

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 ft³ 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 ft³ 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 ft³ 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 ft³ 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.