

New Mixed Waste Storage Unit (MWSU) Permit



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Briefing to CAB Transportation/Waste Committee
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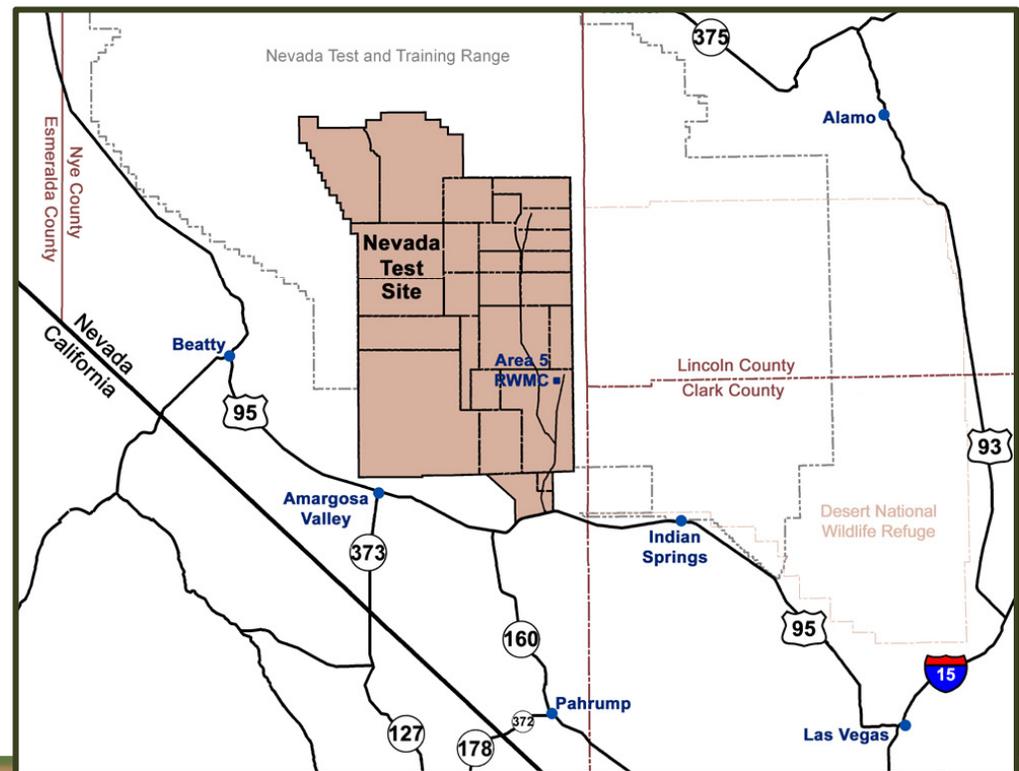
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New Permit Being Pursued

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office submitted an application to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for a Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit to store mixed low-level waste (MLLW) at the Nevada Test Site prior to permanent disposal



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What is MLLW?

- MLLW is waste that contains both low-level radioactive waste and a hazardous component (toxic, corrosive, reactive, ignitable, or specifically identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as “hazardous”)



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Why is a Storage Unit Needed?

- Currently, MLLW is permanently disposed in Pit 3 at the Nevada Test Site Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC)
- In accordance with a RCRA permit, Pit 3 must close by November 30, 2010
- Design and construction of a new RCRA-permitted MLLW disposal cell is underway (anticipate opening Spring 2011)
- Storage of MLLW is needed to “bridge the gap” between closing Pit 3 and opening the new disposal cell to ensure clean up activities at DOE sites continues



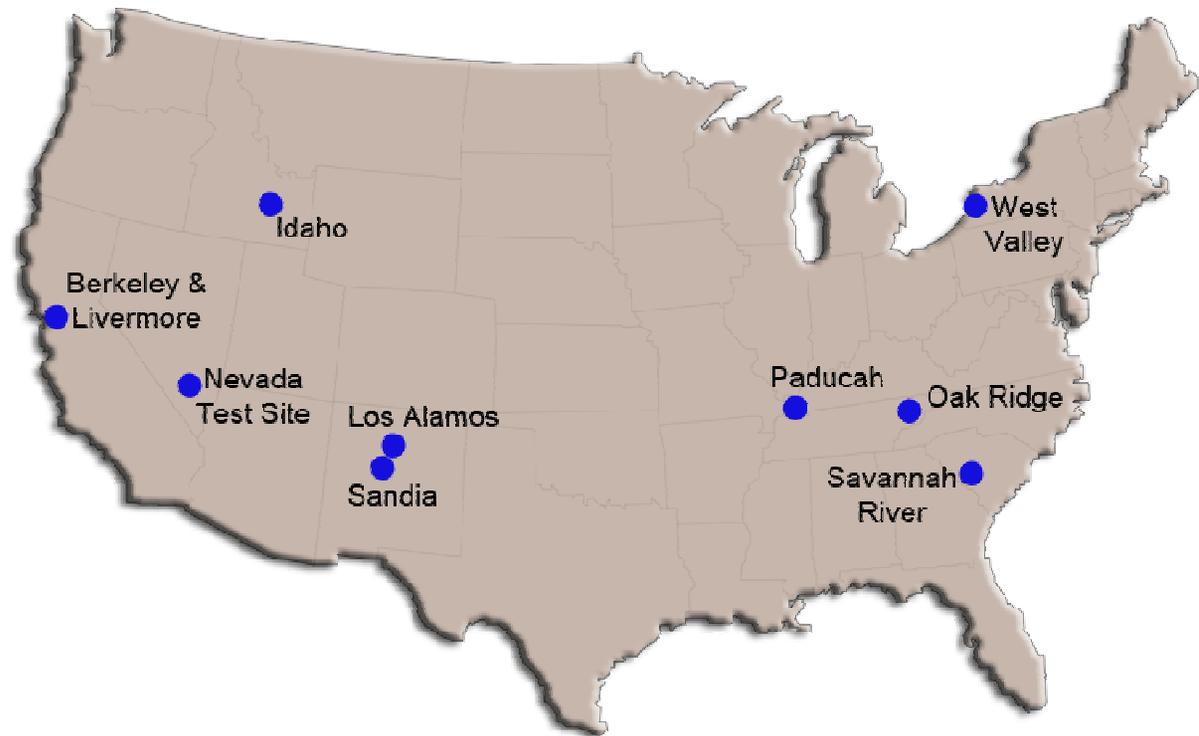
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Where will the Waste Come From?

- MLLW is generated by environmental clean up activities at DOE sites, including the Nevada Test Site



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Where will the Mixed Waste Storage Unit be Located?

- Waste will be stored in multiple locations at the Nevada Test Site Area 5 RWMC
 - TRU Pad Cover Building and storage pad (1)
 - Visual Examination and Repackaging Building (2)
 - Real-Time Radiography Building and pad (3)
 - Sprung Instant Structure Building (4)
 - Drum Holding Pad (5)



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TRU Pad Cover Building and storage pad

Real-Time Radiography Building and pad



Sprung Instant Structure Building



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Visual Examination
and Repackaging
Building

Drum Holding Pad



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Permitting Process Timeline

- Public meeting held to inform community of intent to submit permit application – April 26, 2010
- DOE accepts comments on its intent to submit application – May 7, 2010
- DOE submits permit application to State of Nevada (NDEP) – May 2010
- NDEP reviews permit application and returns comments to DOE – 180 days from receipt
- DOE responds to and resolves NDEP comments (if received) - within 30 days of comment receipt



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Permitting Process Timeline

(continued)

- NDEP conducts a 45-day public comment period on the draft permit – July 30 to September 15, 2010
- NDEP resolves public comments in conjunction with DOE – Fall 2010
- NDEP notifies DOE regarding permit decision – December 2010



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Anticipated Permit Terms and Conditions

- RCRA permit valid for 5 years
- Waste stored in boxes and/or drums in accordance with U.S. Department of Transportation requirements and Nevada Test Site Waste Acceptance Criteria
- NDEP conducts annual inspections
- NDEP has authority to revoke permit



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CAB Involvement

- DOE encourages the CAB to provide a recommendation regarding their position on this activity during NDEP's 45-day public comment period (anticipated timeframe - Fall 2010)



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