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May 19, 2008

Ms. Kelly Snyder, DDFO
U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Site Office
P.O. Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Programs (CAB)
Recommendations for Revisions to fact sheet: Tonopah Test Range

Following are recommendations for revisions to the fact sheet mentioned in the subject of this letter. The CAB suggests the same general revisions and additions for all fact sheets and brochures:

1. Define unfamiliar terms and acronyms before they are used in a sentence.
2. Bold the definitions so that they are easily referenced.
3. When doing several definitions together, bullet the definitions, rather than listing them in the sentence.
4. Include a key and/or glossary on each fact sheet for unfamiliar terms and acronyms.
5. Reference on each fact sheet that other fact sheets are available.
6. In general, increase font point size for easier reading.
7. Try to keep fact sheets at an eighth grade reading level.
8. Update all references to off-site locations to comply with current transition status.
9. Distribute fact sheets to libraries, city halls, Nuclear Testing Archive, Legislator offices, environmental groups, UNLV, and senior centers.

Specific suggestions for the above-mentioned fact sheet are:

Tonopah Test Range

The title "History" will be kept in the fact sheet.

- Within the first paragraph under the "History" section, in the second sentence, place a comma after the word "Range."
- In the second paragraph of the "History" section, there are changes to each sentence. The entire paragraph should read as follows:
 - *TTR's features attracted field testing managers from Sandia National Laboratories in the 1950s for several reasons. The desert valley's dryness left clear pathways for tracking aircraft and airborne weapons; and prevented growth of dense vegetation that would obscure views of bomb impacts. The sparse vegetation limits the amount of wildlife in the area, thus minimizing adverse damage to the wildlife. In addition, the parallel mountain ranges create a hidden valley, assuring that secret testing could be conducted safely and securely.*

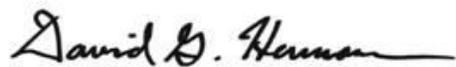
- Changes to the last sentence in the next paragraph should read: *Contaminants include unexploded ordnance, heavy metals, pesticides, total petroleum hydrocarbons and hazardous material and radioactive constituents.*
 - In the fourth paragraph under the “History” section, the last sentence should be moved to the end of the sixth paragraph in this section. The wording in this sentence should be revised, and the revised wording will be noted in the explanation for changes within the sixth paragraph.
 - The first sentence of the fifth paragraph should be deleted. The second sentence should be added to the fourth paragraph, as the second to the last sentence. With changes, the last two sentences in paragraph five will read as follows:
 - *These surveys include locating underground storage tanks and sumps, trace pipes and cables, define leach-fields and septic tanks, and map landfill boundaries. They also examine the potential risk to the public and the environment.*
 - There are a number of changes in paragraph six. Therefore, the entire revised paragraph should read as follows:
 - *During the Preliminary Assessment (PA) an inventory of the contaminated sites is conducted to assist in developing a work plan. As part of the inventory, scientists collect historical information, interpret aerial and ground photographs, and review engineering drawings. Scientists also conduct aerial surveys from helicopters with radiation detection equipment. These surveys map the general location and concentration of radioactive soil debris from testing activities. Based on these studies, scientists determine the best options to remove or stabilize the contamination. The cleanup work is conducted by either the Environmental Restoration Industrial Sites Sub-Project or the Soils Sub-Project.*
 - On page two, under the “Industrial Sites Project” section, the word “chosen” in the second sentence should be changed to “prioritized.”
 - The first sentence in the second paragraph should be changed, to read:
 - *Remediation activities are grouped as follows:*
 - Within the third bullet in this paragraph, the word “included” should be changed to “containing.”
- In the third paragraph of the “Industrial Sites Project” section, all of the numbers need to be updated to reflect the most recent information.
- The next section is entitled “Soils Project.” The first sentence in the first paragraph of this section has two changes. The revised sentence will read:
 - *The contaminated soil on the TTR was generated by a joint exercise called Operation Roller Coaster, conducted in 1963 by the United Kingdom, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Atomic Energy Commission.*
 - In the next paragraph, the second and third sentences will be revised to read:
 - *The sites were characterized and soil was removed and properly disposed of on the Nevada Test Site. Clean Slate II and III have been characterized, but no remediation activities have been conducted.*

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- The next section, “Preparing for the Future” will be removed entirely.
- A definition box will be included in this fact sheet that defines unfamiliar words.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on changes, revisions, and updates of the fact sheets, and will continue working to help improve Environmental Management’s efforts to communicate with the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David G. Hermann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

David Hermann, Chair
Community Advisory Board
for Nevada Test Site Programs

cc: C. Lockwood, NNSA/NSO
R. Rehfeldt, NREI, CAB Facilitator
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