U.S. Department of Energy

Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

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U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
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Navarro-Intera

September 17, 2012

Ms. Kelly Snyder, DDFO
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
P.O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Proposed FY 2013 NSSAB Work Plan

Dear Ms. Snyder,

At our September 12, 2012, full board meeting, the NSSAB had the opportunity to review the list of activities the Department of Energy (DOE) proposed the NSSAB incorporate into their FY 2013 work plan. In addition, the NSSAB also discussed potential tasks. After Full Board discussion, the NSSAB would like DOE's approval for the attached work plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on Environmental Management activities at the Nevada National Security Site and look forward to a productive year.

Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Bienenstein, Chair

Attachment

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2) FORS
C. Alexander, DOE/HQ (EM-3.2) FORS
K. Snyder, EMOS, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas, NV
C. Lockwood, EMOS, NNSA/NSO, Las Vegas, NV
B. Ulmer, N-I, Las Vegas, NV
NSSAB Members and Liaisons
NNSA/NSO Read File

232 Energy Way, M/S 505, North Las Vegas, NV 89030
Phone 702-630-0522 ◇ Fax: 702-295-5300
E-mail: NSSAB@nv.doe.gov ◇ Website Home Page: http://www.nv.energy.gov/NSSAB

FY 2013 Proposed NSSAB Work Plan Tasks

Item 1	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 105 - Area 2 Yucca Flat Atmospheric Test Sites Evaluation of Corrective Action Alternatives* - Provide DOE a recommendation on which corrective action alternative (closure in place or clean closure) should be selected by DOE for CAU 105 (Soils Activity)
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	May 2013
	Supporting Activities:	Field investigations at CAU 105 begin in October of 2012 and will continue through January of 2013. The NSO will provide a briefing to the NSSAB in April 2013 that outlines the nature and extent of contamination, the potential risk to human health and the environment, and an overview of the *Evaluation of Corrective Action Alternatives* document (a copy of the draft document will also be made available). This evaluation utilizes EPA's screening criteria for ranking corrective actions (i.e. no further action, clean closure, and closure in place) and will provide the basis for NSO's recommended preferred corrective action option.

Item 2	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Closing Use Restriction (UR) Sites* - Provide Recommendation for Removal or Retention of Use Restrictions at seven specific Industrial Sites
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	January 2013
	Supporting Activities:	During development of the Industrial Sites closeout document, it was determined that the potential exists for the removal of use restrictions at certain Industrial Sites. A total of 48 sites were identified as candidates and work is underway to remove the URs at 37 of these sites. An additional four sites were determined to be too expensive to pursue. The remaining seven sites are still potential candidates and a decision is needed on whether to pursue removal of the UR. At each of the seven sites, additional field investigation would be required. The key factors in whether the UR can be removed are the risks to workers in conducting field work and the cost/benefit of investigation required to conduct UR removal. A briefing/document describing each of the seven sites along with a proposed plan for additional investigation and UR removal and a cost/benefit analysis will be provided to the NSSAB in November 2012 to allow for a recommendation by January 2013 as to which of the seven sites should be pursued for UR removal.

FY 2013 Proposed NSSAB Work Plan Tasks

Item 3	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Review Questions for Rainier Mesa Peer Review Panel* - Review the draft questions developed for the Rainier Mesa Peer Review panel and provide recommendations on how they could be enhanced (UGTA Activity)
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	September 2013
	Supporting Activities:	Upon completion of the Rainier Mesa flow and transport model document, a peer review panel will be assembled to provide an independent review of the modeling, similar to the Frenchman Flat Peer Review conducted in 2010. A set of questions will be prepared for the panel to answer during the review. DOE will provide a briefing on this process and provide the NSSAB with a list of draft questions in August 2013.

Item 4	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Nye County Drilling Proposal* - Review the Nye County Drilling Proposal and determine from a community perspective if this is something the Board recommends the DOE support (UGTA Activity)
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	January 2013
	Supporting Activities:	DOE will invite the Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Project Office liaison to share the county's groundwater well proposal with the NSSAB in November 2012. DOE will discuss the potential impacts and benefits of the proposal.

Item 5	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*FY 2015 Baseline Prioritization* - Review FY 2015 baseline funding needs and provide a recommendation to DOE prioritizing the work by activity
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	January 2013
	Supporting Activities:	DOE will provide briefings on planned FY 2015 activities in January 2013. The NSSAB will provide a recommendation ranking the activities.

FY 2013 Proposed NSSAB Work Plan Tasks

Item 6	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Community Environmental Monitoring Program* – Provide a recommendation to DOE regarding potential ways the CEMP could be enhanced to ensure it reflects current missions
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	August 2013
	Supporting Activities:	DOE will provide an overview briefing on the current program and path forward options in May 2013. One-two NSSAB members will have the opportunity to attend the CEMP workshop in July 2013.

Item 7	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Waste Acceptance Review Panel* – Review the existing Waste Acceptance Review Panel process and provide a recommendation for ways the process could be enhanced
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	August 2013
	Supporting Activities:	DOE will provide an overview briefing on the WARP process in April 2013. Two NSSAB member representatives will be invited to observe WARP meetings between May-August 2013.

Item 8	**Description of Work Plan Item:**	*Groundwater Sampling Plan* – Review the sampling plan and provide the DOE with a recommendation for ways the plan could be enhanced from a community perspective
	Deadline for Submittal to DOE:	September 2013
	Supporting Activities:	The UGTA Activity is developing a comprehensive groundwater sampling plan to guide the collection of analytical and physical data for determining source term characteristics, plume migration, and baseline water quality. In May, DOE will brief the Board on the plan. DOE will provide the NSSAB a copy of the plan in early August after a public release review. In August, DOE will answer questions during the Full Board meeting.