



Nevada Site Office News

News Media Contact:

Darwin J. Morgan, 702-295-3521

morgan@nv.doe.gov

Kelly K. Snyder, 702-295-3521

snyderk@nv.doe.gov

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Ongoing, Active Environmental Restoration at the Nevada National Security Site

Since 1989, when the Office of Environmental Management was established by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Nevada National Security Site (formerly known as the Nevada Test Site) has had an active and aggressive characterization and environmental restoration program as a result of historic nuclear testing activities. The U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office is dedicated to conducting an open and transparent program that actively works with the community.

The following items highlight the tremendous amount of work completed to date and how the U.S. Department of Energy is continuing these activities:

- All work is completed in a safe, fiscally responsible manner with regulatory oversight by the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.
- Environmental restoration activities are completed in compliance with the Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order, an enforceable agreement between the State of Nevada and the U.S. Department of Energy.
- As of February 2011, out of 2,859 contaminated locations (buildings, atmospheric test locations, groundwater, various structures, etc.) the Nevada Site Office has received State of Nevada closure approval on 1,799 locations. Closure on the remaining sites is expected to be completed by 2027.
- More than 90 groundwater monitoring and characterization wells have been drilled on or near the Nevada National Security Site and the Nevada Test and Training Range. These wells support efforts by the agency to model and understand the true extent of contamination and the flow rates and directions of waters on and off the NNSS.
- The Nevada Site Office has an active community-based advisory board that provides advice and recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy regarding clean-up activities at the Nevada National Security Site.
- To ensure openness and transparency, the Nevada Site Office routinely conducts open houses, public meetings, outreach events and provides information in a variety of outlets.

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