

Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board

March 17, 2011

Mr. Scott Wade
Assistant Manager for Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
P. O. Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) Recommendations
for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Budget Prioritizations

Dear Mr. Wade:

The NSSAB has completed its annual review and prioritization of the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office (DOE NSO) Environmental Management (EM) projects for the FY 2013 budget submittal.

As in previous years, the Board reviewed and prioritized four EM technical sub-projects and continues to place the highest priority on the Underground Test Area (UGTA) sub-project. This ranking reflects our commitment to working with EM to ensure budget dollars are available in support of groundwater issues at the Nevada National Security Site.

Following is the NSSAB's recommended FY 2013 budget ranking with the reasons for its ranking. A variety of factors were considered including: health and safety risks, regulatory requirements and completion schedules. We also considered any significant changes in sub-project areas from last year and applied that information to arrive at our current recommendations.

1. UGTA
 - Validate flow models
 - **Supplemented by additional drilling and data collection**
 - Highest potential impact on the public, particularly off site rural communities
2. Low-Level Waste
 - Provides a vital resource for the entire DOE Complex
 - Costs to re-start operations after temporary closure would exceed normal operating costs
 - Progress towards mixed low-level waste treatment facility
3. Soils
 - Continue momentum of Corrective Action Units closures
 - Funds are necessary to work toward agreement with the Air Force
 - Additional funds would allow for accelerated clean up

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& Engineering, Inc.*
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*U.S. Department of Energy,
Nevada Site Office*

Recommendation on FY13 Budget Prioritizations

March 17, 2011

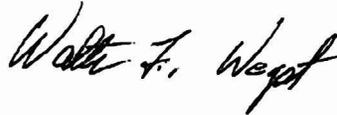
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4. Industrial Sites

- Project is essentially complete except for Engine Maintenance Assembly and Disassembly facility scheduled for 2017
Until 2017, programs are at minimum level for monitoring and inspection
- Commitments to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection cannot be met with any additional funding reductions

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the annual budget prioritization and for the assistance provided by the EM staff. The federal staff took the time to meet with the NSSAB and provided detailed information. We sincerely appreciate this support and look forward to your response regarding this year's budget submittal.

Sincerely,



Walter F. Wegst, Chair

cc: M. Nielson, DOE/HQ (EM-13) FORS
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