



Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs

April 12, 2006

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Mr. Stephen A. Mellington
Assistant Manager for
Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy – Nevada Site Office
P.O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

Re: Community Advisory Board (CAB) FY 2008 Budget Prioritization

Dear Mr. Mellington:

The CAB Budget Committee has completed its annual review and prioritization of the U.S. Department of Energy's Nevada Site Office (DOE/NSO) Environmental Management (EM) projects for the FY 2008 budget submittal. The committee presented its recommendations to the full Board at the April 12, 2006, CAB administrative meeting, where they were approved by the full Board.

Last year, the Board reviewed and prioritized five EM technical projects. With the information the Budget Committee received from the project managers, we combined the Mixed Low-Level Waste and the Low-Level Waste into one area for budget ranking. This resulted in four areas being considered. This year, the Committee has continued to place the Underground Test Area project into the number one slot. This ranking reflects our commitment to working with you to ensure that monies are available to continue drilling and monitoring efforts in support of groundwater issues at the Nevada Test Site. As you know, the CAB's UGTA Committee has recently made recommendations to you for the location of a network of three additional UGTA wells at the NTS. We will continue to focus on this issue and sincerely hope that funding will become available to support that recommendation.

Following is the Board's recommended FY 2008 budget ranking:

Ranking	Environmental Management Project
1	Underground Test Area (UGTA)
2	Industrial Sites
3	Soils
4	Mixed Low-Level Waste / Low-Level Waste

The CAB utilized three criteria to rank the projects: (1) Health & Safety Risks, (2) Regulatory Requirements, and (3) Completion Schedule. We then

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considered any significant changes in a project area from last year, and applied that information to last year's rankings to arrive at our current recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the annual budget prioritization and for the assistance provided by the EM staff. Each project manager took the time to meet with Budget Committee members at the CAB office and provided detailed follow-up information. We sincerely appreciate this support and look forward to your response related to this year's budget submittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Peterson, Chairperson
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ, (EM-30.1) FORS
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