Nevada Test Site Transportation Study Results to be Discussed During Community Advisory Board Meeting

Results from a study to analyze the risks associated with shipping low-level radioactive waste to the Nevada Test Site (NTS) will be discussed during the May 6, 2009 Community Advisory Board (CAB) for NTS Programs meeting. Dr. Ruth Weiner of Sandia National Laboratories will provide a briefing and answer questions regarding the specifics of the transportation study at the Bob Ruud Community Center located at 150 North Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada.

The study is the result of a CAB recommendation that a waste transportation study be conducted due to increased population, construction and traffic along Route 160.

"The new study validated similar studies performed in the 1990s. Once again, this study ensured that there is very little to no risk to the public regarding the transportation of the waste through Southern Nevada urban and rural locations," said Frank DiSanza, Federal Waste Management Project Director. "We're looking forward to sharing the results."

The NTS is designated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a disposal location for low-level and mixed low-level waste generated by the cleanup of historic nuclear weapons sites. DOE waste generator sites ship waste in accordance with stringent NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria which includes requirements set forth by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and other federal, state and local laws and regulations. These guidelines provide the necessary framework for safe, successful waste shipments and disposal activities necessary to realize cleanup goals.

The CAB is a federally-chartered DOE advisory board made up of 15 Southern Nevada residents. CAB members meet bi-monthly to study and discuss environmental activities that take place at the NTS and provide recommendations to the DOE Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Program.

All CAB meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to actively participate. For additional information on CAB meetings or activities, visit the CAB website at www.ntscab.com or call (702) 657-9088.

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