team  
November 12, 2008

U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration  
Nevada Site Office Environmental Management

The slide has a white background with a blue header and footer. The header contains the text "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM". The main content is a bulleted list under the heading "Ecological Monitoring". The footer contains the text "97FY08 - 11/12/2008" and "Page 2".

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

## Ecological Monitoring

- DOE O 450.1, Environmental Protection Program
- National Security Technologies, LLC
  - Ecological Monitoring and Compliance Program
  - Ensure compliance with all state and federal regulations pertaining to NTS flora, fauna, wetlands, and sensitive vegetation and wildlife habitats
  - Evaluate the potential impacts of proposed projects and programs on NTS ecosystems and important plant and animal species

97FY08 - 11/12/2008  
Page 2

## Ecosystem Mapping and Data Management

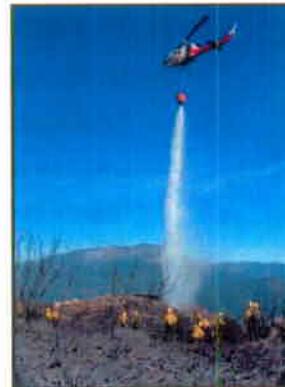
- Comprehensive mapping of plant communities and wildlife habitat on NTS
- Vegetation surveys to determine wildland fire hazards



07FY08 – 11/12/2008  
Page 3

## Habitat Restoration Program

- Evaluate re-vegetation techniques
  - Reduce soil erosion
  - Restore wildlife habitat
  - Reduce wildland fire potential
- Restoration of wildland fire sites



07FY08 – 11/12/2008  
Page 4

## Monitoring Important Species and Habitats

- Sensitive plant monitoring
- Sensitive and protected/regulated animal monitoring
  - Raptor observations
- Other Species
  - Small mammal surveys
  - Wild horse surveys
  - Mule deer surveys

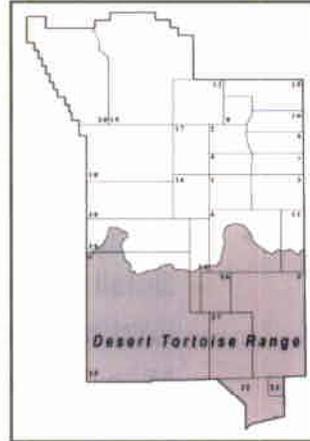
## Desert Tortoise Compliance Program

- Listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
- Biological Opinion – U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Species of greatest concern



## Desert Tortoise Compliance Program

- Inhabits southern one-third of the NTS
- Its presence affects nearly all types of construction projects



97FV06 - 11/12/2008  
Page 7

## Biological Surveys

- Pre-activity
- Pro-active
- Long-term monitoring



97FV06 - 11/12/2008  
Page 8

## Fairy Shrimp

- Collaboration with Christopher Rogers (Eco Analysts, CA)
- New species of Fairy Shrimp?



## West Nile Virus

- Mosquitoes
- Collaboration with Southern Nevada Health District
- NTS distribution



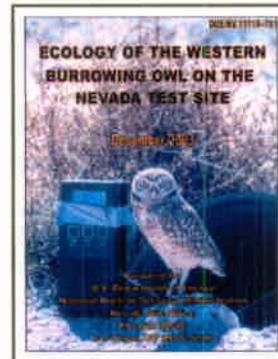
## Skinks

- Sensitive species
- "Evaluate" status
- Western Red-tailed Skink
- Great Basin Skink



## Western Burrowing Owl

- Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- National Species of Conservation Concern
- Declining in many parts of its range



## Western Burrowing Owl



## Bat Surveys

- 15 bat species
- 13 sensitive or protected/regulated species
- Long-term acoustic monitoring



Townsend's Big-eared Bat



Fringed Myotis

## Bat Monitoring

- 68 water sources
- 88 tunnels/mines/structures
- 3 maternity roosts (2 with Townsend's Big-eared Bats and Fringed Myotis together)
- Nearly all used by bats



07EY08 - 11/12/2008  
Page 15

## Mule Deer

- General abundance
- Estimate long-term trends in NTS deer population



07EY08 - 11/12/2008  
Page 16

## Puma (Mountain Lion)

- State protected
- Opportunistic records
- Collaboration with United States Geological Survey
  - Camera Surveys
- Radio-telemetry study



## Conclusion

- Ecological Monitoring and Compliance Program
  - Monitors ecosystem of the NTS
  - Ensures compliance with laws and regulations





# Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

**DRAFT**

November 13, 2008

## Members

**David G. Hermann, Chair**  
**Walter Wegst, Ph.D., Vice-Chair**

*EMPIRE Committee Chair*

Kathleen Bienenstein

Robert Gatliff

*UGTA Committee Chair*

Lawrence Geiser

Robert Johnson

William Lindsey

John M. McGrail, P.E.

Vernell McNeal

Theodore Oom

*Transportation/Waste Committee Chair*

Jackson Ramsey, Ph.D.

*Budget Committee Chair*

*Membership Committee Chair*

Ronald Salzano

Theodore Schweitzer

Herbert Spiegel

Stacy Standley

Harold Sullivan

*Outreach Committee Chair*

James Weeks

## Liaisons

Robert Gamble

*Nye County*

Stephen Mellington

*U.S. Department of Energy,*

*Nevada Site Office*

Tim Murphy, Chief

*Bureau of Federal Facilities,*

*State of Nevada*

*Division of Environmental Protection*

Genne Nelson

*U.S. National Park Service*

## Staff

Rosemary Rehfeldt, Facilitator

*Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.*

Kelly Snyder, DDFO

*U.S. Department of Energy,*

*Nevada Site Office*

Ms. Kelly Snyder  
Deputy Designated Federal Officer  
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office  
232 Energy Way, M/S 505  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

**SUBJECT:** *Recommendation for Revisions - Environmental Management  
Informational Videos*

The Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) would like to make the following recommendations pertaining to U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office Environmental Management's (DOE NSO EM) informational videos. A total of six videos were reviewed. Each video is listed separately with outlined recommendations, as follows:

### Video 1: "Environmental Management: An Overview," runs 19 minutes:

- ◆ The video is too long
- ◆ Because of changes in the EM program, Offsites and Technology Development must be eliminated
- ◆ Information regarding the CAB is outdated
- ◆ The Waste Management portion is too long
  - Some of the information in this portion should be included in the Waste Management video
- ◆ The monitoring network is important information that is not in any other videos, and should be kept and updated. The "stakeholders aspect" of the video should remain in a new video
- ◆ A separate video needs to be created for "EM Successes"
  - Create a new video
  - Include the existence of the CAB and the CAB's successes
- ◆ The audio is good; clear and understandable
  - Unusual terms, such as "transuranic," should be explained within the audio recording
- ◆ Questions to keep in mind when creating a new, updated EM Overview video:
  - Why are we viewing the video?
  - What is the purpose of the Environmental Restoration program?
  - What stands out in other videos that can be incorporated into the EM Overview?

**Video 2: "Groundwater Studies and the Underground Test Area Project," runs approximately 10 minutes:**

- ◆ The music is distracting and irritating
- ◆ The size of the Nevada Test Site should be made clearer with use of an outline or map
- ◆ Explain that the "main entrance" of the NTS is approximately 65 miles from Las Vegas
- ◆ Mention that the NTS is in Nye County, Nevada
- ◆ Past tense should be used when referring to the Nevada Test Site as the largest nuclear testing facility
- ◆ Credits need to be updated
- ◆ Narration from field worker unclear – use main narrator's voice when showing field work
- ◆ The narrator's voice is nice; strong, clear, and distinct
- ◆ Add that the NTS gets snow in addition to rain
- ◆ Videos should provide vocal and on-screen script on how to get further information about DOE NSO EM projects
- ◆ With respect to the siting of wells, take out the word "efficient" and use another, more correct term
- ◆ Take out shots that show a flickering computer screen and replace with charts or data that show computer modeling
- ◆ Give more explanation of why the subsurface geology is important to groundwater studies
  - How the geology impacts the flow of groundwater

**Video 3: "UGTA Well Drilling Steps," runs approximately 7 minutes:**

- ◆ The music is distracting and irritating
- ◆ Video quality is bad; does not look professional
- ◆ Remove the road building segment – or possibly eliminate most of that video footage
- ◆ Show still shots of where the wells are sited
- ◆ In the panned shot of the subsidence craters, the craters looked raised. Use a still shot instead
- ◆ Words scrolling on the screen can be eliminated; have narrator say the words while showing pictures or video on the screen
- ◆ Use captions or subtitles for certain processes, such as: "sampling," "conductor hole," "well drilling," "cost," etc.
- ◆ Qualify well pricing
- ◆ Show the date of the video at the end
- ◆ State the number of wells that have been drilled since 1989 through August 2008
- ◆ Closing information is still accurate and should be kept
- ◆ Possibly standardize the opening scene – perhaps a map or outline of the NTS – then state that it is approximately 65 miles from Las Vegas
  - Keep the opening and closing consistent throughout all the videos
  - Include contact information in all videos
- ◆ Before a final recommendation is made, prioritize the videos
- ◆ Recommend how DOE should use the videos

**Video 4: "Innovation, Remediation, Restoration: All In A Day's Work For Industrial Sites Workers," runs approximately 17 minutes and 30 seconds:**

- ◆ Nicely done; the most professional video so far
- ◆ The "cowboy" is a nice touch
- ◆ Throughout the video, it is hard to understand the "cowboy's" narration; his voice is not clear
- ◆ The "cowboy" mistakenly called a "kangaroo rat" a "mouse"
- ◆ Workers at the site need to be coached for speaking on camera
- ◆ Words printed on the screen:
  - Are the same color as the background; hard to see and are distracting
  - The words are not shown on the screen long enough to read
- ◆ When the amount of dollars that have been saved is mentioned – specifically \$1.5 million – this is compared to what?
- ◆ You can tell that the narrator is reading, he does not sound natural; he mispronounces "Nevada"
- ◆ Mission: words should be on the screen
- ◆ Slogan: words should be on the screen
- ◆ Title: is too small, make the print larger; standardize with the other videos and add the date of the video
- ◆ Update site remediation numbers; the word "today" is used – without a date on the video it's hard to tell how old the video is

**Video 5: "Waste Management at the Nevada Test Site, Version 3," runs approximately 9 minutes:**

- ◆ The video is well-narrated and understandable
- ◆ Video is well done and professional
- ◆ None of the videos explain that the Nevada Test Site is divided into "areas"
  - It would be helpful to include an "area" map
  - Can eliminate additional questions from viewers
  - It would be helpful for viewers to see that most of the subsidence craters are not near the roads
- ◆ As stated for all the EM videos – standardize the opening and closing, as well as:
  - National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) versus Department of Energy (DOE) can be confusing to individuals that do not understand the difference – people relate to DOE as opposed to NNSA
  - It is important to use DOE's seal throughout all of the EM videos
  - Use a "modern-looking" font – that's large enough to see and will make the video's title stand out

**Video 6: "Journey to the Nevada Test Site Radioactive Waste Management Complex," runs approximately 1 minute and 55 seconds; this is a continuous "loop" video, used at trade shows, symposiums, internal open houses, etc.:**

- ◆ There is a short segment that shows a pit with words on the screen about the dimensions of the pit – this segment – which is necessary because it shows the monitoring wells and the groundwater in relation to the pit – definitely needs to be narrated so that viewers understand what they are looking at
- ◆ The background music is acceptable – it's an "attention grabber;" it's the right volume, and does not drown out the speaker
- ◆ This video should be used along with fact sheets in a staffed booth
- ◆ As mentioned for other videos – consistency is needed in the beginning and end – standardize to match all other videos
- ◆ The narration in this video is well done and understandable

Ms. Kelly Snyder  
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office  
November 13, 2008  
Page 4

The following bullets are a recap of items that should be taken into consideration for all videos:

- ◆ Explain unusual terms in the audio recordings
- ◆ In most of the videos, eliminate the music
- ◆ Credits need to be updated
- ◆ Videos should provide vocal and on-screen script on how to get further information about DOE NSO EM projects
- ◆ Explain that the main entrance to the NTS is approximately 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas
- ◆ Mention that the NTS is in Nye County
- ◆ Keep video photography and quality looking professional
- ◆ Standardize the beginning and ending of all videos; include the DOE "Seal;" and include the date of the video
- ◆ Explain in all videos that the NTS is divided into "areas," and show an area map
- ◆ Use updated, clear-looking fonts for words appearing on the screen
- ◆ Before a final recommendation is made, prioritize the videos
- ◆ Recommend how DOE should use the videos

Additionally, as outlined on Page 1 of this letter, a separate, new video needs to be created that highlights all of the "EM Successes" both at the NTS and Offsite locations. Within this video, include a segment on the Community Advisory Board that includes the CAB's successes, and the successful working relationship between the DOE and the CAB.

The CAB appreciates the opportunity to provide recommendations to the DOE Nevada Site Office. We look forward to your formal response to our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

David G. 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  
C. Brennan, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
M. Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
E. Schmitt, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
CAB Members  
EM Records



# Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

DRAFT

November 13, 2008

## Members

**David G. Hermann, Chair**  
**Walter Wegst, Ph.D., Vice-Chair**  
*EMPIRE Committee Chair*  
Kathleen Bienenstein  
Joseph Boylan  
Robert Gatliff  
*UGTA Committee Chair*  
Lawrence Geiser  
Robert Johnson  
William Lindsey  
John M. McGrail, P.E.  
Vernell McNeal  
Theodore Oom  
*Transportation/Waste Committee Chair*  
Jackson Ramsey, Ph.D.  
*Budget Committee Chair*  
*Membership Committee Chair*  
Ronald Salzano  
Theodore Schweitzer  
Herbert Spiegel  
Stacy Standley  
Harold Sullivan  
*Outreach Committee Chair*  
James Weeks

## Liaisons

Robert Gamble  
*Nye County*  
Stephen Mellington  
*U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Site Office*  
Tim Murphy, Chief  
*Bureau of Federal Facilities,  
State of Nevada  
Division of Environmental Protection*  
Genne Nelson  
*U.S. National Park Service*

## Staff

Rosemary Rehfeldt, Facilitator  
*Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.*  
Kelly Snyder, DDFO  
*U.S. Department of Energy,  
Nevada Site Office*

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

**SUBJECT:** *Comments and Recommendations Pertaining to the State of Nevada Attorney General's Letter to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) dated August 12, 2008*

The Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB) reviewed and is providing comments regarding the State of Nevada Attorney General's letter dated August 12, 2008. The Attorney General requests that no new mixed low-level waste streams be disposed at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) until federal land withdrawal issues are resolved with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). The major points of the letter refer to DOE's proposed unauthorized uses of the NTS for purposes other than "weapons testing."

In the interest of resolving land withdrawal issues between DOE and DOI, the Attorney General proposes that DOE commit to seven specific items (see enclosed copy of Attorney General's letter).

The CAB requests answers to the following questions:

- Who at the State has the authority to oversee/regulate DOE's low-level waste disposal operations at the NTS?
- Is the Attorney General's office overriding the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection issued Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) permit that allows DOE to dispose mixed low-level waste? If so, it appears that two State of Nevada offices are providing conflicting guidance to the DOE.
- There is public confusion as to the issue of unauthorized land uses at the Nevada Test Site. Does the DOE know of any unauthorized land uses?

If the DOE is unable to answer these questions, the CAB requests that DOE ask these questions of the State of Nevada on behalf of the CAB.

The CAB also makes the following recommendations:

- Pursuant to the terms and conditions agreed upon between the DOE and the State of Nevada in the RCRA permit that was issued by the State of Nevada, the CAB requests that existing agreements remain in place and are adhered to by both parties. The DOE must continue to actively dispose low-level and mixed low-level waste streams that it is responsible for in a safe and compliant manner. In addition, the State of Nevada needs to honor its commitments that have been agreed to by both parties.
- With respect to the Attorney General's proposal for a new EIS, the CAB stands by its recommendation letter, dated May 29, 2008, that there is no need to create a new EIS for Nevada Test Site.

The CAB appreciates the opportunity to provide recommendations to the DOE. We look forward to your formal response to our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Gov. J. Gibbons, State of Nevada  
C. Cortez-Masto, State of Nevada Office of the Attorney General  
Sen. J. Ensign  
Sen. H. Reid  
Rep. J. Porter  
Rep. S. Berkley  
Rep. D. Heller  
T. Murphy, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
A. Biaggi  
B. Loux  
L. Drozdoff  
J. Appenzeller-Wing, NNSA/NSO  
C. Lockwood, NNSA/NSO  
K. Snyder, DDFO  
M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
D. Frost, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
C. Brennan, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
M. Hudson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
E. Schmitt, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS  
CAB Members, Liaisons and staff

**Environmental Management's Monthly Report to the CAB  
November 2008**

**Low-Level Waste (LLW)**

**Accomplishments (October)**

- The Nevada Site Office (NSO) conducted one (1) Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) audit at West Valley and one (1) RWAP impromptu facility evaluation at Pantex in Texas.
- The NSO participated in the Fall Generators' Workshop held October 13-17, 2008 in Livermore, CA.
- As of October 26, 2008, 141,466 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW in 146 shipments and 4,658 ft<sup>3</sup> in 12 shipments of Mixed LLW (MLLW) was disposed at the Nevada Test Site (NTS).
- As of October 26, 2008, LLW Operations has worked 416,877 hours since its last lost-time accident (September 2003).
- On 10/23/08 at approximately 0838 hours, while conducting receiving inspections at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC), Operations personnel noticed elevated readings on several boxes from three (3) PermaFix Northwest. It is generated by Permafix Northwest from waste received from Idaho National Laboratory. Container contamination information is as follows:

2500 dpm per 100 cm square alpha swipe  
30,000 dpm per 100 cm square alpha direct  
10,000 dpm per 100 cm square beta direct

The Sub-Project moved and quarantined the three shipments into the RWMC compound. Further radiological surveys will be taken after posting. Surveys of the tractors or trailers detected no contamination. Operations released the Tractors at 1230 hours, but the trailers will remain in quarantine until PermaFix retrieves them.

No personnel were contaminated.

The NSO is issuing a Corrective Action Request (CAR) to PermaFix. Currently, the NSO is suspending PermaFix' NTSWAC Certification. However, the NSO may reduce that suspension to Permafix Northwest or to the specific waste stream information becomes available.

**Expectations (November)**

- Expect to receive over 200,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of LLW and MLLW for disposal during the month of November.
- The LLW Sub-Project expects to conduct one (1) RWAP impromptu facility evaluation of a waste generator.
- NSO will conduct a 435.1 Compliance Audit at the Savannah River Site.

**Transuranic Waste (TRU)**

**Completed Activities (October)**

- Oversized boxes continue to be repackaged in the Visual Examination and Repackaging Building (VERB). As of October 24, 2008, 35 oversized boxes have been repackaged.
- Nevada Site Office continued to work with the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO). Representatives from CBFO performed Head Space Gas Sampling on 51 TRU drums ready to be shipped,

observed operations, and reviewed documentation to develop process knowledge profiles for TRU shipments to the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Consolidation Site.

- NSO participated in weekly meetings with CBFO to discuss the Integrated Project Schedule and ongoing activities to ensure completion of TRU waste shipment to the INL Consolidation Site by December 31, 2008.

#### Expectations (November)

- Repackaging operation will continue in the VERB. 14 oversized box and 31 drums remain to be repacked.
- NSO will continue to work with the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) to validate characterization data for the remaining TRU waste.
- CBFO personnel will set up the Mobile Loading Unit, complete on-site training and begin loading TRUPACT II containers.

#### **Industrial Sites:**

##### Accomplishments (October)

- Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 116, Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
  - Continued decontamination and decommissioning field work
- CAU 117, Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
  - Continued decontamination and decommissioning field work
- CAU 130, Storage Tanks
  - Completed corrective action investigation field work
- CAU 134, Aboveground Storage Tanks
  - Began closure field work
- CAU 139, Waste Disposal Sites
  - Began closure field work
- CAU 546, Injection Well and Surface Releases
  - Completed the closure activities
- CAU 556, Dry Wells and Surface Release Points
  - Received approval for the final Corrective Action Decision Document/Closure Report from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) with comment requesting ERRATA Sheet
  - ERRATA sheet submitted and approved by NDEP
- CAU 560, Septic Systems
  - Began corrective action investigation field work

##### Planned (November)

- CAU 116, Area 25 Test Cell C Facility
  - Continue decontamination and decommissioning field work
- CAU 117, Area 26 Pluto Disassembly Facility
  - Continue decontamination and decommissioning field work
- CAU 134, Aboveground Storage Tanks
  - Continue closure field work
- CAU 139, Waste Disposal Sites
  - Continue closure field work
- CAU 557, Spills and Tank Sites
  - Begin corrective action investigation field work
- CAU 560, Septic Systems
  - Complete corrective action investigation field work

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

### **Completed (October)**

#### **Frenchman Flat**

- Comments on the draft Phase II Transport Document continued to be addressed.
- A kick-off meeting was held on October 22 to develop the criteria (objectives) for the long-term monitoring.

#### **Pahute Mesa**

- The Phase II Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) continued in revision as per DOE comments. A one-month extension (to December 3) was granted for the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) milestone submittal to Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP).
- The Phase I Transport Document was submitted on October 1 for NDEP review.
- Began compiling the Phase II Well Drilling Criteria Report.
- Began comment resolution for the Phase II CAIP Addendum document.
- Relocated the ER-EC-11 site to avoid cultural resources. Re-surveyed and staked boundaries around the new location and conducted ecological surveys of the area.
- Began access road, drill pad and sump construction at the ER-20-7 site.
- Reactivated U-20 Water Well for a water source to support construction.

#### **Yucca Flat**

- The fracture evaluation was completed.
- Planning for the temperature data acquisition was initiated with discussions with potential vendors for thermal data collection and identification of boreholes to be included in the tests.
- Began FY 2009 Phase I Transport Model Analysis and Evaluation efforts.

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

- Laboratory analyses continued of samples collected from ER-12-3 and ER-12-4.
- Began FY 2009 support to flow and transport modeling.
- Began characterizing Rainier Mesa tunnel effluent ponds.
- Began compiling information about seeps of water in Rainier Mesa tunnels.

### **Planned (November)**

#### **Frenchman Flat**

- The Monitoring Network Criteria task will continue with another pre-emptive review meeting planned on November 17.
- The Phase II Transport Document will continue to be revised based on DOE comments.
- Begin NSTec FY 2009 fracture analysis task.

#### **Pahute Mesa**

- Development of the Drilling Criteria document will be initiated.
- Complete comment resolution for the Phase II CAIP Addendum document.
- The Phase II CAIP, Rev. 0, will be submitted to DOE.
- Continue compiling the Phase II Well Drilling Criteria Report.
- Field stake locations for remaining Phase II drill holes.
- Complete access road, drill pad and sump construction at the ER-20-7 site.
- Begin access road, drill pad and sump construction at the ER-EC-11 site.

#### **Yucca Flat**

- Thermal investigations will be initiated.
- The Phase I Transport Model Analysis and Evaluation will continue.
- Continue support to the Phase I flow and transport modeling efforts.

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

- The sampling report for ER-12-3 and ER-12-4 will be completed.
- Continue support to flow and transport modeling.
- Continue characterizing Rainier Mesa tunnel effluent ponds.
- Continue compiling information about seeps of water in Rainier Mesa tunnels.

### **Soils:**

#### **Completed Activities (October)**

- Awaiting Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) comments on the Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 107 Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) (Submitted on 9/29/2008).
- Continuing the development of the CAU 370 Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD).
- Continuing the development of the Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) for CAU 371.
- Initiated the CAIP for CAU 372

#### **Expectations (November)**

- Conduct Corrective Action Alternatives (CAA) meeting for CAU 370 CADD
- Conduct Data Quality Objectives meeting for CAU 371 CAIP.

### **Public Involvement:**

#### **Accomplishments (October)**

- Retrieved the Transportation Poster Display, Transportation Drum Display, and the Groundwater Poster Display from the Beatty Public Library and Amargosa Valley Public Library.
- Delivered and set up the Operation Clean Desert display for long-term exhibition at Lied Discovery Children's Museum. Display will remain through December 31, 2008. Activity books and CD games will be distributed as available through the duration of the exhibit.
- Set up Waste Management Timeline Poster Display, Transportation Poster Display, Transportation Drum Display, and the Groundwater Poster Display at the Nevada Site Office in preparation for the Open House sponsored by National Security Technologies.

#### **Expectations (November)**

- Set up Waste Management Timeline Poster Display, Transportation Poster Display, Transportation Drum Display, and the Groundwater Poster Display at UNLV School of Engineering for tentative one month duration.
- Participate in CHOLLA (Clasping Hands Offering Lifelong Learning Adventures) meeting. This group is comprised of area organizations and businesses promoting field trips and other learning opportunities to the Clark County School District.
- Participate in the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Program Full Board meeting on November 12.



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

September 26, 2008

Mr. David Hermann, Chair  
Nevada Test Site Community Advisory Board  
P.O. Box 98518  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8518

Dear Mr. Hermann:

I would like to thank the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs for their letter of August 13, 2008, in support of the establishment of the Office of Communications and External Affairs within the Office of Environmental Management. As you know, I share your view on the importance and the difficulty involved in developing a meaningful dialogue on nuclear waste issues. I consider the creation of this office as a key accomplishment of my tenure.

The Office of Communications is looking forward to working with the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board. I would like to also thank you for extending an invitation to Mr. Jeffrey Bobeck, Director of the Office, to participate in your meeting. It is my understanding that he is planning to attend and is already on the agenda.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Melissa A. Nielson, Director of the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Accountability, at (202) 586-0356.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Inés R. Triay".

Inés R. Triay (Acting for)  
Assistant Secretary for  
Environmental Management



**Public Notification of Corrective Actions**  
**October 7, 2008**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

The Department of Energy (DOE) will not be submitting any Corrective Action Unit (CAU) final Corrective Action Decision Documents (CADDs), CADD/Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), CADD/Closure Reports (CRs), or Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Work Plans, proposing closure-in-place to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), during the next 60 days.

Additionally, there were no documents submitted to the Public Reading Rooms during September 2008.

**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**

**Public Notification of Corrective Actions**  
**November 5, 2008**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

The Department of Energy (DOE) will be submitting the following Corrective Action Unit (CAU) final Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD), CADD/Corrective Action Plan (CAP), CADD/Closure Report (CR), or Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Work Plan, proposing closure-in-place to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), during the next 60 days. This document will recommend a closure-in-place strategy in which engineering and/or administrative controls will be used to close the sites although contamination remains.

When submitting this document to NDEP, copies will be supplied to the Las Vegas and Carson City Public Reading Rooms for review. The Community Advisory Board (CAB) may request copies of the documents by contacting the CAB office at [ntscab@nv.doe.gov](mailto:ntscab@nv.doe.gov). Submit comments regarding a decision document to Tim Murphy (NDEP) at [TMurphy@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:TMurphy@ndep.nv.gov) within 30 days of the document's release. Public Reading Room addresses are listed below.

CAU Number	CAU Description	Document	Approximate Submittal Date
546	Injection Well and Surface Releases	CADD/CR	12/15/08

**Site Information for CAU 546, Injection Well and Surface Spills, CAS 09-20-01, Injection Well**

**Location:** Area 9

**CAU Brief History:** CAS 09-20-01 is located within the U-9a crater and consists of an injection well and a drum. The injection well received decontamination waste and classified core. The origin of the drum is unknown.

**Contaminants of Concern:** radionuclides, total petroleum hydrocarbons – diesel-range organics, *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, volatile organic compounds and semivolatile organic compounds

**Type of Corrective Action Taking Place:** Close-in-place with a Use Restriction for the subsurface soil. Although no contaminants of concern were identified in the surface soil the site is being closed-in-place because of the contamination suspected to be in the subsurface due to releases from the injection well.

**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

Additionally, the following is a list of all documents submitted to the Public Reading Rooms during October 2008. Attached is the Executive Summary from the CAU 121 Closure Report.

CAU Number	CAU Description	Document	Submittal Date
121	Storage Tanks and Miscellaneous Sites	CR	10/08/2008

## Executive Summary for CAU 121

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 121 is identified in the *Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order* (FFACO) (1996, as amended February 2008) as Storage Tanks and Miscellaneous Sites. CAU 121 consists of the following three Corrective Action Sites (CASs) located in Area 12 of the Nevada Test Site, which is approximately 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada.

- CAS 12-01-01, Aboveground Storage Tank
- CAS 12-01-02, Aboveground Storage Tank
- CAS 12-22-26, Drums; 2 AST's

CAU 121 closure activities were conducted according to the FFACO and the Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration Plan for CAU 121 (U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office, 2007). Field work took place from February through September 2008. Samples were collected to determine the path forward to close each site. Closure activities were completed as defined in the plan based on sample analytical results and site conditions.

No contaminants of concern (COCs) were present at CAS 12-01-01; therefore, no further action was chosen as the corrective action alternative. As a best management practice (BMP), the empty aboveground storage tank (AST) was removed and disposed as sanitary waste. At CAS 12-01-02, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were present above the preliminary action level (PAL) in the soil beneath the AST that could possibly have originated from the AST contents. Therefore, PCBs were considered COCs, and the site was clean closed by excavating and disposing of soil containing PCBs. Approximately 5 cubic yards (yd<sup>3</sup>) of soil were excavated and disposed as petroleum hydrocarbon PCB remediation waste, and approximately 13 yd<sup>3</sup> of soil were excavated and disposed as PCB remediation waste. Cleanup samples were collected to confirm that the remaining soil did not contain PCBs above the PAL. Other compounds detected in the soil above PALs (i.e., total petroleum hydrocarbons [TPH] and semi-volatile organic compounds [SVOCs]) were determined to not likely have originated from the tank. Additional sample results showed that the compounds were likely present as a result of degraded asphalt around the adjacent, active water tank and not from the abandoned AST; therefore, they were not considered COCs. As a BMP, the empty AST was removed and disposed as sanitary waste.

No COCs were present at CAS 12-22-26; therefore, no further action was chosen as the corrective action alternative. Although TPH was present at concentrations that exceeded the PAL, the volatile organic compound and SVOC hazardous constituents of TPH did not exceed the final action levels (FALs); therefore, TPH was not considered a COC. As a BMP, the empty AST was removed and disposed as sanitary waste.

Closure activities generated sanitary waste, petroleum hydrocarbon PCB remediation waste, PCB remediation waste, and hazardous waste. Waste was appropriately managed and disposed. Waste that is currently staged on site is being appropriately managed and will be disposed under approved waste profiles in permitted landfills. Waste minimization activities included waste characterization sampling and segregation of waste streams.