



Nevada Site Office News

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Historic NTS Locomotive to be Relocated to Boulder City Museum

LAS VEGAS –The National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) will partner with the Nevada State Railroad Museum on March 14 to transport an historic 80-ton, 500 horse-powered railroad locomotive from the Nevada Test Site (NTS) to the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Boulder City.

In advance of the 7 a.m. move, NNSA/NSO is leading efforts to prepare the mechanical beast of burden – used to transport nuclear rocket engines at the NTS during the 1960s – onto a specially-designed tractor trailer used to carry payloads weighing up to 150 tons.

“It is a rare event for large objects to leave the site, especially something as significant as a locomotive that was so integral in the day-to-day operations during the Nuclear Rocket Vehicle Applications Program at the Nuclear Rocket Development Station (NRDS),” explained Robert Friedrichs, a NNSA/NSO physical scientist associated with the safe transport of the historic locomotive. “I think anyone would agree, however, that it will be an exceptional addition to the museum in Boulder City, educating the public about the important role railroad technology played at the NRDS.”

The General Services Administration transferred ownership of the locomotive to the Nevada State Railroad Museum in April of 1997, and the locomotive subsequently was surveyed for contamination and released in August of the same year. The Railroad Museum had been unable to relocate the locomotive until now due to funding limitations, but the state legislature authorized funds for the relocation as part of this year’s budget.

Anyone interested in learning more about the use of locomotives at the NTS, the nuclear rocket program , or other aspects of the rich history of the site should visit the **Atomic Testing Museum** at **755 E. Flamingo Rd.**, or call them at **(702) 794-5161**.

Special Note: All news media interested in covering this event must be **U.S. citizens** and complete a form to gain access to the NTS and to obtain requisite badges. Forms must be returned to the NNSA/NSO no later than **noon Monday, March 13**. In order to obtain a form or for more information, call **Ron Gibson** at **(702) 295-1821**.

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