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**Facility Management at Nevada Test Site to Change**

Since the early 1990s management and operation activities at the Nevada Test Site have been contracted by the federal government to a single contractor. The contractor has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of everything from housing services, road maintenance, mining, and scientific support to the National Laboratories in the fielding of diagnostics for experimental programs.

Yet in a few cases, the National Laboratories, Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, have had the responsibility for the management and operation of a number of facilities at the Nevada Test Site. The list includes the Device Assembly Facility, the U1A/H underground complex, the Big Explosive Experimental Facility, and the Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research Facility.

In a move to better manage safety, security, compliance, and operating procedures of Nevada Test Site facilities, the management and operations of all Nevada Test Site facilities has been delegated to the current site management and operating contractor, National Security Technologies, LLC.

Transition from management by the National Laboratories to the site contractor is expected to be completed by August 31, 2008.

“We will have an integrated and uniform application of operational standards and practices as a result of this transition. In addition, we will gain consistency in the formality of operations and uniform line oversight. This allows the Nevada Site Office one seamless way of doing business within all test site facilities,” stated the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office Manager, Gerald L. Talbot, Jr.

Historically the National Laboratories would manage the Nevada Test Site facilities using established home laboratory practices, principles, and health and safety requirements. As such, implementation of health and safety, security, and compliance requirements would vary among the Nevada Test Site facilities.

With one common facility manager using a consistent set of requirements, a number of efficiencies are expected to be gained in the management and operation of the Nevada Test Site.

According to Mr. Talbot, “While this facility transition effort is aimed at operational efficiencies, we do expect this effort to result in financial savings to the taxpayer.”

An integrated project team consisting of representatives from the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office, the National Laboratories, and the National Security Technologies, LLC, have been working since early October 2007 to affect this change. Key to the change was to ensure that current and future laboratory experimental programs continue in order to meet national security program requirements.